Incarnation Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020

During this time of quarantine due to the COVID-19 virus, this bulletin is designed for your participation in the worship service from your individual homes. We hope you will join with your church family at 10am each Sunday as we worship separately together as the people of God. It’s exciting to see people sign in, greet one another, send little messages, etc. The service is also posted on Facebook should the 10am time not work for you on any particular Sunday. Thank you for being here. Thank you for worshipping together separately this day!

**GATHERING**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you created us in your image

and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,

and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus’ wounded side,

and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**A Reading from Acts**

14aPeter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], 36“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”  
  37Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” 38Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” 40And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 The Psalm will be read responsively.**

1I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,  
  and listened to my supplication,  
 2**for the Lord has given ear to me**  
  **whenever I called.**  
 3The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
  I came to grief and sorrow.  
 4**Then I called upon the name of the Lord:**  
  **“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”**  
 12How shall I repay the Lord  
  for all the good things God has done for me?  
 13**I will lift the cup of salvation**  
  **and call on the name of the Lord.**  
 14I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
  in the presence of all God’s people.  
 15**Precious in your sight, O Lord,**  
  **is the death of your servants.**  
 16O Lord, truly I am your servant;  
  I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.  
 17**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving**  
  **and call upon the name of the Lord.**  
 18I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God’s people,  
 19**in the courts of the Lord‘s house,**  
  **in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

**SECOND READING**

**A Reading from First Peter**

17If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. 18You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, 19but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. 20He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. 21Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.  
  22Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. 23You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel**

**The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.**

13Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. 18Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” 19He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” 25Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” 27Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.  
  28As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. 30When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” 33That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” 35Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Jane**

**SHARING THE PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

For those whose hearts are fervent with love for your gospel, that they are empowered to tell the story of your love in their lives and to show hospitality in response to this love. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the diverse natural world: for jungles, prairies, forests, valleys, mountains, and for all the wild and endangered animals who call these spaces home, that they are nurtured and protected. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For broken systems we have inherited and that we continue to perpetuate, forgive us. Restrain the nations from fighting over limited resources. Redeem us from the cycles of scarcity and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For all who call upon your healing name, give rest. Stay with us, and walk with all those who are hungry, friendless, despairing, and desiring healing in body and spirit especially, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, Emily Prince, Don Moody, Charlie, and all those that are home bound. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the faith forming ministries of this church. For those preparing for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and membership. For those who participate in Sunday school and adult education; guide and inspire learners of every age and ability. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Inspire, Renew, and Empower those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week especially, Debbie Adair, Mark Boepple, Ed Skinner, Mary Scruggs, Caleb Wood, Luke Wood, Susan Wood, and Dale Norton. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give joy to those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially, Porter Kinard and James Price. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially, Jason Harris, Dr. Jordan Shealy, Katelyn Shealy, Melissa Corbett, Maureen Kelly, Sue Hoffmann, Ashley English, Dr. Duncan Norton, Ashton Rabern, Kathy Kehl, and all those who find themselves in harm’s way*.* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Create in our hearts a yearning to rest in your promise of eternal and resurrected life. Give us thankful hearts for those who have died, even as we look forward to the hope of new life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

*So that the various ministries of the congregation may continue, please take a moment to place your weekly offering in a basket and then mail to the church or give your weekly offering online at this time.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Announcements!**

**Weekly Worship Schedule!**  
**Morning Watch** Weekday Mornings at 9:30 am Facebook Live!  
  
**Wednesday Evenings**at 6:00 pm via Facebook Live! All are encouraged to grab a meal or a snack and dive into Luther's Small Catechism with Pastor Jane.  
  
**Sunday Morning Worship** at 10:00 am via Facebook Live!  
Materials for Worship are emailed out each Friday  
and posted to Facebook each Saturday!

**2020 South Carolina Synod Assembly** has been postponed until Saturday, July 25th and will be held at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Lexington, SC.

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**Online Giving!**

We look forward to the day when we

can worship together as a family again,

but until then, please continue to

support the mission of the church.

You can use this image by scanning

the QR Code with your smart phone’s

camera which will lead you

to our Website for Online Giving!