

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter      April 14, 2024

PRELUDE      Mark Coldiron

WELCOME TO WORSHIP      Kevin Brown

GATHERING HYMN      "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

ELW 377

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

L Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

L Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

L Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

L At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

**C We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

L Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray...

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**LESSONS**

Kevin Brown

R The First Reading is from: Acts 3:12-19

Psalms 4

Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

R The Second Reading is from: 1 John 3:1-7

R Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 24th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24:36b-48

On Back Cover

**Response**

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

Julie Nemes

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “This Joyful Eastertide” ELW 391

**NICENE CREED**

*(stand)*

L Let us confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**HYMN**

“Amazing Grace”

ELW 779

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*After each petition the Leader will say: God of grace,*

*Response: **hear our prayer.***

L O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

L O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

L O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

L O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. Heal those who are ill in body, mind or spirit.

Bless those on our prayer list and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts...

God of grace,

L O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. Give us means and willingness to carry out the work that you would have us do. God of grace,

L O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

L Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**C Amen.**

L Let us pray together the prayer our Lord has taught us.

*The Lord's Prayer*

**C 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

***OFFERING* You are invited to bring your Offering and/or any prayer requests on the yellow cards to the basket at the back of the Sanctuary.**

***At that time you may also light a candle at the table of votives in honor or memory of someone, or for any need.***

***Please use this time for meditation or self-reflection.***

***OFFERING PRAYER***

L Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.

**C May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

***BLESSING***

L The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless us now and always.

**C Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN*** "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"  
ELW 674

***OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY***

***DISMISSAL***

L Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**C Thanks be to God.**

L May the peace of Christ be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us share the peace of Christ with each other as we leave today.

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**WE LEAVE TO BE THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD!**

Please fill out the Yellow Visitor Cards/Prayer Requests.

**CHURCH OF THE CROSS**

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## NOTES/EVENTS:

BIBLE STUDY - Prophets as God's Messengers for Social Justice. Thursdays from 1:00-2:30 pm from February 8 – May 9, 2024, at St. John's Lutheran Church and via Zoom. Led by Pastor Dianne, see her for details.

Sunday, April 21 – “The Spudtacular” Baked Potato Sale Fundraiser & to celebrate Earth Day, we won't be using paper cups, so bring your mug (face) and “Bring Your Own Mug” for coffee or the beverage of your choice.

Whole Potato for \$10.00 and ½ for \$8.00. Sign-Up Sheet to bring Toppings is in the Social Hall Kitchen.

Saturday, May 11 – March to the Capitol for Women's & Children's Rights and Peace. From St. John's Lutheran to the Capitol and back. Lunch following at St. John's. More details from Pastor Dianne soon!

## PRAYER REQUESTS AND ANSWERED PRAYERS

Blair Bagley, Julie Andrews' friend is having surgery for Chiari 1 Malformation of the brain on April 15.

Kayla deMartine, the Brown's niece, who is hospitalized with acidosis.

Chuck Hines, who is suffering from a bone infection in his foot. Elaine Hussey, friend of Chuck's who is home recovering from a severe leg wound.

May Drobny, who is recovering from a second fall, not as serious as the first, but required hospitalization for a fractured left hip.

Donya Wiken, who is homebound and bedridden.

Julie Nemes' grandson's friend, Ryan Kelly, 15, who was recently diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes from having Covid. Prayers for complete healing of his pancreas.

Janice Smith, Ken's sister who fell and has a fracture in her back. She was also diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

Julie Nemes' son, Brad and his family as they mourn the loss of their beloved father-in-law and Bepa, George Mendlik.

Debbie Bouzard, Jacquie H.'s mom, who had spine surgery.

Julie Nemes, for continued healing especially her neck and shoulder areas from the sustained trauma.

Craig Paul's cousin Marilyn and her husband Keith Welling as Keith has leukemia and is trying new medications.

Judy Kaylor whose lung cancer is in remission. Prayers of thanks!

Continued prayers requested for Toni and Gary Wendt, Pr.

Dianne's step-mom and dad, as they manage their life with her ALS, as she begins hospice and he recovers from back surgery.

Sue Fossum's sister-in-law, Nancy, who is in hospice. Prayers for Mark, Nancy's husband and Sue's brother.

Jackie Walters who is suffering from rheumatoid arthritis and who fell recently, injuring her forehead. Also, Hans, Jackie's husband who has Parkinson's.

Julie Andrews' sister-in-law, Marilyn, undergoing chemo and radiation for breast cancer. Also, her sister-in-law, Pat.

Joseph Brito for healing after brain surgery.

Paul Santos, Jacquie Haney's brother-in-law praying to receive a kidney transplant.