

1 John 3:1

**April 18, AD 2021**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**8:15 am**

Saint Paul Lutheran Church  
250 Trinity Road  
York, PA 17408  
[www.saintpaul-trinity.org](http://www.saintpaul-trinity.org)

## Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, AD 2021

(P=Pastor, AM=Assisting Minister, C=Congregation, \*=please stand) (The order of service and several hymns are found in the green book –LBW, purple-W&P or in the blue book-WOV. Please silence all electronic devices as we give our attention to God’s presence in this holy place.)

### Gathering Music

Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns

(acolytes light the candles during the prelude music)

Prelude: Prelude in C Major--Bach

(During the Prelude you may wish to reflect on the following prayer: Almighty God, thank you for bringing us together to hear the powerful news of Jesus Christ risen from the dead. Change my heart today so that I may be more alive with this good news and more eager to share it with others by the power of your Holy Spirit working in my life through Christ I pray. Amen.)

### \*Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(please kneel or stand and observe a moment of silence for self-examination.)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

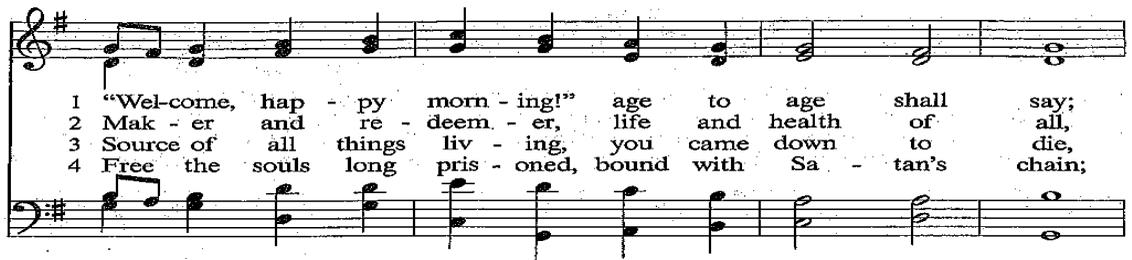
P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

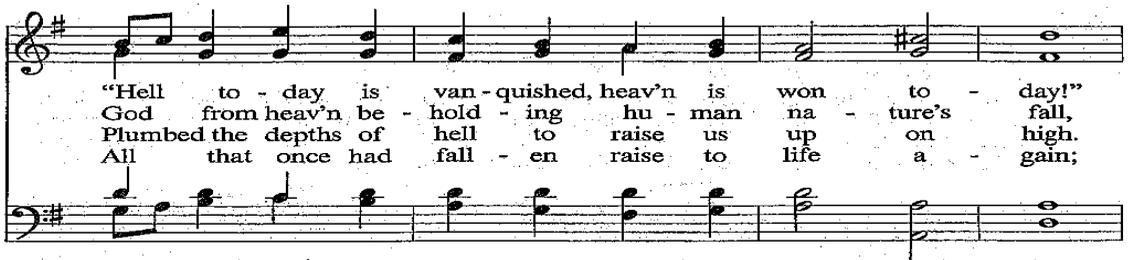
\*Opening Hymn:

153

# Welcome, Happy Morning!



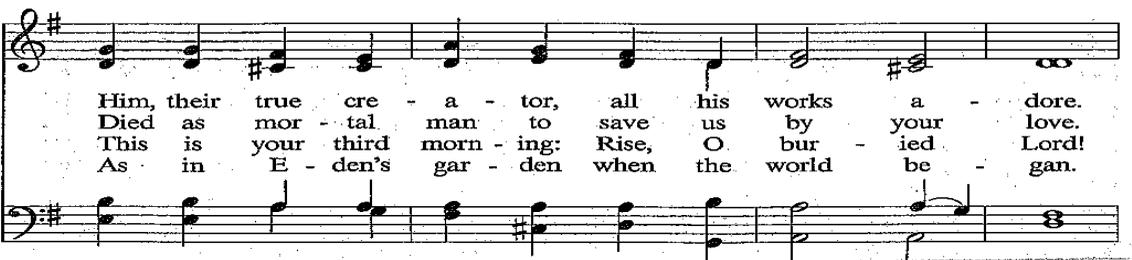
1 "Wel-come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say;  
2 Mak - er and re - deem - er, life and health of all,  
3 Source of all things liv - ing, you came down to die,  
4 Free the souls long pris - oned, bound with Sa - tan's chain;



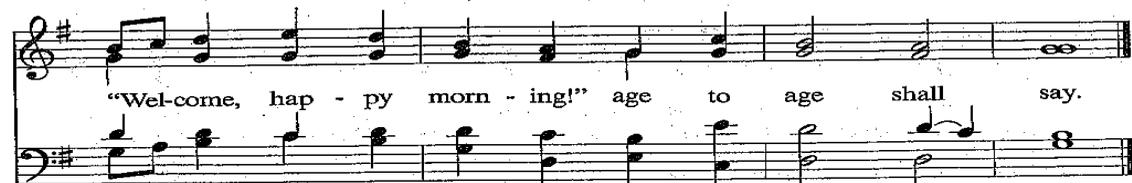
"Hell to - day is van - quished, heav'n is won to - day!"  
God from heav'n be - hold - ing hu - man na - ture's fall,  
Plumbed the depths of hell to raise us up on high.  
All that once had fall - en raise to life a - gain;



Christ, once dead, is liv - ing, God for - ev - er - more!  
You, the true and on - ly Son of God a - bove,  
Come then, true and faith - ful; come, ful - fill your word;  
Show your face in bright - ness, shine in ev - 'ry land



Him, their true cre - a - tor, all his works a - dore.  
Died as mor - tal man to save us by your love.  
This is your third morn - ing: Rise, O bur - ied Lord!  
As in E - den's gar - den when the world be - gan.



"Wel-come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say.

\*Apostolic Greeting and Easter Proclamation §

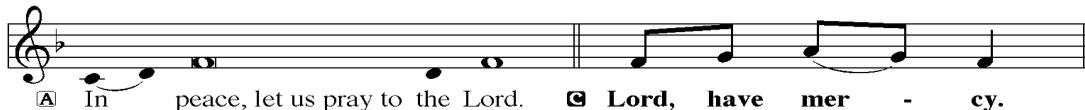
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

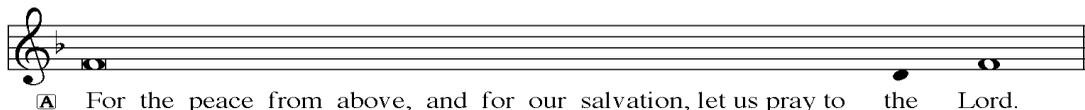
P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

\*The Kyrie p. 57



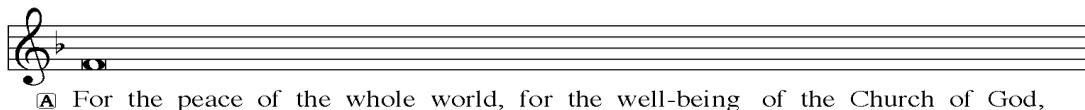
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



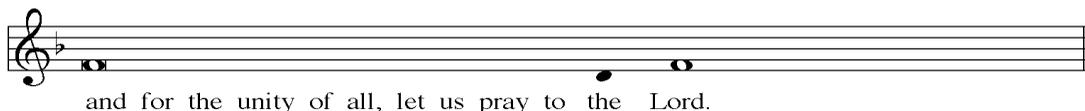
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



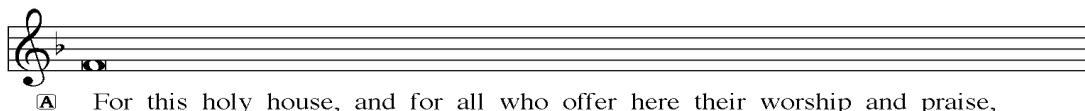
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



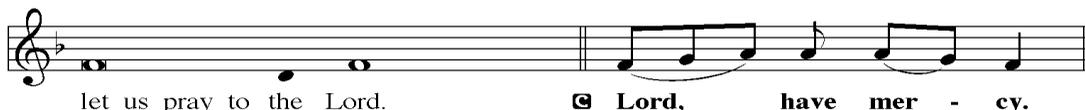
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men



☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



slain, whose blood set us free to be peo- ple of God.



☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Pow- er, rich- es, wis- dom, and



strength, and hon- or, bless- ing, and glo- ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo- ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a- tion: Bless- ing, hon- or, glo- ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for- ev- er. A - men.

☩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ☩ For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 ☩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

\* Salutation

p. 62

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

\*Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray. O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you raised up this fallen world. Teach us whom you have rescued from endless death to have the fullness of eternal joy, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### First Lesson: **Acts 3:11-21**

(Following a miraculous healing, Peter attracted a crowd and seized the opportunity to interpret what happened in light of faith in the name of Jesus. Giving glory to God for the healing, Peter then preached the good news that Jesus was, in fact, the Messiah. Peter called those gathered that day to repent and turn to God.)

<sup>11</sup>While {the man who had been healed} clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. <sup>12</sup>And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised

from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And his name — by faith in his name — has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. <sup>17</sup>And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, <sup>20</sup>that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, <sup>21</sup>whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: 4**

(Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself, the psalmist wrote. Trusting in God, we can lie down and sleep in peace, for he will keep us safe in his loving care.)

L:<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**C:<sup>2</sup>“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”**

L:<sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

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

L:<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the Lord.

**C:<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

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

**C:<sup>8</sup>I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

**Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7**

(John declared the immense magnitude of God’s love by telling his readers they were God’s children already. This adoption and new identity were not things for which they must wait. Nor were they things they could earn — they were God’s lavish gift to them in their present reality. While what we will be at Christ’s return is still unknown, this new reality as children of God is an unalterable, defining fact of our identity.)

<sup>1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

\*Alleluia Verse+ (sung)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*Gospel Announcement

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Gospel: **Luke 24:36-49**

(The resurrected Jesus appeared to the disciples, bringing them his peace. He opened their minds to the Scriptures so they could understand that what happened in his death and resurrection was a necessary fulfillment of God's Word. Jesus then promised the gift of the Holy Spirit and commissioned the disciples to be his witnesses in all nations, both near and far.)

<sup>36</sup>As {the eleven disciples and those who were gathered with them} were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" <sup>37</sup>But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate before them. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

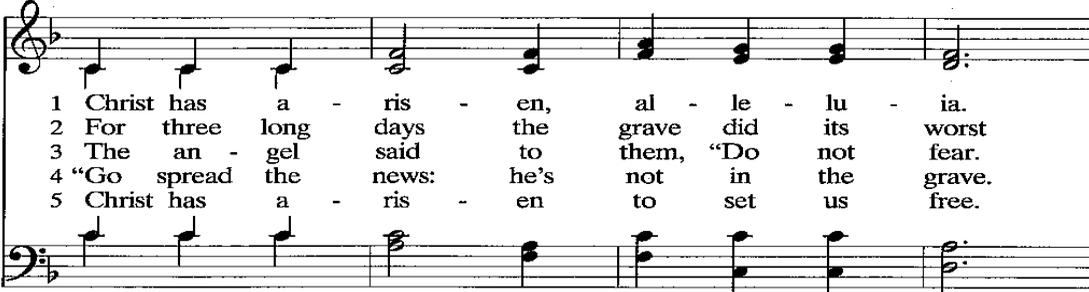
Sermon: Pastor Sally

\*The Votum

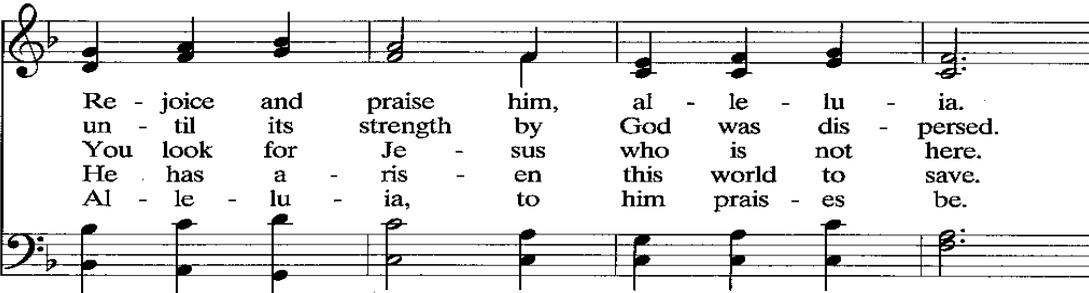
\*Hymn of the Day:

678

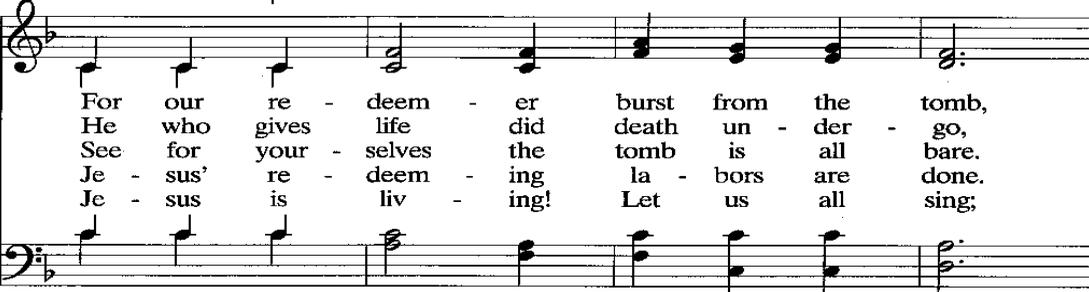
# Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



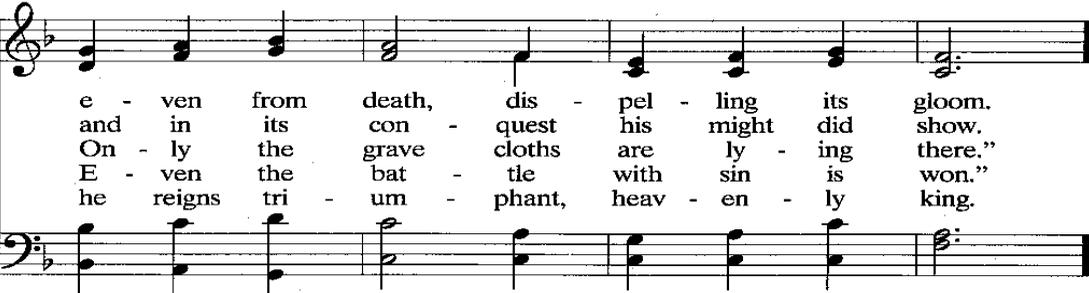
1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.  
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.  
5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free.



Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.  
He has a - ris - en this world to save.  
Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.

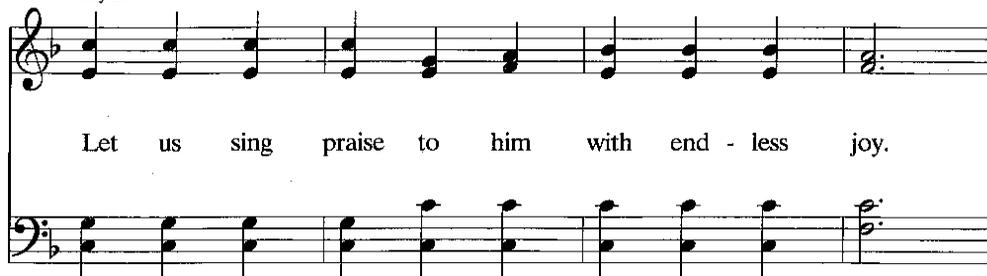


For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life - did death un - der - go,  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.  
Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.  
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

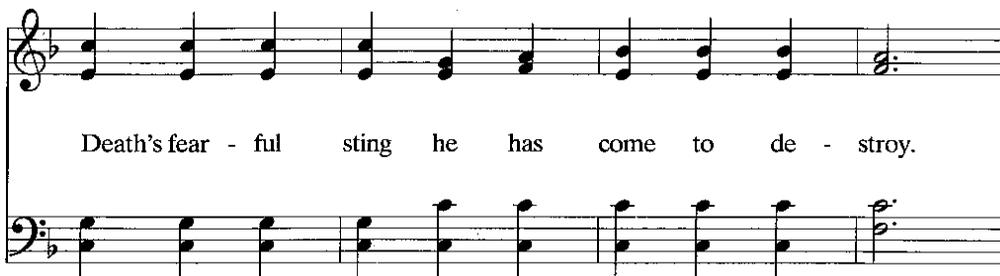


e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
and in its con - quest his might did show.  
On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there."  
E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."  
he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly king.

*Refrain*



Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

\*The Nicene Creed

**All: 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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; With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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.**

\*The Prayers (Please respond "Hear our prayer.") p. 65

**C: Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.** (We share the peace with one another.)

Offertory: This Joyful Eastertide--Ferguson

\*Offertory Response: pg. 66 (or as below)

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

\*Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray...

**All: Generous God, you have given us treasures too numerous to count. Grant us faith to be generous with all that you have first given us: our time, our resources, our possessions. May we boldly trust in your promise to care for our deepest needs and to be fully present with us always. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*The Great Thanksgiving

The Great Thanksgiving musical score consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are: **The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

\*Preface:

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the love You have lavished upon us in the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing: §

The Preface musical score consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are: **Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.**

\* Eucharistic Prayer: §

P: Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. He it is who has bestowed on us life and health and salvation through His innocent suffering and death and His victorious resurrection. Gathered now on this Lord's Day and in His name, we ask that Your Holy Spirit keep us strong in the full Gospel message of life in Your name so that we may welcome our Lord under bread and wine, receiving thereby the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come through His body and blood.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

\*The Words of Institution p. 69

\*The Lord's Prayer, p. 71

P: Lord remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray...

**All: 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.**

\*Lamb of God, p. 72

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion (Carol plays music while we commune)

\*Blessing, p. 72

\*Post Communion Canticle p. 72 (or as below)



**☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.**



**He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with**



**shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.**

\*Post Communion Prayer: §

AM: Let us pray:

**C: We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have strengthened our faith through the life-changing word of grace we have heard with our ears, and our Lord's body and blood we have tasted with our lips. Keep us strong in this faith until we join angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, praising the Lamb who was slain, but who is alive forevermore; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\*Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

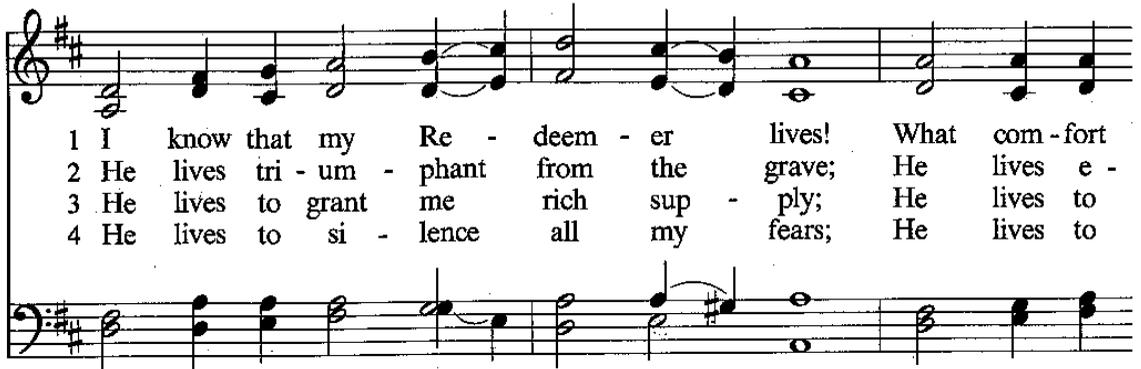
**C: Amen.**

(acolytes extinguish the candles during the hymn)

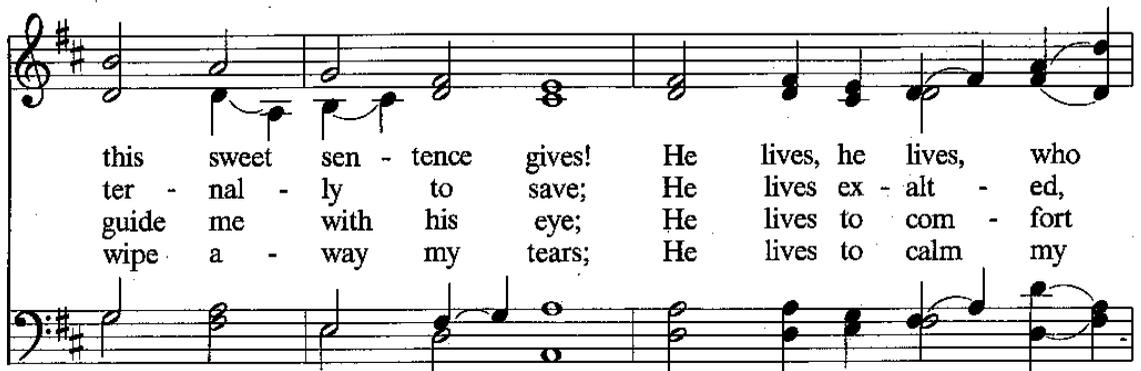
\*Recessional Hymn:

# I Know that My Redeemer Lives!

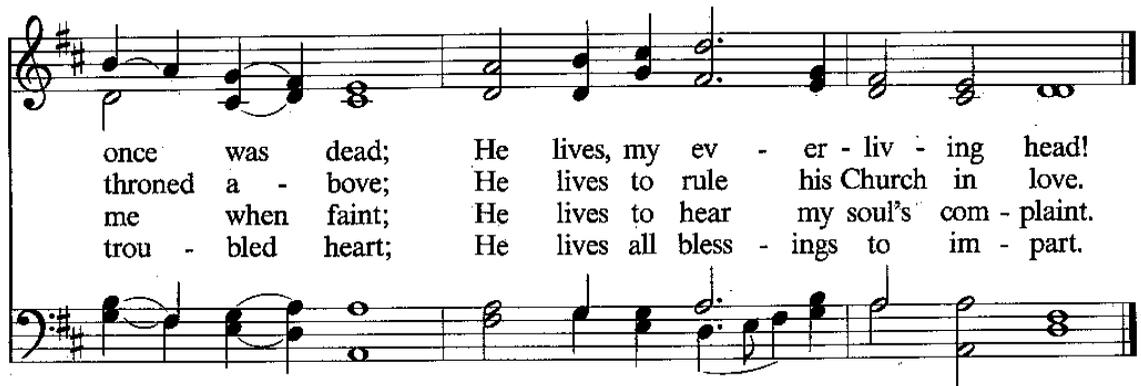
352



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to  
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives ex - alt - ed,  
guide me with his eye; He lives to com - fort  
wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
throned a - bove; He lives to rule his Church in love.  
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.

\*Dismissal

AM: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

**C: Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Paraphrase on a Chorus in "Judas Maccabaeus"--Guilmant

**WELCOME!** Thank you for joining for worship! **In the name of Jesus Christ, Saint Paul Lutheran Church is committed to praising, praying, and sharing the Word of God.** All baptized Christians who have received their first communion are invited to join us for Holy Communion believing as we do that Christ is truly present in this holy meal. Those not receiving communion may come forward to receive a blessing. Please join us again.

**Theme of the Day:** There is power in Jesus' name, as is seen through the healing of a lame beggar. The power to heal did not come from Peter and John, but from God alone. The disciples were simply instruments of God's wondrous works among the people. John reminded us in his first letter that we are all adopted into the family of God, which makes us bearers of the good news of Christ and instruments of his awesome power.

**Our Lord's Helpers this week:**

**Greeter:** Donna Rinehart     **Acolytes:** Colton Masemer

**Head Usher:** Brenda McCleary     **Sound:** Jacob Eash

**Lay Reader:** Teri Masemer     **Altar Guild:** Diane Workman

**Assistant Minister:** Daphne Conn

**SPONSORSHIPS to the Glory of God: ALTAR FLOWERS** To the Glory of God by the Hax family / in memory of Gene & Carolyn Naylor by their family **BULLETIN** in memory of Ned Keech by Ira & Gloria Keech & family **BREAD & WINE** in memory of our parents by Richard & Mary Keller **MAILING** in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Cletus Hoffman by the Charlotte Hoffman family **PARISH MESSENGER** in honor of the wedding anniversary of Will & Alyssa Gausmann by Marty & Sandy Albright & family **SANCTUARY LAMP** in honor of our great grandchildren by Richard & Mary Keller

### **Women of the Word**

Women of the Word is planning to start meeting again on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 1:00 pm. We will continue our Bible study "*Living for Jesus*". Deb Abrecht will lead our study "*Refreshed in Him*". We invite all ladies to join us. We will use the same protocols that are in place at that time for meeting (masks, social distancing). Hope to see you there!

### **Sunday School**

The youth are having a combined class in Fellowship Hall with good music, crafts and maybe even some games. Join us every Sunday at 9:30 am. Adults will meet socially distanced as well.

## SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

250 Trinity Road York, PA 17408 792-1650

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WIFI: John3:16

OFFICE HOURS

M-Th 8:00am-2:30pm, Fri 8:00-12 noon

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Carol Moscony

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INTERIM CYC DIRECTOR: Malinda Grube [CYCdirector@saintpaultrinity.org](mailto:CYCdirector@saintpaultrinity.org)

Missionaries: Andy Stump in Haiti, Luke & Ruth in the Philippians

### Activities for the Week of April 18, 2021

- Sun. 4/18 Third Sunday of Easter  
**8:15 am Divine Service with Holy Communion**  
9:30 am Sunday School  
**10:30 am Outdoor Service with Holy Communion**
- Mon. 4/19 3:30 pm Hymn Selection Committee Meeting  
7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
7:30 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting
- Tues. 4/20 9:00 am Social Ministry Committee Meeting
- Wed. 4/21 1:00 pm Women of the Word
- Thurs. 4/22 10:00 am Bible Study  
7:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)
- Sun. 4/25 Fourth Sunday of Easter  
**8:15am Divine Service with Holy Communion**  
9:30am Sunday School  
**10:30am Outdoor Service with Holy Communion**

**CYC is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year** for both the 3 and 4-year-old classes. Children need to be either 3 or 4 by the 1st of September. Registration can be done through [saintpaultrinity.org](http://saintpaultrinity.org), the CYC webpage, [cycpreschool.com](http://cycpreschool.com), or by calling the church office and requesting a registration form. The 3-year old's meet 3 days a week from 9:00-12:00 and the 4-year old's meet 5 days a week from 9:00-2:00. Tuition for the 3's is \$135/ month and for the 4's it is \$270/month - both with a nonrefundable registration fee of \$20.00.

## Sermon Notes for 3<sup>rd</sup> Easter 2021

Acts 3:16 **By faith in the name of Jesus**, this man whom you see and know has been made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through Him that has given him this complete healing in your presence. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong.

Two old sayings:

- “Give a man a fish and he eats for a day, teach a man to fish and he can eat for a lifetime.”
- “You can have all the money in the world, but if you don’t have your health, it won’t do you much good.”

The healed man had asked for money, but he got so much more – he got his health.

I think there are at least 3 important things for us to glean from this lesson:

- First of all, we learn, that with Jesus we get so much more than we expect.

Some people come to Jesus and think that they will get an answer to a particular prayer or the assurance that they will get to go to heaven. But of course, they get so much more.

- Secondly, we learn that Jesus’ name has power.

We speak our prayers in the powerful name of Jesus asking always that his will be done, trusting that he knows just what we need, and he will provide.

- Finally, we learn that God wants us to see and touch his miraculous presence not only as a benefit for our own lives, but as a witness to the world.

It doesn’t have to be a long or complicated story, not even the length of a sermon, we simply have to tell what Jesus has done, how he has conquered death, how he lives among us now, how he heals and restores all manner of people to new life.

We are Christians after all, that means we belong to Christ and that identity shapes who we are. Like the man at the Beautiful Gate, we are beggars who have been given new life. Our lives have been changed from being takers to being givers. Every week we open our hands to receive the presence of Christ in bread and wine and we leave ready to give away the love that has so generously been poured out upon us. We have received healing for the most heinous sickness of all, sin He touches us, he lets us touch him, we are freed from our bondage to sin and death, and we are able to have a relationship with him and a new way of relating to one another. There is healing for each life, healing for our world in the precious name of Jesus.



## TAKING FAITH HOME – April 18, 2021 AD

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday Luke 24:36b-48 Eating with the risen Christ  
Monday Luke 24:13-16, 28-35 The meal at Emmaus  
Tuesday John 21:1-14 Jesus appears by the sea  
Wednesday Acts 1:1-8 You will be my witnesses  
Thursday Acts 10:34-43 The witness of the apostles  
Friday Acts 13:13-31, 38-39 Paul's proclamation in Antioch  
Saturday Psalm 150 Praise the Lord  
Sunday John 10:11-18 The good shepherd

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:**

Shout praises to the LORD!  
Praise God in his temple.  
Praise him in heaven, his mighty fortress.  
Praise our God!  
His deeds are wonderful, too marvelous to describe.

### **Psalm 150:1-2 (CEV)**

### **SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

**A Prayer for the Week:** Lord Jesus, please open our minds to understand the Scriptures. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:** Child of God, may you be filled with the peace of Jesus, and made strong with God's power. Amen.

### **CARING CONVERSATION:**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- When you think of Jesus, what do you imagine him to look like?
- After Jesus had risen, he appeared to his disciples and ate a piece of fish while he was with them. Why do you think he did this?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus is fully human, with a body like yours and mine as well as fully God?

### **DEVOTIONS:**

Jesus calls his followers to be his witnesses, to share with others their faith in him (Luke 24:46-47). In your household prayer times this week, pray for relatives, friends or neighbors who do not know Jesus. Ask for God's help to share his love with them.

### **SERVICE:**

April 22 is observed across the world as EARTH DAY. For Christians, Earth Day is an occasion to thank God for creation and reflect on how we might better care for what he has given us. Decide on one thing you can do as a household to better protect the environment (e.g. to use less power at home, recycle waste, plant trees, collect litter).

### **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:**

The end of the day is a good time to slow down, reflect on the day, and focus on God's place at the center of our lives. Rituals can help us do this and can have a powerful influence in our home lives. If you share your life with other adults or children, consider making some of these ideas part of your daily bedtime pattern:

- Share the "highs" and "lows" from your day.
- Read a Bible story or a brief Bible passage.
- Say a prayer together (e.g. *"Dear Father in heaven, look down from above; Bless me, your world, and all whom I love. Amen."*)
- Mark one another with the sign of the cross.
- Use the blessings provided each week in Taking Faith Home.
- Memorize the words of Psalm 4:8 to say together at bedtime. *"I will lie down in peace and sleep. You alone, O Lord, will keep me safe."*

**People and issues to pray for in your devotions this week:** For the work of Pastor Fruhling and the LCMC in general, as our church body spreads the Good News throughout the world. and those mentioned today including

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### **Bible Study**

One of the enriching features of church life is our common desire to delve further into the Holy Scriptures. **In April, we will start a study on Ephesians that will go through April and May. Ephesians is a letter that encourages us to be united, despite our difference, because of our oneness in Christ. St. Paul guides us away from false teachings and toward Jesus our one true guide for life.** Join us in person or by Zoom on Thursdays, the morning session is held here at the church in the Parlor at 10AM, the evening Zoom session is held at 7PM, the invitation to which will be sent via e-mail. The Bible Sessions will be held on April 22 and 29.

**Please remove seasonal items** from cemetery by May 31 to prepare for mowing and trimming. Thank you. Cemetery board.