



JESUS

is my life

"Times of refreshing come from the presence of the Lord"
(Acts 3:20 ESV)

Ascension Lutheran Church
April 18, 2021 ~ Third Sunday of Easter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. *(Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)*

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11: 23-30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos, (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino, (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento, y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. *(El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol y obleas libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición).*

(P) = Pastor, (C) = Congregation, (A) = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: “Resurrection Affirmation”

AS WE GATHER

“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?” (Luke 24:38). These are questions our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ asked of His disciples in another resurrection appearance after that first Easter morning. They are questions that could also be asked of us numerous times in our daily lives as we face trouble and doubts. Yet as Jesus kept on appearing, He kept on showing them Himself, and more than that, He continued to teach and remind them that all that was written was fulfilled in and through Him. Though we cannot physically touch His hands and side, each time we gather, Jesus continues to speak to us, affirming His work, the Word fulfilled, and the worth of humanity for whom He came. Amid troubles and doubts, through Christ, we can “see what kind of love the Father has given to us” (1 John 3:1).

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

He’s risen, He’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death’s prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.

O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.

Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 16:11b; 30:1–3*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy;

C **at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

P I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up

C **and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

P O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.

C **O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 3:1; Psalm 30:4–5; 16:11b*

(sung)

“Behold What Manner Of Love”

(based on today’s Epistle reading)

Behold, what manner of love the Father has given unto us.

Behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us.

That we should be called the children of God.

That we should be called the children of God.

P Gracious Lord, by Your name You have called us Your own children, and we are to pray, praise, and give thanks to You.

C **Yet we often choose not to see the love You have given to us, letting other things of this world impede our vision of Your mercy and grace in Christ. We do not always live as You have called us to be as Your children.**

P We confess our sins to God in repentance, turning from those things that lead us away, turning back to You in the love You’ve shown.

Silence for reflection.

P Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,

C **we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess our many failures as we have not followed You joyfully and trustingly. We have not loved others as You have first loved us, and our thoughts, words, and deeds have not been pleasing to You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**

- P** “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
- O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

✠ THE WORD ✠

FIRST LESSON

Acts 3:11–21 (ESV)

(After Peter heals the crippled beggar at the temple...)

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s. ¹² 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? ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–7 (ESV)

(We are God’s children now.)

(sung)

“Behold What Manner Of Love”
(based on today’s Epistle reading)

Behold, what manner of love the Father has given unto us.
Behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us.
That we should be called the children of God.
That we should be called the children of God.

P See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God;

C **and so we are.**

P The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God’s children now,

C **and what we will be has not yet appeared;**

P but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is.

C **And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.**

P Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that He appeared to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you.

C **Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous.**

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36–49 (ESV)

(Amid disciples' doubts, the resurrected Christ affirms the fulfillment of God's Word.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ 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." ⁴⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and He took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴ 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." ⁴⁵ Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me;
 Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me.
 Brighter scenes will then commence;
 This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! To Him the throne High above all things is given.
 I shall go where He is gone, Live and reign with Him in heaven.
 God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Jesus living,
 Pure in heart and act abide, Praise to Him and glory giving.
 All I need God will dispense; This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: Jesus is my confidence!

SERMON

“WHAT POWER IS THIS?”

Acts 3:11–21
Pastor Jim Sprengle

APOSTLES' CREED

☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER

“Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to Your children praying;
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying;
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

☐ Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

- P** Blessed Lord, You appeared to the disciples, showing Yourself again as the one and only risen Redeemer. Help each of us to recognize the wonderful gifts of Your power and love poured out in abundance in our lives. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Savior, You promise to be with us always to the end of the age. We seek Your encouragement and presence in leading us to make disciples of all nations. Lead us to be bold witnesses of Your mercy in words and in deeds. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Suffering Servant, You are intimately aware of the persecuted Church throughout the world. Grant them Your peace in the midst of pain and loss, helping them to see their suffering in light of Your sacrifice and eternal life. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For the ill, the suffering, and all who mourn...that they would experience healing according to God's will. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** For those who are celebrating...Risen Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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 and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

(11:00 service, please turn to page **11** for the Benediction)

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**We believe in the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.
Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.**
*(Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol
and gluten free wafers are available upon request.)*

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

(Latin for "Peace of the Lord" - the response is, "Amen!", or "So be it!")

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

"The Lamb"

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb, Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join Heaven His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb, Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

The Lamb, the Lamb, as wayward sheep their shepherd kill,
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb, Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb, Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong 'Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb, Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26;*

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.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

(Refrain)

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

Walking the way, Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. **(Refrain)**

Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: “O grave, be open!”
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. **(Refrain)**

City of God, Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM! **(Refrain)**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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† SERVICES RESUME AT NORMAL TIMES

8:30 and 11:00am with adult education class at 9:45am. Approximately 40 per service can attend. Please call or email the office today.

† ALTERNATIVES FOR HOMEBOUND WORSHIP

- Radio: KPDQ on 93.9FM Sunday mornings at 7:00am.
- alcportland.org for Bible Studies and Worship Services

† HELP NEEDED FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you are coming to service, think about offering to be a servant during worship. Let Pastor or Michele know where you can help!

† AN EVENING OF PRAISE SUNDAY ~ TONIGHT

Let's keep the spirit of Easter alive by gathering to praise the risen Christ! Favorite Christian hymns and songs – and a couple new ones. Part concert – part sing along with our own Brad Hall on keyboard and vocals. Guest vocalists: Heather Hall, yes, that's Brad's sister, and Dennis Catmull, longtime friend of Pastor Dan. Event will be in the sanctuary and you will need to make a reservation with the office, call or email today!

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Carolyn Erdmann, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, The Family of Randy Arronson, The family of Jim Kuether, Jr., Mary Niska, Larry Hart, The Family of Jack Webber, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, John Eilers and Family, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Lewis Eilers, The Family of Ordena Laxton, The Family of Wayne Rippon, Rich Zahursky, Audrey Bauch, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Elly Brown, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath, All those suffering or infected with Covid-19.

**Home Bound.*

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail:
office@alcportland.org

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);

Jon Porath, Air Force — Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas NV (son of Dale and Sherry Porath);

Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);

Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Arielle Reinert	4/19	Morgan Berg	4/21
Nichole Fogarty	4/21	Margaret Hubbard	4/21
Carolyn Shore	4/21	Gladys Wilson	4/21
Judy Blubaum	4/24	Marcia Bryant	4/24

BIRTHDAYS

Alexa Sprengle	4/18	Bea Kirchner	4/21
Gladys Wilson	4/21	Larry Hart	4/23

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Lewis and Pam Eilers April 18, 1965

EVENTS AT ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 18

8:30am Worship with Communion
9:45am Adult Education
11:00am Worship
6:00pm “An Evening of Praise”

Thursday, April 22

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, April 25

8:30am Worship
9:45am Adult Education
11:00am Worship with Communion

Thursday, April 29

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750
Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission”*

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God’s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God’s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

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