

# The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and Handicap Friendly Congregation

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Second Sunday of Easter  
Sunday, April 7, 2024  
10:30 am

## **The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life**

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey  
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ  
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

**We welcome all who worship with us today.**

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,  
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

**Children are welcome and celebrated!**

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship. Stop by to borrow a book, pick up some coloring sheets and crayons or take along a copy of this week’s children’s bulletin.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Gathering Music**

Christ Be Our Light

Farrell/Hayes

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Affirmation of Baptism and Easter Greeting**

This is the Good News – The grave is empty, Christ is risen.

**Hallelujah!**

This is the Good News – The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never put it out.

**Hallelujah!**

This is the Good News – Once we were no people, now we are God's people.

**Hallelujah!**

Christ is alive,  
**moving among the living.**

Christ is risen,  
**inviting us to rise in fullness of life.**

Christ is calling,  
**proclaiming life and hope for all.**

*In remembrance of our baptism, the Pastor blesses the congregation with water.*

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free  
from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

As we remember our own baptisms, pour out your Holy Spirit;  
 wash away sin in this cleansing water;  
 clothe the baptized with Christ;  
 and claim your children with all the baptized in Christ Jesus.

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Gathering Hymn**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW Hymn #815

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## Greeting

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



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 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-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



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



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy One, we gather with grateful hearts to remember the blessings  
of your light and love  
as they flow through our lives each day.

In this moment, open our hearts to your Holy Spirit.

Open our minds to the truths of your story.

Open our hands to welcome the risen Christ among us.

And open our eyes to your glory - a glory that is reflected in the faces around us.

In the name of the risen Christ, we pray.

**Amen**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Acts 4:32-35

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Acts.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul,  
and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions,  
but everything they owned was held in common.

With great power the apostles gave their testimony  
to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

There was not a needy person among them,  
for as many as owned lands or houses sold them  
and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

They laid it at the apostles' feet,  
and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**



A reading from First John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— what we have seen and heard we also declare to you so that you also may have fellowship with us, and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia

ELW Setting 3

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 John 20:19-31**

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Good News from John, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Open our hearts, Lord.**

When it was evening on that day,  
the first day of the week,  
and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews,  
Jesus came and stood among them and said,  
“Peace be with you.”

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.  
Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.  
Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you.  
As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”  
When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any,  
they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve,  
was not with them when Jesus came.  
So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.”  
But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands  
and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house,  
and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut,  
Jesus came and stood among them and said,  
“Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas,  
“Put your finger here and see my hands.  
Reach out your hand and put it in my side.  
Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him,  
“My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him,  
“Have you believed because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples  
that are not written in this book. But these are written  
so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,  
the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Good News!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Cindy Camp

Please stand as you are able.

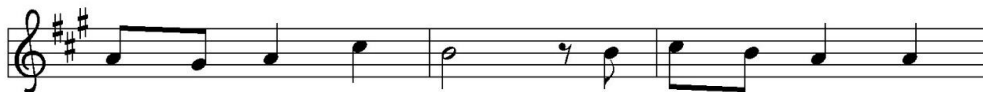
## Hymn of the Day

## We Walk By Faith

ELW Hymn #635



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

## Prayers of the People

### *Invitation to prayer:*

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:*

Holy Spirit,  
**pray with us.**

*Pastor's closing prayer:*

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.  
**Amen**

## **Peace**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

Receive the Holy Spirit and share the love of the risen Christ with one another.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,  
"Peace be with you."*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **Response to God's gifts**

The assembly responds to the Word of God by gathering an offering for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please place your offering in the offering plates on the tables in the rear of the worship center.

The table is set.

# Musical Offering

## Thine is the Glory Adult Choir

Words by EDMOND L. BUDRY  
tr. RICHARD BIRCH HOYLE

*JUDAS MACCABEUS*  
Music by GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL



1. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-que-ri-  
2. Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb;  
3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!



end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.  
lov - ing - ly he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom.  
Life is nought with - out thee: aid us in our strife.



An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,  
Let his church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,  
Make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less love:



kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.  
for her Lord now liv - eth: death hath lost its sting.  
bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

### REFRAIN



Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-que-ri-



end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Great Thanksgiving

May the risen Lord be with you!

**And also with you.**

Resurrection people, lift your hearts to God.

**We lift our hearts to the One who gives us new life.**

Sing with joy on this day of resurrection.

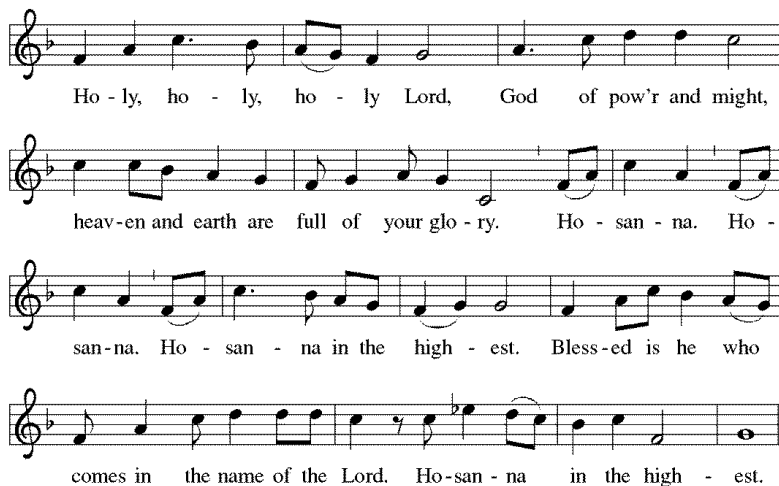
**Our songs of joy overflow this day.**

So with those from every time and every place, we sing your praises forever:

## Sanctus

## Holy, Holy, Holy

## ELW Setting 3



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.

## Words of Institution

## **Word in Meal**

Breathe on us, Spirit of God, as we gather around your table.  
Transform this simple bread into that gift of life which, broken,  
can make us whole once again.

Bless this common cup that it might become the grace for which we thirst  
in this and every moment. And when we have been nourished,  
may we go forth into the world, pushing aside the doors locked tight by the forces of  
prejudice and oppression, that all might receive your hope,  
that everyone might feel your breath bringing them back to life.

## **Lord's Prayer**

God in Community, Holy in One, hear us as we pray as Jesus taught us, saying:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

## **Invitation to the table**

This is the table of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.  
Come if your faith is strong, or if you are full of fear and doubt.  
Come in joy or in sorrow, hope or despair.

Whatever you carry, this meal is for you, and Jesus himself invites you.



*The assembly is seated.*

### **Distribution of communion**

The body of Christ given for you.  
The blood of Christ shed for you.

### **Agnus Dei**

### **Lamb of God**

### **ELW Setting 3**

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.

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,  
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,  
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.  
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.  
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,  
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,  
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.  
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.  
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **Prayer after communion**

Let us pray.  
Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.  
**Amen**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **Blessing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.  
**Amen**

**Sending Hymn** *Please see next page.*

### **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Sending Music**

Flourish

Wagner

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the  
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with  
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in  
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will  
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our  
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!  
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.  
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.  
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

**Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:**

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Use your credit or debit card at the Giving Kiosk;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: [lchsemmaus.org](http://lchsemmaus.org).

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## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Mark Wimmer, Interim Senior Pastor  
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor  
Pastor Cindy Camp, Interim Associate Pastor  
Sharon B. MacCabe, Director of Music  
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy  
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children

## **WORSHIP HELPERS**

### **Assisting Minister**

Rick Doty

### **Reader**

Cassidy M.

### **Communion Assistant**

Jackie Leipert

### **Greeter**

Marian Harrison

### **Usher**

Dean Black

### **Production/Technology Team**

Chuck Coe, Glenn Hinderliter, Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Tom Moessner,  
Bob Neitz, Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta,  
Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

### **Altar Care**

Nancy Pfeffer, Julie Timmcke, Marian Harrison, Kitti Berkheimer, Lynn Snyder,  
Barb Roba, Lynda Swartz, Carol Osenbach, Mary Vink