

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

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

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Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 14, 2024
8:30 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.

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

Raise a Hallelujah

Bethel Music

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

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!



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
 2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
 3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
 peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
 poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
 he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
 the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.



Refrain

Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

Let us pray.

God of miracles and truth, bless us, as we gather for worship, with the power of your Holy Spirit. Reveal your presence in our midst and open our hearts and minds to receive your miraculous love. Strengthen our faith this day, that we may go forth as witnesses of your miraculous love. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading Acts 3:12-19

Translation: NIV

A reading from Acts.

When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

“Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Luke 24:36-48

Translation: NIV

The Good News from Luke, the 24th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tami Reichley

Please stand as you are able.

Word in Song

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW Song #674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

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:

God of miracles and truth,
receive our prayer.

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

As God leads us beside the still waters of grace,
Christ invites us to offer these still waters of grace and peace to one another,
that all may know the peace of God.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

*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.

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.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

In this moment, and in this place, pour out your Spirit upon us, and on the gifts of the bread and cup which have been prepared for us. As we take the bread from your scarred hands, may we reach out to mend the broken of our world. As we drink from the cup, open our hearts and eyes, so we may see those the world overlooks, so we may stand with them in every moment and place.

Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One, continue to touch us with your peace, even as we pray as we are taught, 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.

Communion Anthem

Look to the Lamb

Jesus Culture

Communion Song


Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW Song #612

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



Refrain

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

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.

Farewell and Godspeed

Sharon, as you leave our congregation, we wish to bid you farewell.

A reading from Exodus: The Lord said,
“I am going to send an angel in front of you,
to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have
prepared.” (*Exodus 23:20*)

In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you
and made you a member of his church.
When you came to Holy Spirit, we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share
as the people of God. In this community you have come to know and to share in God’s
loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you in this community,
and God has blessed us through you.

We encourage you to continue to receive and share God’s gifts as you retire,
united with us in the body of Christ and the mission we share.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servant Sharon, who has enriched this congregation and shared her gifts with us.

Now bless and preserve her at this time of transition.

Day by day, guide her and give her what is needed, friends to cheer her way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling her.

By your Holy Spirit be present in her pilgrimage, that she may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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 Song *Please see next page.*

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Sending Song

Build Us Up, Lord

ELW Song #670



1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
 2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our



us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
 lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our



ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
 doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.



Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
 Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us



guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
 bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us



world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
 sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain



Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in



faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your



word to spread the news of your Son!

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.

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Communion Solo: CCLI
Communion Song: OneLicense
Sending Song: OneLicense

Musical Participants: Sue Smith, Lisa Walton, Eric Kahler, Jeff Gross, and Frank Mattes



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

Leesa Wimmer

Reader

Max H.

Communion Assistants

Carol Walrod, Don Walrod

Greeter

Al Bauernschmidt

Usher

Dee Bauernschmidt

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

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Nancy Pfeffer, Julie Timmcke, Marian Harrison, Kitti Berkheimer, Lynn Snyder,
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