

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

The.
voice of the
LORD
is **powerful;**
the.
voice of the
LORD
is full of
majesty.

Psalm 29:4, NRSV



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"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

The miracles of our Lord are an important part of his early ministry and hence the message of the Epiphany season. The Gospel reading today quotes a portion of Isaiah that we often (and rightly) apply to the death of Jesus. This passage also demonstrates that the healing miracles of Christ dealt with more than just the immediate malady. Since sickness and other physical maladies are a consequence of a sinful world, by healing the sick and infirm our Lord was showing that he had come to deal with the root cause of all that troubles us in this world.

WELCOME

INVOCATION

Stand

[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.**

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

[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.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

[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.

Stand

GREETING OF PEACE *with "Peace be with you/And also with you", along with a head nod, handshake, bow, or placing your hand on your heart.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN

"Alleluia, Jesus is Risen"

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -

sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -

ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:


Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

[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] In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

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

[P] For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

[C]  **Lord, — have mer - cy.**

[P] 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.**

[P] 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.**

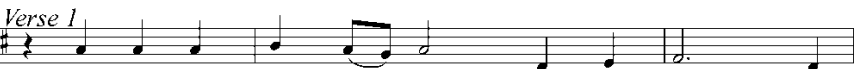
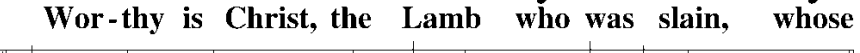
[P] Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

[C]  **A - - - men.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
[C]  **This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.**

 **Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.** *Go to Verses*

Verse 1
 **Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose**
 **blood set us free — to be peo - ple of God.** *Sing the Refrain*

Verse 2

Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Sing the Refrain*

Verse 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. *Sing the Refrain*

Verse 4

For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - - - ia. *continue below*

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

☐ The Lord be with you. ☒ **And also with you.**

☐ Almighty and most merciful God, in this earthly life we endure sufferings and death before we enter into eternal glory. Grant us grace at all times to subject ourselves to Your holy will and to continue steadfast in the true faith to the end of our lives that we may know the peace and joy of the blessed hope of the resurrection of the dead and of the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. ☒ **Amen.**

Sit

Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

SCRIPTURE READING John 5:25-40

R 'Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgement, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

'I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgement is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

'If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. There is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that his testimony to me is true. You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth. Not that I accept such human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. But I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.

'You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

intro: one chord

C 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.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator 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 again to judge the living and the dead.

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

MESSAGE

"The Magnificence of God"

Stand

HYMN "The Strife is O'er"

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,
 4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell;
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,

Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
 But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
 He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.
 The bars from heav'n's high por - tals fell.
 From death's dread sting Thy ser - vants free

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.

Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let hymns of praise His tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
 That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[P] Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with “Lord, in your mercy,” to which the congregation responds, “**hear our prayer.**” The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



Give Now

Stand

OFFERTORY SONG AND PRAYER

introduction

C 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.

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



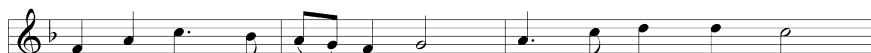
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C 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

- P** In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P** Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD’S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

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

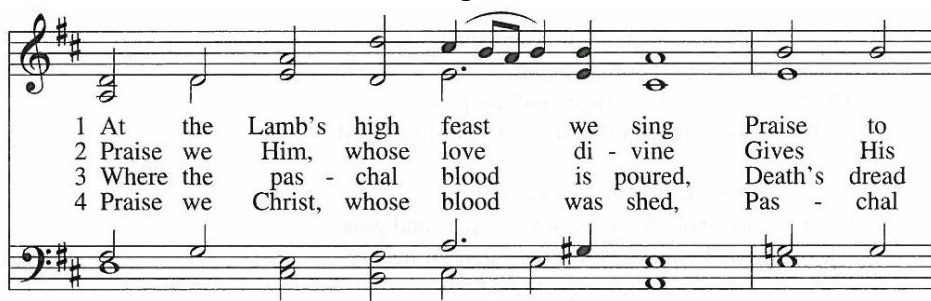
THE LAMB OF GOD

C 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.

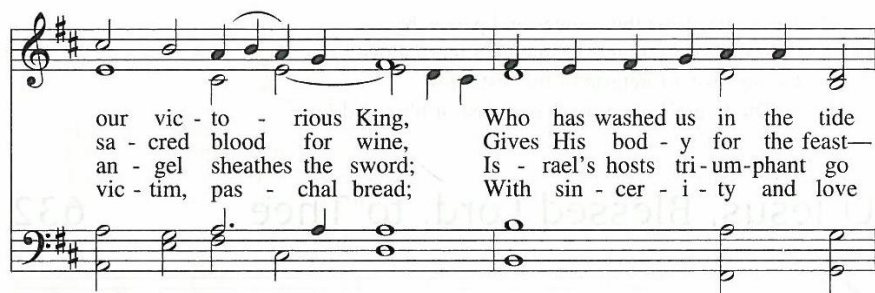
THE DISTRIBUTION *Please approach the altar as space is available. You may receive communion from pre-packaged elements or the common loaf, along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free options are available.*

HYMN

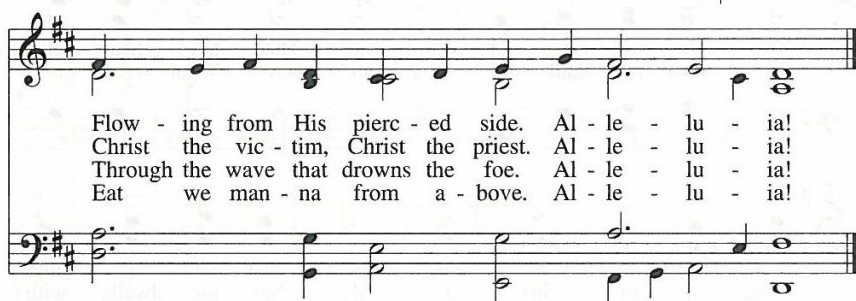
"At the Lamb's High Feast"



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise.
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

HYMN

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re-joice and sing! Now is the tri-umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to
3 Praise we in songs of vic-to-ry That love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris-en Lord, And sing to-day with

of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
strew His way; Let all the world re-joice and say:
can-not die, And sing with hearts up-lift-ed high:
one ac-cord The life laid down, the life re-stored:

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written between the staves. The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains three lines of lyrics. The third system contains one line of lyrics. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature.

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941
Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd.; admin. Hope Publishing Co.
Music: Public domain

GELOBT SEI GOTT
888 and alleluias

Ps. 118:24; Matt. 28:8; Is. 25:7–9; Rom. 6:9

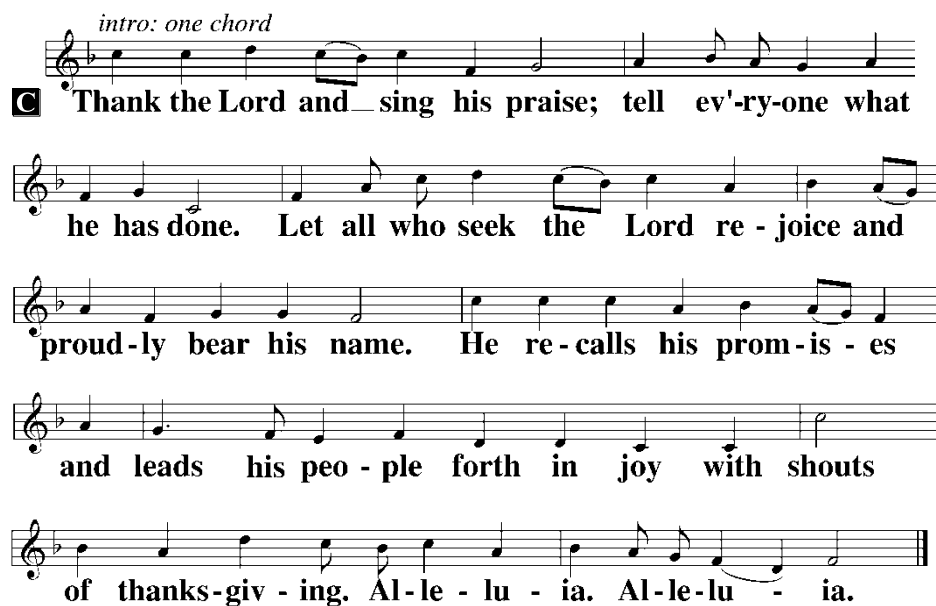
Stand

THE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C** Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER

intro: one chord



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'-ry-one what
he has done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice 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.

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **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. **C** **Amen.**
- P** Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day;
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled,
 3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed,
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day,
 Al - le - lu - ia!

Chris - tians, has - ten on your way;
 Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead,
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled,
 All your grate - ful hom - age pay;
 Al - le - lu - ia!

Of - fer praise with love re - plete,
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high;
 When con - tend - ing death and life,
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high;
 Al - le - lu - ia!

At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet.
 Now He lives, no more to die.
 Met in strange and awe - some strife.
 Now He lives, no more to die.
 Al - le - lu - ia!

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

Our Confession

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

- a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;
- b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.
