

⁸They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”

Luke 24: 32

In the wonderment of the resurrection of our Lord, the wounded Jesus Christ and the empty tomb, is your heart burning? The resurrected Jesus Christ, a stranger, starts walking with Cleopas and another disciple and they are sad as Jesus joins them in their sorrow. He explains the Scripture to them, tells them this was foretold, tells them that this all happened, even when it is very hard, it is going to work out. They still did not know it was him and they invited the “stranger” Jesus in the house. Do you know when they knew it was Jesus? In the breaking of the bread. The time when they remembered the presence of Jesus “In the night when he was betrayed, he broke bread.” A reminder for us all how the breaking of the bread and our hearts as we hear Scripture. Every time we eat and break bread together, we feel the presence of Jesus.

As we continue in the Resurrection story and live each day with this great gift of life in Jesus Christ, what does it mean for each of us for the rest of our lives? What does the resurrection of Jesus Christ make possible in your life? What has changed? What is your greatest wonder at this time? Easter really has a way of doing things to us. Is your heart burning? What is possible in your life now because of the empty tomb?

As we go forward in these times of new normal and changes, what does the new resurrected Jesus ask of you? Are your hearts burning? Are you ready to learn and grow? Are you ready to be the witness that the resurrected Lord calls you to be?

As First Evangelical Lutheran Church brings back some traditions and begins new forms of ministry, we do so as a confessing church of Jesus Christ. We confess God as our Father, of Jesus Christ our resurrected Savior and the Holy Spirit working through all the world and us. We will continue to follow hospitality and grace as our Lord has with new beginnings and some old traditions.

What grace and wonder we live with in this life with Jesus Christ! May your hearts continue to burn.....

Peace,

Pastor Brenda

Then he (Jesus) opened their minds to understand the scriptures. Luke 24:45



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Brenda Wicklund

April 18, 2021, Third Sunday of Easter

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ’s love with each other and our community”

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The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today’s gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples’ food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

Prelude

Pat Anderson

Welcome to Worship this morning. We will be sharing Holy Communion, so please make sure you have a Communion packet when you arrive. Please join us as we sing under our masks. Thank you for practicing social distancing and masking.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act to what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

L: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Hymn "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!"

Red Worship Book 377

1 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!

2 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*

3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree; heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain*

4 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*

5 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*

Greeting

Red Worship Book pg. 147

L: 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.

Kyrie

Red Worship Book pg. 147-148

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: 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 mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

L: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Special Music “There’s A Quiet Understanding”

Diane Ausmus, Elaine Jensen

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God’s promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ’s death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus’ name.

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Psalm 4

L: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;

C: you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

L: “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;

C: how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”

L: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;

C: the LORD will hear me when I call.

L: Tremble, then, and do not sin;

C: speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

L: Offer the appointed sacrifices,

C: and put your trust in the LORD.

L: Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”

C: Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

L: You have put gladness in my heart,

C: more than when grain and wine abound.

L: In peace, I will lie down and sleep;

C: for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to

take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Gospel Acclamation

Red Worship Book pg. 151

C: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

Red Worship Book pg. 151

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

The Gospel of Our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

Red Worship Book pg. 151

Children’s Sermon

Sermon: ‘Witness to These Things’ Luke 24:36b-48

Pastor Brenda Wicklund

What about this resurrection of our Lord? Jesus Christ has Risen, He has Risen indeed! Alleluia! We hear in the Gospel of Luke a wonderful and amazing telling of witnesses’ that are proclaiming the Good News that Jesus Christ is alive! The witness of the resurrection through their tears, grief, change and heartache of the death of Jesus are walking around now with the resurrected Lord, and they are full of joy.

Except, for Cleopas and a companion of his as they walk along the road to Emmaus. They were sad and a stranger joined them, which was Jesus, yet they did not know it was he. Jesus asks them what they are talking about and they wonder how this stranger does not know what has happened. They said their prophet was killed at the hands of leaders and we had hoped he was the Messiah. On top of that, some women said his body gone with some angels talking to them, which we know the disciples thought were utterly foolish of them. Jesus insinuates to the two disciples on the road, that they are foolish, as the law and Scriptures predicted this to happen. He interpreted the Scripture to the two of them. Jesus, the stranger was going to go on but they begged him to stay. So he did, they were sharing the meal, and **“when he took the bread and blessed and broke it, then their eyes were opened and they recognized him (Luke 24:29-30).”**

They realized later how this experience with the stranger that turned out to be Jesus, had made their hearts burn when he explained the Scripture to them. They returned to Jerusalem with the eleven disciples and they were saying. **“The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon (Luke 24: 24).”** As they were talking Jesus appeared to them and said, “Peace be with you.” They were startled, frightened, and thought he was a ghost. **“Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and**

Prayers of Intercession

L: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.
(*A brief silence.*)

L: Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C:Amen.

Words of Institution

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.

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

The Lord's Prayer

Red Worship Book pg. 154

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.

Hymn "Come and Fill Our Hearts" (sing 3 times)

Red Worship Book 528

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia

Prayer after Communion

L: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Blessing

L: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Hymn

“Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

Red Worship Book 389

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



the worship is ended ... let the service begin...

The Noisy offering this month is for Pastor's Discretionary Fund, there will be a bowl as you exit the church.

Next Week's Readings and Psalm

First Reading

[Acts 3:12-19](#)

Second Reading

[1 John 3:1-7](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 4](#)

Gospel

[Luke 24:36b-48](#)



Please Join Us For
**Family Pathways
 Dementia
 Friends**

Grandpa and Lucy: A story
 about Love and Dementia
 by Edie Weinstein

This one hour class is for children ages 7 and up

- This session will help children learn what dementia is
- Learn who is affected by dementia
- Learn how to successfully navigate personal relationships with loved ones who are affected by dementia.

All sessions will be virtual via Zoom
 5:30 - 6:30pm
 • May 11
 • June 15

To Register or for more information:

Contact Collette at
collette@familypathways.org



This Family Pathways Aging Services program is sponsored, in part, by a Live Well grant from the Minnesota Department of Human Services and with support from local donors, cost share participants, and Family Pathways Thrift Store revenue.

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Announcements:

Sunday, April 18- after Worship-Church Council.
 -after Worship-Twins game

Monday, April 19-Newsletter Deadline-*Items must be in by Noon.*

Tuesday, April 20- 9:30 am Women's Morning Bible Study.

Wednesday, April 21-5-6:30 pm FiA-swimming
 -5:30 pm Confirmation
 -6:30 pm Worship with Holy Communion
 -After Worship Youth Group

Thursday, April 22- 8 am Men's Text Study.

Sunday, April 25- 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion





Prayer Concerns and Sympathy ~ Tyler (son of Jan Peura), Jeremy (friend of Sheila Jensen), Gale Vayder, Adam Alexander, Christine Baker (granddaughter of Judy Smith), Marsha Skoog (friend of Patty Sweeny), Larry Lammers (brother-in-law of Elaine Garaghty), Sue Youngblom, John Bassett, Max Tatting, Pearl Anderson (sister of Joyce Seegebath), Peter Thorvig, Kay Conway, Eric Mettling (deployed for service), Jessica Lindahl, Carol Bostrom, and Leigha Ness (Pastor Brenda's great-niece.)

niece.)

For our members in care facilities ~ Ruta Kalnins, Freida Pfahl, Dorothy Svendsen and Max Tatting.

For firefighters, EMT's, those who serve to protect Policemen and women and military. For world peace.

For our companion synods.

For our missionaries: Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke.

Kids Celebrate

Third Sunday of Easter



Gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the third Sunday of Easter. Look and listen carefully during worship today. Use the space below to help you remember everything that you see, hear, touch, and smell, then tell someone about it. You are a worship witness for Jesus!

hear & celebrate

Jesus appears-Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus continued to surprise his disciples after the resurrection. One evening while the disciples were talking together, Jesus suddenly appeared among them and said "Peace be with you."

They thought they had seen a ghost until Jesus said he was hungry and ate a piece of fish!

You have a mission... Jesus gave the disciples an important job. He told them to tell everyone all over the world about him. You have that same job. Imagine that you are planning a trip to tell others about Jesus. What will you pack in your suitcase?



Illustrate a Bible Story outside your home with sidewalk chalk. Witness to the world!

Send

Where will you go? Jesus asks of his disciples to tell everyone about him. You are one of Jesus' disciples, and you can tell his stories too!

Jesus, Help me listen and learn so I can go and tell! Amen.



this week

Snuggle together and tell your favorite stories about Jesus.

One change as we are back in person is that we will not be sending out bulletins in the mail, unless you would like one sent. It is your choice of online through the church directory, web page, in the mail, or pick it up on Sunday is your choice. Please let us know what your desire is. We are looking to save paper and printing for those who can, yet we will need your assistance to get the “Good News” and the news to you as is best for you ☺

I would like to get my bulletin by Church directory. My email is _____

I would like to receive this through the US Postal Service _____

I will receive my bulletin on Sunday Morning at Worship _____

I will check out the church Website to receive the bulletin _____

I have a question about this change _____

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