



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Dove of Peace Lutheran Church
April 18, 2021

The Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 18, 2021

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Pastor Stephen Springer

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.

PROLOGUE

Kevin Seal, pipe organ

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele (Soul, Adorn Yourself), Op. 122 no. 5
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Schmücke dich is a German communion hymn, with a text by Johann Franck and a melody by Johann Crüger. It appears in our hymnal as #488, "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness". The melody is joyful and dancelike, celebrating the communal feast of the Lord's Supper. Brahms' setting is gentle and meditative, featuring the melody unadorned with flowing 16th notes underneath.



1 With high de - light let us u - nite in
2 True God, he first from death has burst forth
3 Let prais - es ring; give thanks, and bring to



songs of great ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, all
in - to life, all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my now
Christ our Lord ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed by



bear your part, sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To
van-quished see; his death has been death's un - do - ing. "And
word and deed to ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So



set us free for - ev - er, he is ris'n and sends to
yours shall be like vic - to - ry o'er death and grave," says
shall his love give us a - bove, from mis - er - y and



all earth's ends good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
he, who gave his life for us, life re - new - ing.
death set free, all joy and full con - so - la - tion.

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.

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.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

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.

A reading from Acts.

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?" ¹³The 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (ELW): Psalm 4

The refrain is first introduced by the leader, then repeated by the assembly.



Psalm 4:3

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me | when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and | do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed. REFRAIN**

⁵Offer the appointed | sacrifices,
and put your trust | in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us | any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness | in my heart,
more than when grain and | wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure. REFRAIN**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

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.

A reading from First John.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW #169

The assembly sings the acclamation before and after the verse of the day.



Cantor: Our hearts | burn within us*
while you open to | us the scriptures. (Luke 24:32)

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

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.

The Holy Gospel According to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{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 the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Stephen Springer



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
 slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall
 riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.
 wake the dead in num - - ber.
 pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
 Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray,

O Gd,

we give thanks for the anticipation and opportunity the church presents for worship, for opening the scriptures, for prayer and service, for the spirit of life in your name. We pray, stay with us, so the appearance of Xp will be the glory that burns within us and shines out into the community.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Gd

we pray again for this world, this spread of lands and nations seemingly always on the edge of trouble and unrest. Turn leaders away from primary self-interest and convenient disregard of others. We pray, turn and empower all people to a disciplined practice of a just and common good.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Gd,

keep company with those hurt by this world's unrest: the unsecured and exposed, the wandering, the frightened, the hungry, the poor. Keep them safe from harm. Give them hope that envisions, beyond the dark, the dawn of a new day when they may rise and rest secure in your peace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Gd

let your goodness not fail those overtaken by disease and pain, those enduring depressions and distress. Let them know you are near. We pray for those we know and for those not known to us, but known to you. Call to them by name, we pray, that they may lift their eyes to see you their saving Lord.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Finally, O Gd,

remembering both our own mortality and the dying of those dear to us, let us think of Xp and hear and mark well, with expansive hope, the words given to us: *"If 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."* Lord keep us in that spirit of life.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

MEDITATION

Members of Dove of Peace Chancel Choir

*Spirit of Life
Jane Marshall (1924-2019)*

An accomplished pianist and organist, Jane Marshall began composing as a teenager and was especially known in the Methodist tradition as a prolific composer and hymn writer. Several of her hymns are in the Methodist hymnal. Her setting of Marlatt's text in today's anthem is imbued with soaring hope for the invocation of the Holy Spirit to "give us the faith in this new dawn" and through our life's journey, including in the twilight of our lives.

Spirit of Life, in this new dawn,
Give us the faith that follows on,
Letting Thine all-pervading pow'r
Fulfill the dream of this high hour.

Spirit Creative, give us light,
Lifting raveled mists of night;
Touch Thou our dust with spirit-hand
And make us souls that understand.

Spirit Consoling, let us find
Thy hand when sorrows leave us blind;
In the gray valley let us hear
Thy silent voice: "Lo, I am near."

Spirit Redeeming, give us grace
When crucified to seek Thy face;
To read forgiveness in Thine eyes
Today with Thee in Paradise.

Spirit of Love, at evening time,
When weary feet refuse to climb,
Give us Thy vision, eyes that see
Beyond the dark, that see the dawn and Thee.
Earl Marlatt (1892-1976)

COMMISSION

Concluding announcements and ministry opportunities.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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Pièce Pour Grand Orgue
Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)

Joseph Jongen was a Belgian composer whose work shares much in common with early 20th-century French composers. His *Pièce Pour Grand Orgue* is a festive, grand postlude in three parts. The piece shows influence from English marches, and the middle section features somewhat Germanic counterpoint, but the prevailing stylistic influence comes from organ works by French composers such as Eugene Gigout and Louis Vierne. Jongen also hearkens back to French Classical organ music, using a title (Grand Orgue) that is reserved for the grandest, most joyful pieces from that time period.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Dianne Huston, Lector
John Hoelter, Assisting Minister
Eric Holtan, Cantor
Kevin Seal, Organist