



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity**

Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

**Sunday, April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter**

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.

GATHERING

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

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

This Joyful Eastertide Michael Burkhardt
Alleluia! Jesus is Risen Karl Osterland

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

All: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**All: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

P: To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! ELW 377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 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!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

All: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast*

Refrain
 Assisting minister



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

All

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

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

Refrain

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

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

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

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

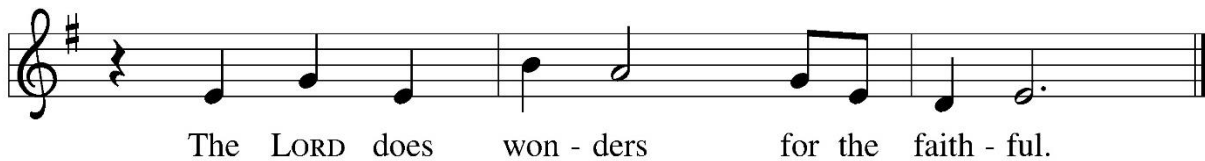
After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

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.

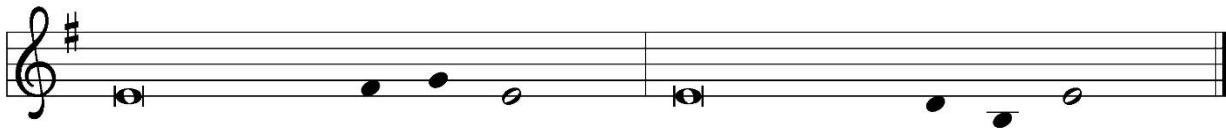
¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Psalm 4 (*Congregation sings the refrain and bold verses*)

Refrain:



Verse:



¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender¹ of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and¹ hear my prayer.

²**"You mortals, how long will you dishon-¹ or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek¹ after lies?"**

³Know that the LORD does wonders¹ for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me¹ when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and¹ do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up-¹ on your bed. R**

⁵Offer the appointed¹ sacrifices,
and put your trust¹ in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, "Who will show us¹ any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon¹ us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness ¹in my heart,
 more than when grain and ¹wine abound.
⁸**In peace, I will lie ¹down and sleep;**
for you alone, O LORD, make me ¹rest secure. R

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.

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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

Refrain:

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

Verse:

Our hearts ¹burn within us* while you open to ¹us the scriptures. . (Luke 24:32)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY 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.

^{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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence is kept for reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Touch That Soothes and HealsACS 939



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

Refrain

“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the
grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as
ones I died to save.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
 Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972
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 Music © 2008 Re:Create Music, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God, begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
 and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please respond after each petition.

P: God of Grace,
All: **hear our prayer.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING OF PEACE

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: **And also with you.**

TABLE SETTING SONG: *Come to the Table*, Sing & Rejoice Choir Amanda Meisenheimer

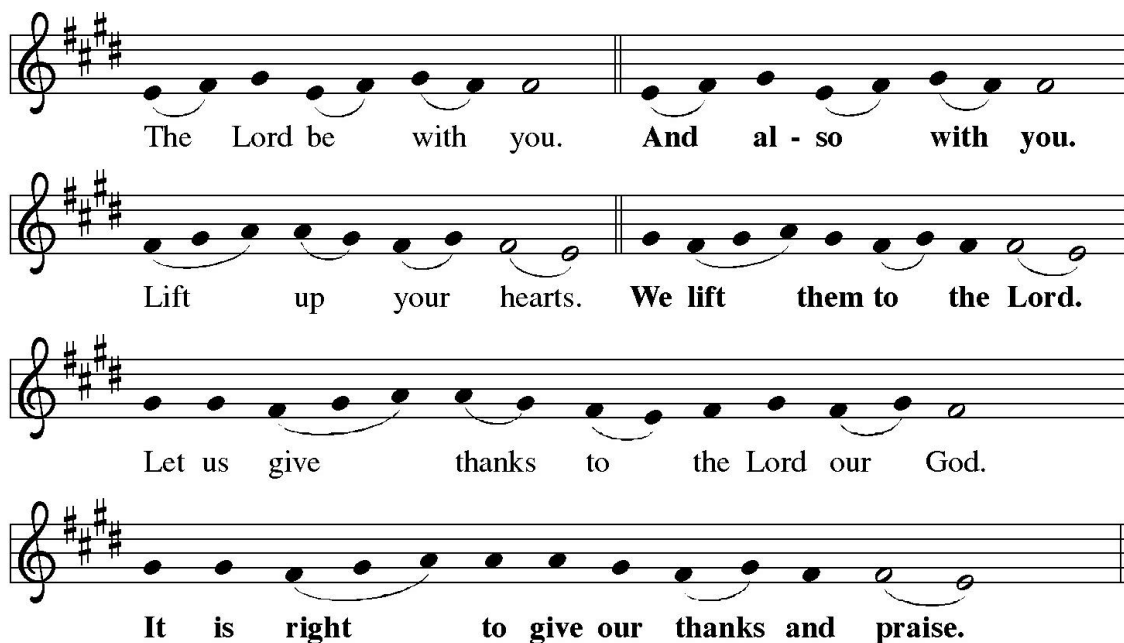
Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plates at the entrance to worship or in the narthex.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: Let us pray . . . Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer
Here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus
Christ, our true vine.
All: **Amen.**



GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

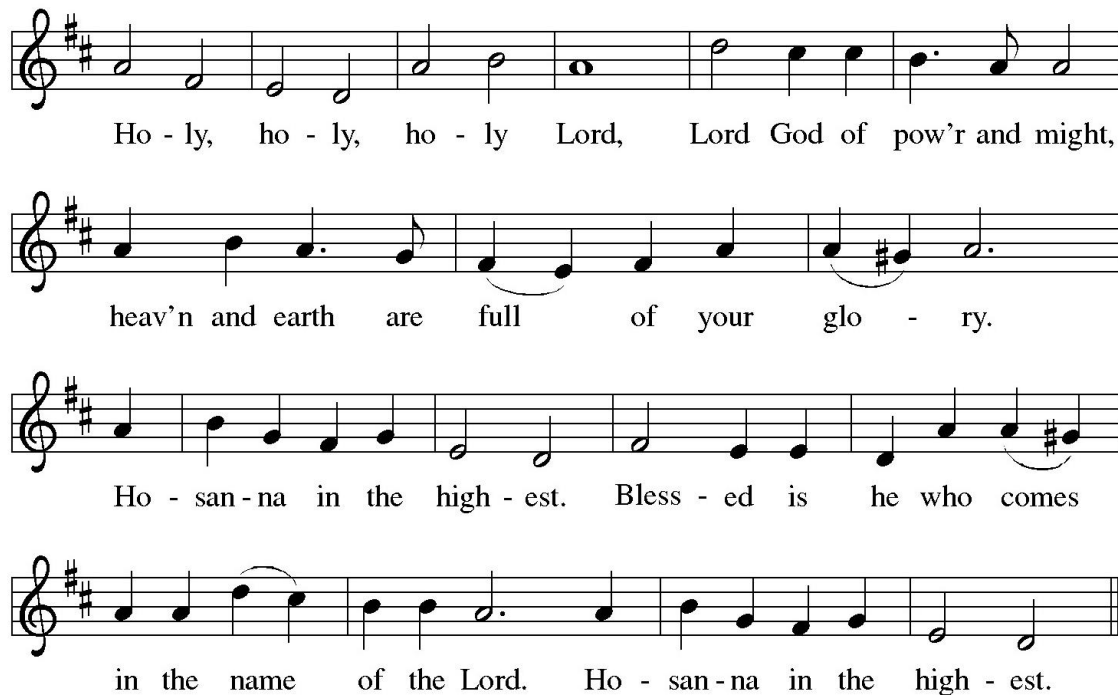
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P:And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of bread. Come and eat at God's table.
All: Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD:

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC: (*Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew*)
We Who Once Were Dead **ELW 495**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

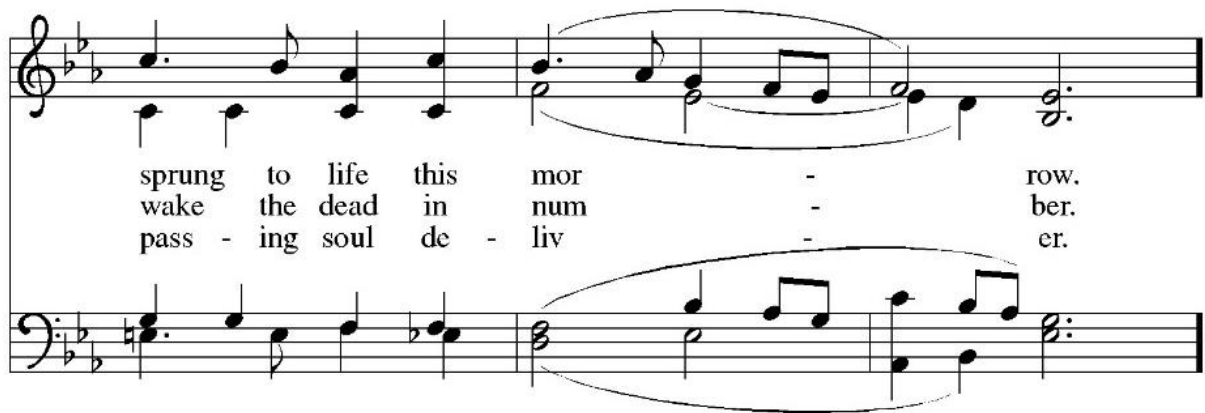
P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

All Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *This Joyful Eastertide* ELW 391

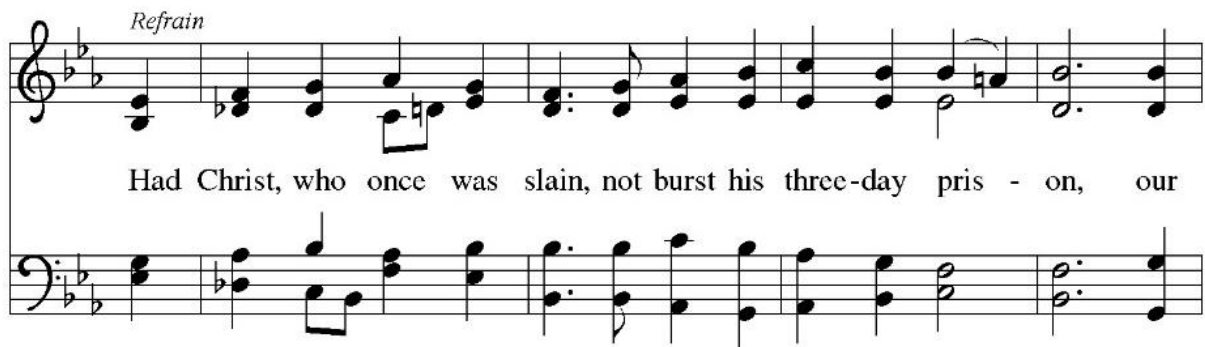
1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the

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

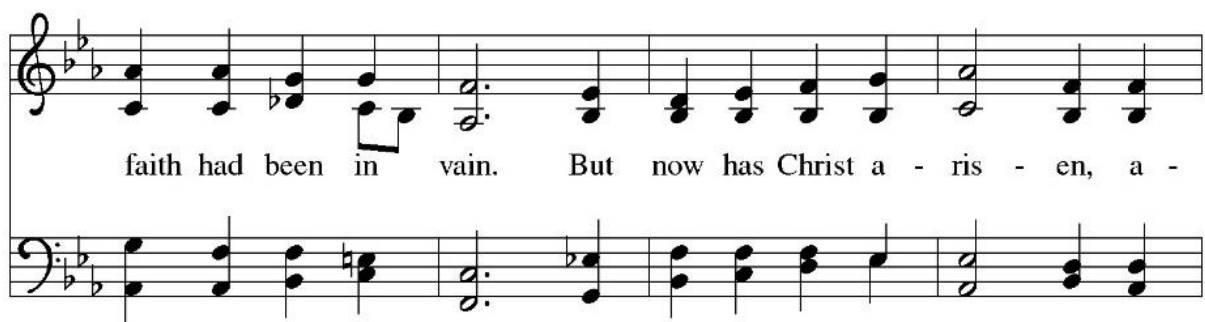


sprung to life this mor row.
wake the dead in num ber.
pass - ing soul de - liv er.

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: Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL:

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: *This Joyful Eastertide*.....John Behnke

FLOWERS AND BULLETIN IN THE CHURCH

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of their children, grandchildren and great-grandson by JoEllen and Jack Myers.

SERVING TODAY

Reader:..... Danielle Mariano
Assisting Minister: Beth Dunham
Communion Assistants: Deb Brooks and Mark Mariano
Crucifer: Else Nielsen
Torchbearers: Maddy Gniady and Adam Gardner
Livestream: Kirk Sponaugle



Dear Lord Jesus,

When You walked upon this earth, You healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead. Now we come to You on behalf of those who are in need today and pray that You would send them Your healing power. Hear our prayer for Your name’s sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Bereaved: The Family of Harry Heath

Prayer Concerns: Roberta Anderson, Bob Bettleyon, Jim Bomberger (friend of Jim and Peg Huebner), Carole Bowman, Dennis Buchanan (Mary Ann Kelly’s cousin), Kinleigh Connelly (friend of the Eby family), Karen Savage Critchfield (friend of Kendra Ruhl), Donna Dixon, Theo Epitropoulos, Suzy Epler, Janice Geiling, Drew Herdson (friend of the Dunhams), Bonnie Hess (friend of the Weavers), Glenn Hoffa, Ben Housman (husband of Anita Housman), Herb Huebner, Mary Huebner, Jennifer Johnson (cousin of Derek Dunham), Nancy Miller, Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, Dona Pastuck, Tom Rieger, Bob Sibert, Michelle Spaeder (friend of Karen Kline), Pete Stone, Bob Trump, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Mike Welty.

DAILY PRAYERS

Alex Chubb, Elaine Chubb, Virginia Frank, Rosa Vena Homisak (Bob Homisak’s mother), Dennis Lubold, Ed Schaeffer, Irene Turzai, Melissa West (friend of Susan Bianchi), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all of our Homebound members.

Members of Armed Forces and their families: Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, Patrick Stewart, Tory Young

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at htluth@comcast.net or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us for worship today in-person and through livestreaming.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite all people, as well as young children who are not yet receiving the Sacrament to come forward and receive a blessing. Please ask the Pastor if you need a gluten free option. At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Thus, we believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine. At his table Christ grants us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. *May your hearts be opened, and your lives made new by his gracious love.* Please give your completed communion card to the usher during communion.

Holy Communion distribution today: The usher will guide you down the center aisle. Prepackaged Communion elements with grape juice are available on the small table. If your preference is regular wine or non-alcoholic wine, take a cup from the silver trays. Proceed to the Pastor to receive a wafer or have the prepackaged elements blessed. Proceed to the rail where there will be an assistant on either side with regular wine. There will also be one assistant with non-alcoholic wine. Stand or kneel as you are able and remain at the rail for as long as you desire.

Communion Elements are available for “Live Stream” worship at home. Please contact the church office at 717-533-2467 or by email at htluth@comcast.net to arrange to pick up elements or have them delivered to your home.

The in-person church office hours this week are Monday thru Thursday from 9 AM—2 PM. On Friday staff will work remotely. To contact the church: Phone Number: 717-533-2467, Email Address: htluth@comcast.net; Holy Trinity website: htluth.org

Sunday School Information: Children’s Sunday School meets on Sundays from 9:00am-9:45am in the Sunday School room (connected to the Fellowship Hall). An informational flyer with more details is available in the church narthex. We’re excited to use the Godly Play curriculum this year! **Confirmation Sunday School** for Grades 6-9 meets on Sundays from 9am-9:45am in the youth room. **Adult Discussion group** meets at 9:00-9:45am in room #16 (near the restrooms). Please consider joining this time of learning and faith sharing.

Sing and Rejoice Choir. All youth are again invited to participate in singing during the service on April 14, 21 and 28. The song, *Come to the Table*, will be sung right before Communion. Singers are asked to sit in the chairs at the left front of the church, directly across from the choir. Copies of the words to the song will be available on the chairs for any youth who would like to join us even if they have not been able to make our practices. In addition, **this Sunday, preschool children are welcome** to come forward to join the singing. The older youth will help them do the hand gestures that accompany the song.

Bible Art Journaling will be offered by Colleen Nielsen, **TODAY**, Sunday, April 14th at 6-7:30pm. All are welcome to attend. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

The Family Fellowship Faith Hike at Wildwood Park Nature Trail is NEXT Sunday, April 21st from 1:30 – 4pm. Enjoy an afternoon walk of faith and fellowship with your church brothers and sisters. We will do a hike around Wildwood Lake (3.1 miles), interjected with inspirational prayer stops along the way. We will meet at Wildwood at 1:30pm in the parking outside the Olewine Nature Center. **Note:** This is a shine only event! Please check your e-mail on that day to make sure it’s happening, if the weather looks questionable. For all other details about this event please talk to Peter Fox or pick up an event flyer around the church anytime.

Please send articles and announcements for the Newsletter to Anita Housman, our Communications/IT Specialist. Please send articles to her at aahousman2@gmail.com. She is always gathering announcements and articles for the monthly newsletter. Just a reminder – submit articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month.

Many thanks for your generous donations! We continuously express our thanks to all for your faithfulness and generosity in giving which allows us to continue to operate valuable ministries and pay for the ongoing bills at Holy Trinity. The Simply Giving program offers automatic withdrawals from your bank account or charges to a credit card; donated through our website (htluth.org) by clicking on the ‘Give Now’ button; donated by downloading the Mobile App ‘GivePlus Church’ (be sure to select Ev. Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity) or by taking a picture of the QR code. Please contact the church if you have any questions about any of these methods.



Holy Trinity Staff

- Senior Pastor Rev. Cindy A. Brommer (PastorBrommer@comcast.net)
- Director of Music Ministries/Organist Alan L. Hair (hairlooms2@aol.com)
- Director of Youth and Family Ministries..... Peter A. Fox (youthg@yahoo.com)
- Director of Faith Formation Colleen Nielsen (NielsenC@mhs-pa.org)
- Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Stuart (htluth@comcast.net)
- Property Manager..... Karen Kline (karenhtlc@comcast.net)
- IT/Communication Specialist Anita Housman (aahousman2@gmail.com)
- Treasurer Stephanie Gross (stephaniegross@comcast.net)
- Giving Secretary Peg Huebner (peghuebner@comcast.net)
- Membership Secretary Elizabeth Stuart (estuart@path1tv.com)

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Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God’s love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives for racial equity and to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ’s teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.