



Complete Worship Folder

April 14, 2024 - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

April 17, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

## **Third Sunday of Easter**

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### Welcome and Announcements

#### Call to Worship: Psalm 4 (Read Responsively)

P: <sup>1</sup>Answer 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.

C: <sup>2</sup>**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

P: <sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

C: <sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

P: <sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

C: <sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

P: <sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

C: <sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

#### Hymn: “Come, Let Us Worship God” (DATH 2)

(Come, let us worship God.) Come, let us worship God.

(Come, let us worship God.) Come, let us worship God.

(Welcome ev’ryone.) Welcome ev’ryone.

(To the love of God.) To the love of God.

(Rest for the weary.) Rest for the weary.

(Rest for the weary.) Rest for the weary.

(Welcome ev’ryone.) Welcome ev’ryone.

(To the love of God.) To the love of God.

(Food for the hungry.) Food for the hungry.

(Food for the hungry.) Food for the hungry.

(Welcome ev’ryone.) Welcome ev’ryone.

(To the love of God.) To the love of God.

(Hope for the children.) Hope for the children.

(Hope for the children.) Hope for the children.

(Welcome ev’ryone.) Welcome ev’ryone.

(To the love of God.) To the love of God.

#### Greeting

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.**

#### 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. Amen.**

Children’s Message (10:30 a.m.) & Dismiss to Children’s Church

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

<sup>12</sup>[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?”<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And 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. <sup>17</sup>“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup>See 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. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, 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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation: “Thy Word” (CCLI 14301 *Chorus Only*)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look 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.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence. <sup>44</sup>Then 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.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Where Charity and Love Prevail" (ELW 359)

Where charity and love prevail,  
there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love,  
by love we thus are bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear,  
God's charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and soul  
now love God in return.

Let us recall that in our midst  
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;  
as members of each body joined,  
in him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown;  
let all contentions cease.  
Be God's the glory that we seek;  
be his our only peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults  
as we our own confess,  
that we may love each other well  
in Christian gentleness.

### Affirmation of Baptism

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ. We give you thanks for those who are making public profession with us and joining in the ministry of Ascension Lutheran Church. (*Pastor will read names*)

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**C: Amen.**

### Profession of Faith

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,  
the powers of this world that rebel against God,  
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**C: I renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

### Affirmation

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...God of grace,

**Congregation responds...hear our prayer.**

### Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### Offering

Offering Song: "Come to the Table" (ELW 481)

Come to the table of mercy,  
prepared with the wine and the bread.  
All who are hungry and thirsty,  
come, and your souls will be fed.  
Come at the Lord's invitation;  
receive from his nail-scarred hand.  
Eat of the bread of salvation;  
drink of the blood of the Lamb. *(repeat)*

Offering Prayer

A: 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.

**C: Amen.**

Thanksgiving

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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**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.**

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

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

Communion Songs: "I Love You Lord" (CCLI 25266)

I love You Lord  
And I lift my voice  
To worship You  
O my soul rejoice  
Take joy my King  
In what You hear  
May it be a sweet sweet sound  
In Your ear                   *(repeat twice)*

“I Am the Bread of Life” (ELW 485)

*Verse 1*

"I am the Bread of life.  
You who come to me shall not hunger,  
and who believe in me shall not thirst.  
No one can come to me unless the  
Father beckons."

***Refrain***

"And I will raise you up,  
and I will raise you up,  
and I will raise you up on the  
last day."

*Verse 2*

"The bread that I will give  
is my flesh for the life of the world,  
and if you eat of this bread,  
you shall live forever, you shall live  
forever." ***Refrain***

*Verse 3*

"Unless you eat  
of the flesh of the Son of Man  
and drink of his blood,  
and drink of his blood, you shall not  
have life within you." ***Refrain***

*Verse 4*

"I am the resurrection,  
I am the life.  
If you believe in me,  
even though you die, you  
shall live forever." ***Refrain***

*Verse 5*

Yes, Lord, I believe  
that you are the Christ,  
the Son of God,  
who have come into the world.  
***Refrain***

Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

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.

**C: Amen**

Blessing

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: 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.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Song: “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!” (ELW 393)

A hymn of glory let us sing!  
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, by a road before untrod,  
ascends unto the throne of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band  
upon the Mount of Olives stand,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
and with his faithful followers see  
their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

To whom the shining angels cry,  
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
"This is the Savior!" thus they say,  
"this is his glorious triumph day!"  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

"You see him now, ascending high  
up to the portals of the sky."  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see  
returning in great majesty."  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
all praise to you let earth accord:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run,  
with Father and with Spirit one.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### Dismissal

A: As an open and progressive congregation,

**C: we boldly make Christ's vision known.**

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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