



“SEE THE FATHER’S LOVE!”

Sunday, April 18, 2021 9:00AM

Worship Service

AS WE GATHER

Often, a person knows he or she is loved by what is done by another. From the words said, actions shown, and even at times gifts given from parents to children, spouses to each other, friends among one another, and more, we can often sense the motivation of love behind many forms of kindness and care. How can we know God’s love for us? It’s in some ways similar to our earthly relationships, but is from One who always loves perfectly. “See what kind of love the Father has given to us” (1 John 3:1). The Lord speaks His Word of unchanging truth, promise, and hope. He gives the action of sending His one and only Son to this world to live, die, and be raised to life that we may have a new and forgiven life in Him. He gives the gift of His Means of Grace claiming us as His own in Baptism and providing Christ’s body and blood for our forgiveness of sins and nourishment of faith. Unlike love shown in temporal earthly ways, His love is eternal and everlasting and one we are blessed to see with eyes of faith and know in our hearts as we continue in this Easter season, rejoicing in the fact that Christ is risen!

Sit

OPENING HYMN

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

LSB 475

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 The Lord of life is ris’n this day;
Bring flow’rs of song to strew His way;
Let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Praise we in songs of victory
That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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Stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy;

C at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

P I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up

C and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.

C O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(1 John 3:1; Psalm 30:4–5; 16:11b)*

P “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” Gracious Lord, by Your name You have called us Your own children, and we are to pray, praise, and give thanks to You.

C Yet we often choose not to see the love You have given to us, letting other things of this world impede our vision of Your mercy and grace in Christ. We do not always live as You have called us to be as Your children.

P We confess our sins to God in repentance, turning from those things that lead us away, turning back to You in the love You’ve shown.

Silence for reflection.

P Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,

C we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess our many failures as we have not followed You joyfully and trustingly. We have not loved others as You have first loved us, and our thoughts, words, and deeds have not been pleasing to You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

P Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints,

C and give thanks to His holy name.

P For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.

C Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy;

C at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

P “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. As His children, may He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a renewed life on earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

HYMN of PRAISE

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

LSB 816 st. 3

△ 3 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore

Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
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SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
O almighty and eternal God, You have assured us of the completion of our forgiveness and new life in You through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. You call us Your children through the waters of Baptism and give us eyes to see Your love for us in Your only-begotten Son. Give us the will to show forth in our lives the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 3:11–21

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.
¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago."

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

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.
⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

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

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36–49

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!”
³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit 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. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,**

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in Your love You have called us as Your own, gathered us together, and enlightened us by Your Spirit through Your Word. We bring to You our prayer and praise. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for all people of the world, that the Easter joy that shines by the radiance of Your Son, our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, would arise in the hearts and minds of all people. Grant all Your people the needs of body and life by the daily bread You provide, and keep all from harm.

P Lord of all care, give comfort to those who face troubles in this life in their spiritual, emotional, and mental need. Give healing according to Your will for those who face physical trials, [*including . . .*]. Grant peace to all who mourn, that Christ's Easter victory would point beyond earthly death and the grave to the promises assured forevermore.

P Lord of all provision, look with favor upon our land and all in authority that they lead with wisdom and compassion for all. Be with those who serve and defend from harm, and those who work to keep communities safe and in order. Bless all vocations that all would see their work for others as joyful service to You and Your creation.

Grant Your Spirit that our eyes always be open to see Your love for us in Christ through Your Word and Means of Grace, that as we live as Your children we love as You have first loved us and confidently witness and proclaim the Easter joy within us to all.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also 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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, almighty God, for You sent Your Son into this world to rescue us and make for Yourself an everlasting kingdom and through Your perfect love have given us all we need through the all-availing sacrifice of Christ's body and blood on the cross. In Him, Your love is complete and applied to us as Your children. Enable and equip us with faithful hearts to follow in faith, and grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to do in His own testament. Receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB 633

- 1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His piercèd side.
Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.
Alleluia!

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!
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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“The Lamb”

LSB 547

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain

ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. Refrain

- 3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain
- 4 He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain
- 5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us in, with, and under bread and wine with the body and blood of Your dear Son. Strengthen our faith in You and in our love for others in Your kingdom and throughout our community, country, and world, as we strive not only to see Your love, but also continue to grow in it and be nourished through faith as Your children and rejoice in the grace You give; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN of the DAY

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

LSB 725

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.
- 2 God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.
- 4 Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

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SERMON

BENEDICTION

- P** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God;
C and so we are.

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
C at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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 Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”

LSB 813 sts. 1-3, 7

1 Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your king. Refrain

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

2 With voice as full and strong
As ocean’s surging praise,
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
The psalms of ancient days. Refrain

3 With all the angel choirs,
With all the saints on earth
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
True rapture, noblest mirth. Refrain

△ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high,
The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
One God forevermore. Refrain

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