

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

875 Sunflower Drive ~ DuBois, PA ~ (814) 371-2470

Rev. John Miller ~ Pastor

Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller ~ Pastor

Nikki Dombroski – Family Ministry Coordinator

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024 ~ 8:30

PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

HYMN: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

373

GREETING:

P: Alleluia! Christ Is Risen!

C: He Is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This Joyful Eastertide*

This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
sprung to life this mor - row. 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; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of six staves of music in G minor (one flat) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some phrases spanning across two staves. The final note of the piece is a whole note G, which is held over from the previous staff.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Almighty God, you show the light of your truth to those in darkness, to lead them into the way of righteousness. Give strength to all who are joined in the family of the Church, so that they will resolutely reject what erodes their faith and firmly follow what faith requires; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

ANTHEM: *The Holy City*

~ Choir

Pastor John, soloist

Lily Brubaker, pianist

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

FIRST LESSON: Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

A: The First Lesson is from the 4th chapter of Acts.

The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

A: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

A: The Second Lesson is from the 3rd chapter of 1 John.

We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/RESPONSE:

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 28:16-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON:

Pastor John

HYMN: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus, No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me;
the world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me, No turning back, no
turning back.

Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,
Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,
Tho' none to with me, I still will follow,
No turning back, no turning back.

Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
No turning back, no turning back.

APOSTLES' CREED:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**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. Amen**

PRAYERS:

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P: . . . Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

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.

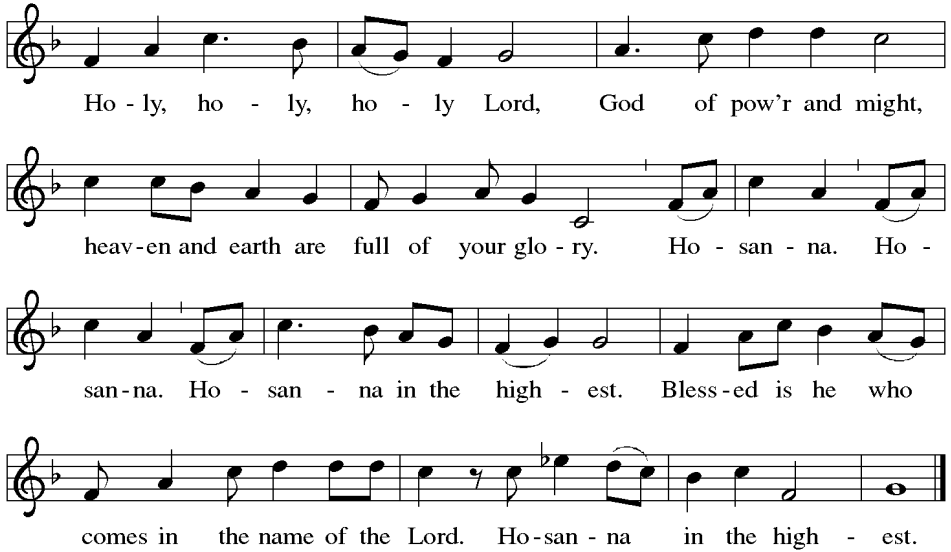
The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Let us give thanks to' and 'the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'It is right' and 'to give our thanks and praise.'. The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes.

PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses
of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

RESPONSE:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P: 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:

**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**

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.

COMMUNION:

Please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:

P: The body of Christ, given for you; and the blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: "Amen."

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re- calls his prom- is - es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks- giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER:

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **C: Amen**

BLESSING:

♩ P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Sung Response: Amen, Amen, Amen

HYMN: *He Lives*

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Refrain: He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me
and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And tho' my heart grows weary, I never will despair;
I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last. *Refrain*

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,
None other is so loving, so good and kind. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Today

8:30-Traditional Worship

9:45-Contemporary Worship

9:45-Sunday School

11:00-Traditional Worship

6:00-Confirmation Event

Monday-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tuesday-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

Thursday-6:30-Traditional Choir Practice

FUTURE MINISTRIES

Sun-Apr 28-10:45-Sr. High outdoor service project & pizza lunch

Mon-Apr 29-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tues-Apr 30-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

Thurs-May 2-6:30-Traditional Choir Practice

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Next Sunday's Gospel: John 15:1-8

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Attendance last week: Sunday Worship: 8:30-58; 9:45-102; 11:00-45

The flowers in the chancel vases have been presented to the Glory of the Risen Lord and in loving memory of Elmer & Martha Hallstrom by JoAnn & Joe Kruckow.

Confirmation Theme Event: "We believe in the Holy Spirit...", the Third Article of the Creed, **TONIGHT**, 6-7:30 p.m.

Senior High Youth Outdoor Service Project & Pizza Lunch! NEXT Sunday, April 28 after worship at the 9:45 service 'til noon. Don't miss the good food, good friends and an outdoor service activity – please dress appropriately or bring a change of clothing! Please sign up on the posted sign-up sheet.

Now's the time to sign up for one of the In-Tents Lutheran Summer Church Camps, *Monday, July 8 – Friday, July 12* for current 7th through 12th graders OR *Monday, July 15 – Wednesday, July 17* for current 4th through 6th graders. The camp is at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Hooversville, PA. Registration forms and more information are available now from Pastor Amy or in the Sunday School area.

Easter Season Devotions are available in the narthex and can be downloaded from our website.

It's time to officially sign-up for the Summer 2024 Youth and Adult MISSION TRIP: "WE ARE HIS HANDS!" at the North American Lutheran Church National Disaster Response Warehouse and Retreat Center in Caldwell, Ohio. The trip is Sunday afternoon, June 16 through Wednesday evening, June 19. See the article in the April *Chatter* for more information. Fill out a registration form available in the narthex or from Pastor Amy. Contact her with any questions. Deadline to sign up is *next Sunday April 28!*

Mission of the Month: YMCA programs lay the groundwork for healthy futures. They are committed to providing their programs and services to anyone who would like to use them. Gifts to the Strong Kids Campaign are used to provide assistance to those in our community experiencing financial difficulty. If you would like to contribute, please use a pew envelope and write "*Strong Kids*" in the "other" line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you.

Food Pantry Items for April are JELLY and/or SALTINE CRACKERS.