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Liturgy: Vicar Ramthun
Sermon: Pastor Marcis
Organist: Evelyn Orth

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Resurrection Affirmation
April 18, 2021 – 10:45AM



AS WE GATHER

“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?” (Luke 24:38). These are questions our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ asked of His disciples in another resurrection appearance after that first Easter morning. They are questions that could also be asked of us numerous times in our daily lives as we face trouble and doubts. Yet as Jesus kept on appearing, He kept on showing them Himself, and more than that, He continued to teach and remind them that all that was written was fulfilled in and through Him. Though we cannot physically touch His hands and side, each time we gather, Jesus continues to speak to us, affirming His work, the Word fulfilled, and the worth of humanity for whom He came. Amid troubles and doubts, through Christ, we can “see what kind of love the Father has given to us” (1 John 3:1).

✘ PREPARATION ✘

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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INVOCATION

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the ✘ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalms 16:11b; 30:1–3

Vicar: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
Vicar: In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
People: **at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**
Vicar: I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up

People: and have not let my foes rejoice over me.
Vicar: O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.
People: 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

1 John 3:1; Psalm 30:4–5; 16:11b

Vicar: “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.
People: 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.
Vicar: 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.

Vicar: Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,
People: 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.
Vicar: Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,
People: and give thanks to His holy name.
Vicar: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
People: 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.
Vicar: In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
People: at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

Vicar In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: Amen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 16:11b

Vicar: in your presence there is fullness of joy;
People: at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
Vicar: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up
People: and have not let my foes rejoice over me.
Vicar: O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
People: and you have healed me.
Vicar: O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;
People: you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.
Vicar: Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,
People: and give thanks to his holy name.
Vicar: For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.
People: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.
Vicar: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
People: and to the Holy Spirit;

Vicar: as it was in the beginning,
People: **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
Vicar: in your presence there is fullness of joy;
People: **at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

KYRIE

Vicar: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Vicar: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Vicar: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Vicar: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**
Vicar: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Jesus Loves Me” LSB 588

**1 Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong. Refrain**

**ref Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

**2 Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven’s gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lets His little child come in. Refrain**

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SALUTATION

Vicar: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 3:11–21

(Peter preaches salvation through Christ.)

While [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. And 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? The 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. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And 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. “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as

did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Vicar: Christ has risen from the dead.

People: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,

Vicar: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

People: He has put all things under His feet.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–7

(We are God’s children now.)

See 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. Beloved, 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. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36–49

(Amid disciples’ doubts, the resurrected Christ affirms the fulfillment of God’s Word.)

As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See 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.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And 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.”

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” *LSB* 700

- 1** Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2** Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.
- 3** Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.
- 4** Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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SERMON

“Child of God”
1 John 3:1-7

HYMN

“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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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 John 3:1-7

Vicar: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.**

BENEDICTION

1 *John 3:1a; Psalm 16:11b; Numbers 6:24–26*

Vicar: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God;

People: and so we are.

Vicar: In Your presence there is fullness of joy;

People: at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Vicar: 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.

People: Amen.

Vicar: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng” *LSB 813*

**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**

**4 Yet on and onward still,
With hymn and chant and song,
Through gate and porch and columned aisle
The hallowed pathways throng. Refrain**

**5 Still lift your standard high,
Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend
Till dawns the golden day. Refrain**

**6 At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last,²
Jerusalem the blest. 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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