

SPIRIT OF GRACE
Second Sunday of Easter
April 24, 2022

*The congregation's parts are in **bold**.*
Masks are respectfully requested during singing.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

We Gather Together

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

**We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth, through the city,
through every living thing.**

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.
You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

**In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.**

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

SHOUT TO THE LORD

ELW 821

My Jesus, my Savior,
Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength;
let ev'ry breath, all that I am
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

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GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us pray together.

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body 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.

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 5: 27-32

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Word God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! O LORD, save us!
We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!**

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷**The LORD is God and has given us light.
Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God’s mercy endures forever**

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

Open your hearts and minds to the Good News as it is recorded in the 20th chapter of John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ.



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

NICENE CREED

We are an Easter people, with the whole church let us confess our faith.

**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 THE PEOPLE

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy One, strengthen and sustain our bishops Michael Curry, Elizabeth Eaton, Don Kreiss and Bonnie Perry and our pastor Peggy Rose so they may love and care for your people. Equip your church as witnesses to go and tell others of your abundant love, that they may believe that Jesus is our salvation and life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Renew your people's commitment to live well with your creation. Give us wisdom and reverence to use the resources of nature so that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty.
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Direct those who are given human authority to lead with humility and compassion. By your Holy Spirit stir up the leaders of the world to work for the good of all, especially those seeking peace in Ukraine. Channel their attention toward serving those who are most in need. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Uphold your children who cry out to you for healing and strength for the day, especially bugs and Leila. We pray also for those unemployed and underemployed. Wherever people are overcome by the fear of death, breathe into them your life and peace.
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Inspire those who lead your people in worship and praise, especially our musicians, worship leaders, and liturgical dance team. With joyful motion and sound, send us forth with praise that we cannot keep to ourselves.
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give us the words of your saints who, like Thomas, boldly confessed your Son as Lord and God. We rejoice in the lives of those you have drawn into your eternal embrace, especially our dear sisters Aryabala and Pastor Lauren. With Jesus our leader, empower us to live according to his ways.
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Living God,

**you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show
us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING HALLELUJAH! WE SING YOUR PRAISES ELW 535

*Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness.*

*Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness. Repeat*

1 Christ the Lord to us said:

I am wine, I am bread,

I am wine, I am bread,

give to all who thirst and hunger. *Refrain*

2 Now he sends us all out,

strong in faith, free of doubt,

strong in faith, free of doubt.

Tell to all the joyful gospel. *Refrain*

Text: South African, tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
English text © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

SENDING

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

- 1 Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings
- 2 Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace

This is unfailing love

That You would take my place

That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life

That I would be set free

Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

- 3 Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory
- 4 Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy*

CCLI Song # 6333821

Jeremy Riddle | Josh Farro | Phil Wickham

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DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

You Raise Me Up

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