

Peace Lutheran Church of Lake Zurich



April 14, 2024
Easter 3

WELCOME

Peace to all who enter here. You are welcome in this place.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” (ELW 885)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

GREETING (ELW p. 98)

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.

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain: Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of
life and love and freedom: praise and glory forever more.

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. **Refrain**

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ
forever. **Refrain**

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God;
to make all things new. **Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 102)

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.

You may be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S WORD

*Children from birth through Sunday School are invited forward for a special moment of
preparation before the proclamation of God's word in the assembly.*

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19 (pg. 887)

A reading from Acts.

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how
God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation
of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and
restoration in Jesus' name.*

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 4 (pg. 425)

¹Answer 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.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”**

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

⁷You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;**

for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7 (pg. 990)

A reading from 1 John.

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia,

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48 (pg. 861)

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

MESSAGE

Rev. Daniel Morris

A moment of silence for reflection is kept after the message.

Please rise as you are able to proclaim the gospel in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY “We Walk by Faith” (ELW 635)

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:

4 For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.

5 And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

CREED (ELW p. 104)

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry growing as children of God in faithful love & service thru Christ. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Give every good gift to those we remember in prayer this week, especially Mike, Mary, Wally, Chuck, Stephen, Tom, MaryKate & Ivy, Bruce & Anne ...God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Hear now the prayers we offer aloud and in the silence of our hearts...(long pause.....) God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

PEACE (*ELW p. 106*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may greet one another with a handshake in the name of the Lord, saying Peace be with you. Afterwards, you may be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Your offering this morning supports the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

CHOIR ANTHEM “Alleluia, Sing to Jesus” (*ELW 392*)

OFFERING “As the Grains of Wheat” (*ELW 465*)

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

Please rise as you are able when the offering is brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (*ELW p. 107*)

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PREFACE (*ELW p. 108*)

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosana in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosana in the highest, hosana in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us,

healed the sick,

fed the hungry,

and with a love stronger than death,

gave his life for others.

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.
Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.
Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER (*ELW p. 112*)

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

You may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you break the chains of hatred and fear; have mercy on us, mercy
on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace; have mercy on us, mercy on
us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to the table. He is truly present for you in the eating and drinking offering forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation to all who trust his words. Children are welcome to commune, "for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs" (Luke 18:16). The ushers will invite you forward to encircle the Lord's Table and receive the bread with wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You may join hands to receive the blessing before returning to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN "In the Singing" (ELW 466)

1 In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table,

Refrain

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace;
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

2 In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people, Refrain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION

Sisters and brothers, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise as you are able for the blessing.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG “*The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done*” (ELW 366 sts. 1,2,5)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won!
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst;
Jesus their legions has dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes that wounded you,
from death's sting free your servants too,
that we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

GRATITUDE

So much gratitude for everyone who has contributed to worship today.

Find all of this week's announcements in the Prints of Peace on the PLC website.

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