



**The Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 14, 2024**

**10:30 am**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

**106 Maple St.**

**Reading, OH 45215**

**513-821-0987 • [stpaulreading.org](http://stpaulreading.org)**

# The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

## Prelude

## Gathering

### Easter Acclamation

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### Confession and Forgiveness

*Please stand as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please kneel or stand as you are able. Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen.**

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: **His mercy endures forever.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **Entrance Hymn #140 (green hymnal)**

“With High Delight Let Us Unite”

### **Greeting**

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.**

# Kyrie

# WOV Setting 4

**A** In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a-bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men

## Hymn of Praise

## WOV Setting 4

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and

strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: ☐ Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and



might to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ For the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A - men

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

## The Word

### Blessing of the Lector

P: Christ is risen!

The word of God is living and active, sharper than a two-edged sword. Chet, as you read to us the scriptures, may they pierce our souls and judge the thoughts and the intentions of our hearts.

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### **First Reading: Acts 3:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> 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? <sup>13</sup> The 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. <sup>14</sup> But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup> and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup> And 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.

<sup>17</sup> “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup> In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## Psalm: Psalm 4

*The psalm will be spoken responsively. The lector will read the odd verses (in plain text) and the congregation will read the even verses (in bold text).*

<sup>1</sup> Answer 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.

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

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;  
the Lord will hear me when I call.

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

<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> **Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.**

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

<sup>8</sup> **In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

## Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup> See 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. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, 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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Gospel Acclamation: Hymn #671 (blue hymnal) vv. 1-3**

“Alleluia, Alleluia”

**The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24h chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>36b</sup> Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup> They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup> Look 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.” <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his

hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## **Children’s Sermon**

### **Sermon**

*Silence for reflection and meditation.*

# Hymn of the Day

# “Bread of Life from Heaven”

*Refrain*



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1	Break	now	the	bread	of	Christ's	sac - ri - fice;	giv - ing			
2	Seek	not	the	food	that	will	pass	a - way;	set	your	
3	Love	as	the	one	who,	in	love	for	you,	gave	him -
4	Dwell	in	the	one	who	now	dwells	in	you;	make	your
5	Drink	of	this	cup	and	de -	clare	his	death;	eat	this



thanks,	hun - gry	ones,	gath - er	round.	Eat,	all	of	you,	and	be		
hearts	on	the	food	that	en - dures.	Come,	learn	the	true	and	the	
self	for	the	life	of	the	world.	Come	to	the	one	who	is
home	in	the	life -	giv - ing	Word.	Know	on - ly	Christ,	Ho - ly			
bread	and	be - lieve	Eas - ter	morn;	trust	his	re - turn	and,	with			

*Refrain*



sat - is - fied;	in	Christ's	pres - ence	the	loaves	will	a - bound.			
liv - ing	way,	that	the	full - ness	of	life	may	be	yours.	
food	for	you,	that	your	hun - ger	and	thirst	be	no	more.
One	of	God,	and	be - lieve	in	the	truth	you	have	heard.
ev - 'ry	breath,	praise	the	one	in	whom	you	are	re - born.	

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

A: Let us confess our common faith with all Christians throughout time and place, using the words of the 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 of Intercession**

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

*After each petition:*

A: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*After the last petition:*

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

**C: Amen.**

## **The Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **Invitation to Offering**

A: We are witnesses to Christ's resurrection and so now we give our offering to fulfill what he said in Luke 24:47, that in this place, in our worship together, "repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations."

## Presentation of the Gifts

## WOV Setting 4

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our  
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,  
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## The Meal

### The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:



# Sanctus

# WOV Setting 4

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all.

We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the ancestors, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en.  
Christ will come a - gain.

The image shows two lines of musical notation in a treble clef with a common time signature (C). The first line contains the lyrics "Christ has died. Christ is ris - en." and the second line contains "Christ will come a - gain." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes with some rests and a final double bar line.

P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.



♩ A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.



♩ A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



♩ A - men, a - men, a - men.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

P: 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**

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

Come and eat at God's table.

*Please be seated.*

## **Agnus Dei: Hymn #89 (maroon hymnal)**

“The Lamb”

## **Communion**

P:     The Body of Christ, broken for you.  
       The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Those who wish to commune at the altar rail may either bring forward their individual Communion kit, or receive the wafer and wine/grape juice by intinction (dipping) from the Communion Ministers, when they are directed forward by the usher. Those who wish to commune in their seat with their individual Communion kit may remain seated. Children may come forward with their family for a blessing.*

## **Special Music**

“Come Touch His Healing Hands”

Handt Hanson

## **Table Blessing**

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

C:     Amen.

## Post-Communion Canticle

## WOV Setting 4

Thank-ful hearts and voices raise; tell ev-'ry -  
one what God has done. Let all who  
seek the Lord re - joice, re - joice and  
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us, O God, with your  
prom - is - es, and lead us forth in joy  
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

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.**

## **Sending**

### **Announcements for God's Mission in the World**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **Blessing**

**P:** Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and  
forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn #678 (blue hymnal) vv. 1, 4-5**

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”

### **Easter Dismissal**

**A:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C:** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**A:** Go in the peace of the risen Christ. Alleluia!

**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

### **Postlude**









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## Worship Leaders

The Rev. Emily Beckering, Pastor

Kris Keith, Music Director

Kate Wollenburg, Organist

Addy Kruse, Assisting Minister

Chet Laine, Reader

## Upcoming Events

### **Sunday, April 14: 3 Easter**

9 am Intergenerational Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

### **Monday, April 15**

7 pm Council Meeting

### **Wednesday, April 17**

2:30 pm Bible study

### **Thursday, April 18**

2 pm Finance Committee

### **Sunday, April 21: 4 Easter**

9 am Sunday School / Adult Bible Study  
& Discussion

10:30 am Worship Service

After worship: Quarterly Congregational  
Meeting

### **Wednesday, April 24**

2:30 pm Bible study