

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

139 Craigs Meadow Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-223-9422

www.http://www.stpaulscommunitychurch.com

Email: stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net

Supply Pastor Joseph Veres

Third Sunday Of Easter

April 26, 2020

Welcome and Blessings! Easter is the joy of the resurrection and of new life that surprises us on our life's journey. Welcome everyone, especially those who may be visitors. We offer you thanks and praise to our gracious God for your presence.



Communion We will be doing communion today. We ask you have a slice (or partial slice) of bread (or gluten free alternative) ... or cut a portion sufficient for all who are in your household, plus have either grape juice or wine as available. We will give instructions during the time the meal is instituted. We teach to receive either element (bread or the cup) is sufficient to receive Christ's presence... so you may wish to have only bread if adding grape juice or wine may be difficult due to the current COVID 19 virus restrictions.

Offering We encourage to send your regular offering to the church at the above listed address. You may also wish to consider "Simply Giving" which automatically remits your chosen offering amount to the church; contact the Church Office, 570-223-9422 if you have questions.

St. Paul's Mission Statement

We are a community of faith called to share the good news of Jesus as our model of life.

We seek spiritual maturity through worship, learning and serving.

We invite and welcome all who desire to share this journey of faith active in love.

Introduction to Third Sunday of Easter

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

THE SERVICE 10:00 AM

Prelude

Gathering

* Thanksqiving for Baptism

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

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- **P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water given in baptism, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

*Gathering Hymn

"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"

LBW p. 144

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!



Catholic Book of Worship III 386

Text: Cyril A. Álington, 1872-1955, alt.; Copyright © 1958. Renewal 1986 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL, 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune (GELOBT SEI GOTT 8 8 8 with alleluias): Melchoir Vulpius, c. 1560-1616

- **P** Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Word

Lector: A reading from Acts of the Apostle.

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

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14aPeter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], 36"Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." 37Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" 38Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." 40And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

¹²How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵Precious in your | sight, O LORD, is the death | of your servants.

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹in the courts of | the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Lector: A Reading from First Peter.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ, we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

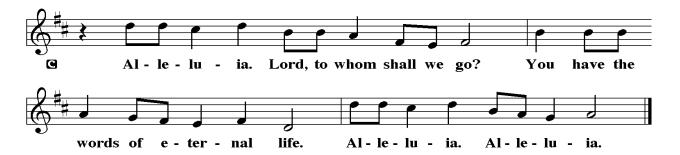
Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Lord, My Strength" May Ertle

*Gospel Acclamation (SPOKEN)

LBW Page 83



*Gospel Luke 24:13-35

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Spoken

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them,



whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed

and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Spoken

Sermon Walk. Don't Walk.

* Hymn of the Day

"Christ is Risen! Alleluia"

LBW p. 131

>> See next page for hymn music and words <<



Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt. Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

*Apostles' Creed

- **P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C 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

P Uplifted by the promised of the resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P For those whose hearts are drawn by your gospel, that they are empowered to tell the story of your love in their lives and to show hospitality in response to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For our diverse natural world: for jungles, prairies, forests, valleys, mountains, and for all the wild and endangered animals who call these spaces home, that we remain stewards to nurture and protect all habitat. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For broken systems we have inherited and that we continue to perpetuate, forgive us. Restrain the nations from fighting over limited resources. Redeem us from the cycles of scarcity and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For all who call upon your healing name, give rest. Stay with us, and walk with all those who are hungry, friendless, despairing, and desiring healing in body and spirit (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the faith forming ministries of St. Paul's and the ministries of care. For those preparing for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and membership (*especially*). For those who participate in Sunday school and adult education; guide and inspire learners of every age and ability. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Create in our hearts a yearning to rest in your promise of eternal and resurrected life. Give us thankful hearts for those who have died, even as we look forward to the hope of new life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray and that which you know we need, into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

*Peace

(The congregation is unmuted to share the peace.)

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

Congregational Sharing of Peace

Meal

Offering

*Offertory "Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord" Music LBW Page 87 **⚠** Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill the brim our to of bless ing. Gath - er har - vest from the cup a may be fed with the bread seeds that were sown, that life. we Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; nite them with the u of fer ta - ble with your prayers we now. Grace our

*Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. Merciful Father

pres - ence, and give

us

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

a

fore-taste of the feast

*The Great Thanksgiving

Spoken

to

come.

- **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.

*The 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:

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Music Page 89

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The bread and drink (communion) will be consumed after the singing of "Lamb of God" on p. 10.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- **P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.

*Lord's Prayer

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

C 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

Communion Canticle:

"Lamb of God"

Music Page 92

C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

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

The Banquet

We now partake of communion by eating and drinking the elements.

(We invite everyone who believes in the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and who is eligible to receive the Sacrament in their own congregation to commune with us today.

*Table Blessing

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

C Amen

*Post-Communion Prayer

P/A Let us pray. God of abundance...

with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Sending

*Blessing

P 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.

In the name of the Father † and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

*Announcements and sharing time

*Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry Update

If you wish to donate needed food, Jackie has requests that all food must be direct from the store <u>and</u> <u>not come from your house</u> to mitigate the number of places that may spread the COVID 19 virus. These are additional precautions due to the current health concern. If you want to drop off food items please leave a phone message and leave outside the church by the side door.

Money donations are always needed and welcome.

Scripture Lessons for Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2020:

Acts 2:42-47 The believers' common life

Psalm 23 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

1 Peter 2:19-25 Follow the shepherd, even in suffering

John 10:1-10 Christ the shepherd

Current Prayer Concerns: Hilary Lew, Dottie Davis (Sister of Patty Jones), Kristina Perfetti (niece of Faye Jones & Kay Malinowtizer), Julia and Tom (Daughter and friend of John and Barb Edwards), Krystalle (Daughter of David Paskiet), John Einlenberger, Don and Vicki Lishman, Michele Crompton (Friend of Patsy Litts and John Young), Margo Kovacs, Don Killeen, Gloria Killeen, Ben Huffman, Jason Guzman (Family of the Prides and Madeline McCarron), Family of Stacey Perryman, Robert (Mick) Perfetti (Brother-in-law of Kay and Faye), Lester Campbell (Friend of the Clements Family), John Tufano, Charles Farley, Shane Balcik, John O' Connor, Jr., Jeffrey Wert, Jr., Javon Clements, Rosemary Gilchris (Friends of the Clements Family), Richard Rouzer, Kay Malinowitzer, Lori Osmun (Friend of Carrie Strohl).

Prayer Concerns: Winnie Handel, Charlie and Alice Farley, Ken Brown, Charlie Roth (Brother-In-Law of Tom McGhee), Sonji Patrick, Sulai Malpica, Sarah and Felder Dorn (Friends of Madeline McCarron and Laura Pride), Marilyn Fackelman and Richard Sucky, (Mother and Father-in-law to Barbara Hart), Edith Patrick, Donald Killeen, Sr. (Don's Father), Joe Widmer (Son of Gloria Killeen), Sal Manda, Tatanisha Clements, Mario Vincenzino (Uncle of Stephanie Stephens), Stella Rouzer (granddaughter of Linda & Rich Rouzer), John Jones (brother of Madeline McCarron and uncle of Laura Pride), John Kennedy (father of Jackie McGhee), Shirly Bodine & Lou Costello (friends of Joan Carpenter), Bill Kilmurray (family of Kim Kilmurray), Donna Geilmann (sister of Marylee Rehm), Aaron Smith, Robin Mason (daughter of John and Patsy Litts-Young), Lee Jennings and Ann Falzone (friends of Sal and Noreen Manda), Ron & Mary Smith (cousins of Tom & Judy Smith and Frank & Emma Smith), Angel Berrios, Tiffany Bass (friend of Tracey Lasslett), Lois Morris, Doris Cramer, & Charlotte Jewell (friends of Ruth Ann Rumbold), Ken Werkheiser, and Sue Werkheiser (grandparents and aunt of Meredith Smith).

Our Service men and women: <u>Nicholas & Ian Hopkins, Christina Perez, Raquel Berrios, Luke Biddulph, Corey Walton, Case Hofgen</u> (cousin of Tim Lasslett), and <u>Angela Anglada</u> (niece of Lisa Dassaro).

Those in Personal Care Homes: Mary Hamlen.

Please e-mail or call the office if you have anyone you would like to add to the Prayer List, or need any other information.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President: Laura Pride 570-807-6114 Vice President: Carrie Strohl 570-656-5600 Secretary: Kay Malinowtizer 570-242-3157

Laura Biddulph Patricia Clements 570-369-0359 570-856-7433 Tom McGhee 570-994-4169 Dick Rehm 570-350-2615 Faye Jones 570-223-8035 Sal Manda 570-242-0401 570-234-4808 Joy Donnelly 570-807-5592 Tracy Lasslett

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Treasurer: Don Carr Financial Secretary: Dana Strohl

Church Secretary: Lynne Williams Organist: Dave Libecap
Choir Director: Katherine Ertle Junior Choir: May Ertle

Contemporary Music and Praise Band: Chris Matthy