

# Service of Prayer and Proclamation

April 26, 2020 • The Third Sunday of Easter

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS  
Charleston, WV

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 291

*Brief time of silence to think on God's Word and the sin we need to confess*

**C** O almighty God, merciful Father, we poor miserable sinners, confess unto You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and we pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to us, poor, sinful beings.

### ABSOLUTION

LSB 291

**P** In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

Easter 3

**P** 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.

## READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

### PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalm 116:1-14*

I love the LORD, because | he has heard\*  
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.  
Because he inclined his | ear to me,\*  
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.  
The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;\*  
I suffered distress and | anguish.  
Then I called on the name | of the LORD:\*  
“O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!”  
Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;\*  
our God is | merciful.  
The LORD preserves the | simple;\*  
when I was brought low, he | saved me.  
Return, O my soul, | to your rest,\*  
for the LORD has dealt bountifully | with you.  
For you have delivered my | soul from death,\*  
my eyes from tears,  
my feet from | stumbling;  
I will walk be- | fore the LORD\*  
in the land of the | living.  
I believed, even | when I spoke,\*  
“I am greatly af- | flicted”;  
I said in | my alarm,\*  
“All mankind are | liars.”  
What shall I render | to the LORD\*  
for all his bene- | fits to me?  
I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation\*  
and call on the name | of the LORD,  
I will pay my vows | to the LORD\*  
in the presence of all his | people.

### THE FIRST READING

*Acts 2:14a, 36–41*

**P** A reading from Acts, the second chapter.

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .  
Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this

crooked generation.” So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

## **THE SECOND READING**

*1 Peter 1:17–25*

**P** A reading from 1 Peter, the first chapter.

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for

“All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

## **COLLECT FOR THE WORD**

**P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 24:13–35*

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

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” And he

said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But 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 happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## **SERMON**

*The Stranger Savior*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** 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**

You have heard our pleas for mercy, O Lord, and given up Your Son to be our Savior. Hear us now as we come to You on behalf of ourselves and all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

Our hearts have burned in us, O Lord, as Your Word has been read and preached. Keep our faith from growing cold and grant us grace, that we may not waver in faith or succumb to temptation. Give to us and to our children receptive hearts, that we may hear and, hearing, believe and, believing, be steadfast in this faith and hope all our days. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have cleansed us, O Lord, with water and the Word in Baptism, and You have marked us as Your own people. Give to us grace, that we may live out this faith in holy lives, lifting up Your name in word and works for as long as we live. Guide us, that with souls purified by obedience to the truth, we may love one another earnestly from a pure heart. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless Your Church, O Lord, that she may welcome the stranger in Christ's name and manifest the unity of the faith in the bonds of love. Gather together those who are separated, and preserve their faith by Your Word until all precautions and shelter measures have passed. Bless Matthew, presiding in our Synod; Kevin, our district president; and Danny, our circuit visitor. Bless those training for church-work vocations. Bless each of us as we live out our baptismal vocation of worship, witness, prayer and service. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guard our nation, O Lord, that we may enjoy peace and security in the face of threat and danger. Bless Donald, our president; the Congress of the United States; Jim, our governor; and all state and local officials, that they may fulfill their offices faithfully. Bless all emergency and medical workers and the members of the armed forces who protect us, and teach the nations the ways of peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Deliver us from all our afflictions, and grant us strength to bear all our burdens, O Lord. Hear us in particular for those whom we name in our hearts. According to Your gracious will, heal the sick, relieve those who suffer, comfort the grieving and give peace to the dying. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stay with us, O Lord, and be our strength in weakness and our hope in time of despair. Your gracious will once kept the saints in faith even unto death. Keep us, we pray, with them in Your faith and fear, that we may be found faithful when Christ comes again in His glory to bring to fulfillment all things, once and forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Through the breaking of the bread, O Lord, feed us upon the flesh of Christ and grant us to drink His blood in faith. Forgive our sins, strengthen our faith, build up our unity as a

congregation and Synod, and equip us through this communion to love You and love one another as You have loved us. Preserve the faith of those who wish to receive this Sacrament in the presence of the congregation but cannot and grant them their desire soon. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accept, O Lord, this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we bring for all Your goodness and generosity. And with our song of praise, accept our tithes and offerings, that Your Church may have the resources to proclaim Your Gospel and care for the poor and those in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

These and whatever other things we need, O Lord, we pray You to grant us in the name of and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose death has made full atonement for our sin and whose resurrection has granted to us the promise of our own joyful resurrection to eternal life.

### **OPENING ADDRESS**

**Our Father who art in heaven.**

*What does this mean?*

**Answer:** By these words God would tenderly encourage us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that we may ask Him confidently with all assurance, as dear children ask their dear father.

### **THE FIRST PETITION**

**Hallowed be Thy name.**

*What does this mean?*

**Answer:** God's name is indeed holy in itself. But we pray in this petition that it may become holy among us also.

*How is this done?*

**Answer:** When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity and we as the children of God also lead holy lives in accordance with it. To this end help us, dear Father in heaven. But anyone who teaches and lives other than by what God's Word teaches profanes the name of God among us. From this preserve us, heavenly Father.

## THE SECOND PETITION

**Thy kingdom come.**

*What does this mean?*

**Answer:** The kingdom of God comes indeed without our prayer, of itself. But we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

*How is this done?*

**Answer:** When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead a godly life here in time and there in eternity.

## THE THIRD PETITION

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*What does this mean?*

**Answer:** The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer. But we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

*How is this done?*

**Answer:** When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel and will, that would not let us hallow the name of God nor let His kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh. Instead, He strengthens and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in faith until we die. This is His gracious and good will.

Thus, we pray, giving testimony of our confidence in Your gracious favor in Christ who taught us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ Our Father which 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 (Aaronic)**

- 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. Amen

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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Quotes from Small Catechism: Paul Timothy McCain, ed., Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2005), 331 - 334



## **PRAYER LIST**

**Leah** (sister of Lindsey Beckman) recovering from hand surgery.

**Jeff and Cara Wade** (friends of Tina Clark) Jeff is scheduled for surgery Tuesday. Facing many worries including employment concerns.

**Ali** (friend of Kelly Reimert) scheduled for surgery Tuesday to implant a heart monitoring device.

**Lorrie** (friend of Jeff and Tina Clark) passed into eternity.

**Ruth Lancaster** Family friend of Judy Knox tested positive for COVID-19

**Zach** (friend of a family friend of Sarah Shaver) underwent open-heart surgery Thursday and has experienced some complications.

**James Cosby** (family member of Mary and Steve Hutchens) in very serious condition with possibly kidney failure.

**Leah** (sister of Lindsey Beckman) fell and broke her hand and is unable to work as a massage therapist.

**Charlotte** (toddler granddaughter of Angie and Don King) does not need surgery or a cast for her broken clavicle.

**Unidentified member of Redeemer suffering from severe depression.** Please pray for this person to experience a new desire for living.

**Betty and Bob** (former coworkers of Barb Toler) please pray for comfort, strength and healing as they deal with Bob's recent diagnosis of lung cancer in both lungs, radiation and chemotherapy.

**Liz Albitz, Ed & Kim Booten, Billie Brisendine, Catherine, Teresa Cisco, Linda Cooper, Susan and Skip Daly, Harrison and Cindy Gapter, Doris Gerke, Jim and Marlene Hanson, Jo Hartley, Roy "Hutch" Hutchison, Tom Janicki, Roy and Betty Lindmark, Marie Marcum, Jeanneane Maxon, Sandy McKinney, Phyllis Miscovich, Bob Mitchell, Lori Nettles, Herb & Marian Pauley, Harold Reed, Thresa Robinson, Donna Ruffatto, Stu and Marcia Schwalm, Carmella Shaver, Taegan Witcher**

**All diagnosed with Covid-19;**

**All diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, and their caregivers;**

**All diagnosed with any form of cancer;**

**All diagnosed with any incurable (even if treatable) disease.**

**For our congregation - that we would pursue God's will for us as His people gathered here to bring Him glory as we make disciples being help, hope, home in the body of Christ.**