

April 11 & 14, 2024 **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter** 



# We Have a Meaningful Message to Share

A platitude is a statement aimed at helping sooth some sort of emotional unease. "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Or "Life is a mystery." Or "Good things come to those who wait." While platitudes may be wellintentioned, at best they come off as trite. And since platitudes provide no real help, they can actually make a situation worse. Tell the one whose heart is shattering, "Life is a mystery." They won't appreciate your platitude or you.

The resurrection gives believers the ability to offer more than platitudes. We have a meaningful message to share—of repentance, of forgiveness, of peace, of power. The reality is we have something important to say to every single person that God brings into our sphere of influence. And our risen Savior gives us the courage and power to share that meaningful message.

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.

This Joyful Eastertide CW 160 **Opening Hymn** 1 This tide with sin joy - ful Eas - ter -Α way and 2 Death's flood has Since Je - sus crossed the lost its chill 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for а sea - son love, Cru - ci - fied, row! My the sor riv of souls, from er: Lov - er ill Till trump from east slum ber to west Has life this sprung to mor row. pass ing soul de My liv er. --Shall wake the dead in ber. num Refrain three - day Not burst his Had Christ, who once was slain, pris on, Our faith had been in vain: But is Christ now а ris ris en, а en, a -\_ \_ \_ ris -But is Christ a en; ris now \_ en. Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934. Tune: VRUECHTEN (67 67 with Refrain) Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684.

### Stand

M: Christ is risen!

# C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

- M: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
- C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- M: If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- M: We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. God sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



# O Lord, Our Lord



# Prayer of the Day

## M: Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## C: Amen.

Grades 1-4 (10:30 am) Hallelujah, Jesus lives! Hallelujah, Jesus lives!

# Hallelujah, Jesus Lives

Jesus gave His life for me on the cross of Calvary, Shed His blood to make me free. Then He rose in victory!

Hallelujah, Jesus lives! Hallelujah, Jesus lives!

Come, Lord Jesus, live in me, help me do what pleases Thee. Thy dear child I want to be now and through eternity.

Hallelujah, Jesus lives! Hallelujah, Jesus lives!

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#### THE WORD

#### **First Lesson**

#### Acts 3:11-20

Peter healed a crippled beggar, drawing a large crowd. Peter used that opportunity to share a meaningful message about the one the people of Jerusalem asked Pilate to crucify.

<sup>11</sup> While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup> When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup> You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup> By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup> "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup> But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup> and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. (NIV)



- The LORD is my strength <u>and</u> my song;\* he has become my sal<u>va</u>tion.
- The LORD'S right hand is <u>lift</u>ed high;\* the LORD'S right hand has done <u>mighty</u> things!

I will not <u>die</u> but live,\* and will proclaim what the <u>LORD</u> has done.

#### Refrain

I will give you thanks, for you <u>an</u>swered me;\* you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the <u>cap</u>stone;\* the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous <u>in</u> our eyes.

This is the day the <u>LORD</u> has made;\* let us rejoice and be <u>glad</u> in it.

## Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

#### Refrain

Refrain Tune: Marty Haugen.  ${\rm \odot}$  1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# Second Lesson

St. John summarizes the meaningful message we have heard and been called to declare: God is light.

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all<sup>[b]</sup> sin.

<sup>8</sup> If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. <sup>2</sup> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. (NIV)

# Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (Luke 24:32 cf. NIV)

Stand

## 1 John 1:5-2:2

# Gospel

The risen Savior gives us peace. He also gives us a mission. We are to share the message of repentance and forgiveness.

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

# C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light CWS 771 0. . 1 I want walk child of the light; to as a 2 I bright - ness of God; want to see the 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ; d' 1 want to fol low Je sus. \_ I look at Je want to sus. \_ I Je want to be with sus. \*\* 0 God world; set the light the stars to give to Clear Sun of Right - eous - ness, shine on my path When have with pa - tience the we run race, 4 life The star of my is Je sus. ---And show the me way to the Fa .... ther. We shall know the joy of Je sus. Refrain 7 him there The In is dark - ness at all; no 0 night and the day both a - like. The are d is light of the of God. Lamb the cit - y 6 ø Shine heart, Lord Je sus. my in ----

## Sermon

1 John 1:5-2:2

Tune: HOUSTON (10.7.10.8 and Refrain) Text, Tune: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 © 1970, 1975 Celebration, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### Stand

### Nicene Creed

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be Seated

## Offering

Stand

## **Prayer of the Church**

### Lord's Prayer

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.

#### THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

# **Proper Preface**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



# Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.

#### O Christ, Lamb of God C: Christ, Lamb of God, you take 0 the sin of the a - way 0 world; have mer - cy 0 Christ, Lamb of God, you on us. o take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. 0 Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the Θ world; grant us your peace. А men. -

## Be Seated

# Distribution





Your boundless mercy has for me, For me and all your hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–60, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt. Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.





M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## C: Amen.

## **Benediction**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

## C: Amen.

Be Seated





Text: Arabella C. Hankey, 1834–1911, abr. Tune: HANKEY (76 76 D with Refrain) William G. Fischer, 1835–1912.

3 O wonderful redemption! The price for sin is paid,
salvation is accomplished, my heart is unafraid,
for God has raised Christ Jesus to show the work was done;
his glorious resurrection declared the vict'ry won! (Refrain)

Text: Arabella C. Hankey, 1834–1911, abr. Tune: HANKEY (76 76 D with Refrain) William G. Fischer, 1835–1912.

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