

April 14, 2024

(B)

Third Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING. Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he 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? 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. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 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.

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

SECOND READING. 1 John 3:1-7

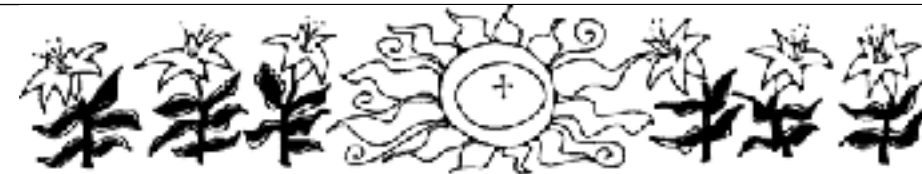
See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

GOSPEL. Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 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.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

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.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.



**Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 14, 2024**

"In response to God's love, St. Matthew's is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone."

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord's Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Thank you

Thank you, Jenn Rusk, for leading our worship service while Pastor Bart is away.

If you missed last week's sermon, it is available on our website.

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church



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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!

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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.

The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.

Psalm 4 — Tune: 543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Answer me, my strong Defender, | God of my right.

How long will people insult me, loving what is worthless and running after what is false?

Answer, God, with mercy tender, | In love delight.

Remember that the Lord has chosen the faithful to be his very own; he hears when I call to him.

Let each sinner turn in terror, | And repent of sin and error.

Think deeply about this--search your heart as you lie on your bed; then bring a faithful sacrifice.

In God's worship be a sharer; | Trust him aright.

There are many whose prayers are merely selfish, wanting more and more.

But the joy that you provide me | Outweighs them all.

You have put more joy in my heart, O God, than they will ever have with all their grain and wine.

In your strong protection hide me | As shadows fall.

When I lie down, I go to sleep in peace.

Through the night, dear Lord, defend me, | Let your mighty love attend me.

You alone, O Lord, keep me perfectly safe.

Slumber sweet in mercy send me, | Savior of all!

Sing Psalms! By Arden W. Mead. © Copyright 1999/2005 by Creative Communications for the Parish

Dates to Remember

TODAY	Special Congregational Meeting after the service to review and discuss the proposed budget, followed by a ballot vote.
May 17	6:30 p.m. – Spring Fling: Wine, Cheese and Flamenco Guitars

Everyone is welcome to attend **St. Matthew's 1st Annual Spring Fling** featuring Wine, Charcuterie Trays, and live acoustic music. Tickets are \$5.00 per person, available from Dianne Yungblut until May 10. Please buy your ticket early, as numbers are limited!

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GATHERING

Welcoming Song529, *sung twice*
Thanksgiving for BaptismPrinted
Gathering Song 383 Christ is Risen!
Shout Hosanna!

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Kyrie Page 213
“Glory to God ...” Page 213
Prayer of the Day

WORD

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Second Reading1 John 3:1-7
Gospel AcclamationPage 216
“Glory to you, O Lord.”
Gospel Luke 24:36b-48
“Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon
Hymn of the Day 368 With High Delight
Let Us Unite
Nicene CreedPage 104
Prayers of Intercession
Prayer Response“hear our prayer.”
Peace (non-contact gestures)

THANKSGIVING

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Thanksgiving for the WordPage 220
The Lord's PrayerPage 221

SENDING

Blessing
Sending Song ... 375 Alleluia! Christ is Arisen

Dismissal:
Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!