



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *The Third Sunday of Easter*

*April 30, 2017*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

We complete our reading of Matthew's gospel today with Matthew 28:16-20. It's just five short verses, but in these five verses Matthew summarizes the whole of his gospel. Through them we are also commissioned to carry out the work of the disciples.

*Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

# † GATHERING †

## Prelude and Announcements

### Gathering Hymn Isn't He

(For music turn to Hymn 88 in the Songbook binder)

1. **Isn't He** (*ECHO*)  
**Beautiful** (*ECHO*)  
**Beautiful** (*ECHO*)  
**Isn't He** (*ECHO*)  
**Prince of Peace Son of God**  
**Isn't He**
2. **Isn't He** (*ECHO*)  
**Wonderful** (*ECHO*)  
**Wonderful** (*ECHO*)  
**Isn't He** (*ECHO*)  
**Counselor Almighty God**  
**Isn't He isn't He**  
**Isn't He**
3. **Yes You are** (*ECHO*)  
**Beautiful** (*ECHO*)  
**Beautiful** (*ECHO*)  
**Yes You are** (*ECHO*)  
**Prince of Peace Son of God**  
**Yes You are yes You are**  
**Yes You are**
4. **Yes You are** (*ECHO*)  
**Wonderful** (*ECHO*)  
**Wonderful** (*ECHO*)  
**Yes You are** (*ECHO*)  
**Counselor Almighty God**  
**Yes You are yes You are**  
**Yes You are**

Apostles' 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.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends,  
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.  
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:  
for water to bathe in, and for water to drink,  
for the rain, the snow, and the water in the ground.

**C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.**

P: We give you thanks, O God for the waters of this place:  
the Finger Lakes, the Genesee River, and Lake Ontario;  
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,  
for water that gives life to our planet.

**C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of wonder.**

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
and for all who gather in this place;  
for godparents and baptismal sponsors,  
for children and grandchildren,  
for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to  
whom we are bound.

**C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.**

P: We give you thanks, O God, for water, for life, for grace, for  
forgiveness, for resurrection and for eternal life.

**C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

Hymn of Praise I Am the Resurrection and the Life

(For music turn to Hymn 16 in the Songbook binder)

Chorus

**I am the resurrection and the life  
all who believe in Me will never die  
I am the resurrection and the life  
all who believe in Me will live a new life.**

- 1. I have come to bring the truth  
I have come to bring you life  
if you believe then you shall live.** *Chorus*
- 2. In My word all men will come to know  
it is love which makes the spirit grow  
if you believe then you shall live.** *Chorus*
- 3. Keep in mind the things that I have said  
remember Me in the breaking of the bread  
if you believe then you shall live.** *Chorus*

Text and music: Ray Repp, CCLI #9189, Copyright 1967 K & R Music Publishing

*Prayer of the Day*

A: 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 ‡

*First Reading* Isaiah 52:7-10

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,

who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

<sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;

and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 144:9-15 (*read responsively*)

A: I sing you a new song, Lord,  
I play my ten-stringed harp,

**C: for you give victory to kings,  
you rescue your servant, David.**

A: Save me from the bitter sword,  
deliver me from strangers,  
who speak lies  
and then swear to them.

**C: God, you shape our sons  
like tall, sturdy plants,  
you sculpt our daughters  
like pillars for a palace.**

A: You fill our barns  
with all kinds of food,

**C: you bless our fields  
with sheep by the thousands  
and fatten our cattle.**

A: There is no breach in the walls,  
no outcry in the streets, no exile.

**C: We are a people blest with these gifts,  
blest with the Lord as our God!**

Second Reading Romans 10:9-17

[Paul writes] If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

<sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” <sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who

bring good news!”<sup>16</sup> But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?”<sup>17</sup> So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 28:19)

**C: Alleluia. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 28:16-20

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day My Life Flows On in Endless Song

*(for music please turn to Hymn 763 in the Red Hymnal)*

**1. My life flows on in endless song;  
above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
That hails a new creation.**

*Refrain*

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing?      *Refrain*

3. What though my joys and comforts die?  
The Lord my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth.      *Refrain*

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing?      *Refrain*

Text and Music: Robert Lowry

*Nicene Creed*

A: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: 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 virgin Mary  
and became truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

### Prayers of the Church

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,*

*The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

*The pastor concludes the prayer:*

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

### Peace

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: We share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*



† MEAL †

Offering & Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord  
*For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering 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 our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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, 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, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has embodied the promise of 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 all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

*(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)*

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,**

**Heaven 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.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, 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."

Lord's Prayer

P: 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 Distribution

*Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:*

*Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)*

**26** *Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord (Songbook Binder)*

**733** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing After all have communed the pastor will say:

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

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray...

Life giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C: Amen.**

‡    SENDING    ‡

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn    My Life Flows On in Endless Song  
(for music please turn to Hymn 763 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. My life flows on in endless song;  
    above earth's lamentation,  
    I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
    That hails a new creation.**

*Refrain*

**No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?**

**2. Through all the tumult and the strife,  
    I hear that music ringing.  
    It finds an echo in my soul.  
    How can I keep from singing?      *Refrain***

**3. What though my joys and comforts die?  
    The Lord my Savior liveth.**

**What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth.**      *Refrain*

**4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing?**      *Refrain*

Text and Music: Robert Lowry

*Dismissal*

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte	Jaden White
Altar Care	Beth Perdan and Joy Lethbridge
Communion Assistants	Don and Sally Mansfield
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Nancy and Ivan Shuler
Coffee Hour	Thompsons and Brights

Worship assistants for next Sunday, May 7, 2017

Greeters and Ushers	Kim and Gary Boisseau
Acolyte	Julia Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Ethan and Lynne Minkel
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Bruce Boncke and Art Fields
Coffee Hour	Perdan and Stevenson

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor  
Heidi Griffith, Music Director