

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Service of Holy Communion

April 24, 2022

(Note: All wording for the liturgy and hymns will appear on our large monitor screens just above the altar area.)

WELCOME FROM PASTOR JACK

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRELUDE

+THANKSGIVING 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!**

+HYMN

Thine Is the Glory

#145

1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting! *Refrain*

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE ASSIGNED SCRIPTURE READINGS

Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON “What Jesus Looks Like”

CHOIR ANTHEM “Trust in the Lord”

1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel
into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

4 For today among the twelve
Christ appeared, bestowing
his deep peace, which evermore
passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal,
hold him as a mortal.

+THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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 Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

P: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: Holy One who acts righteously, equip your church as witnesses of your goodness to go and tell others of your abundant love, that they may believe that Jesus is our salvation and life. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Renew your people's commitment to use resources responsibly and to live well with your creation. Invite us to recognize and nurture signs of resurrection life in the natural world. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Direct those who are given human authority to lead with humility and compassion. By your Holy Spirit channel their attention toward serving those who are most in need. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Uphold your children who cry out to you (*especially*). Wherever people are overcome by the fear of death, breathe into them your life and peace. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Inspire those who lead your people in worship and praise (*especially the art and music ministries of this congregation*). With joyful motion and sound, send us forth with praise that we cannot keep to ourselves. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Give us the words of your saints who, like Thomas, boldly confessed your Son as Lord and God. With Jesus our leader, empower us to live according to his ways. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: And also with you

(Please wave to your nearest worship neighbors)

OFFERING PRAYER

- P: Living God,
you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

(Offering baskets will not be passed around. At the conclusion of the service, please place your offering in designated baskets in the rear of the sanctuary.)

THE 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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *“In the night in which he was betrayed...”*

THE 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

+ BENEDICTION

P: God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN **Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds #143**

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+THE DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

P: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Weekly Announcements

Musician: Jennifer Foose **Lector:** Ellen Crane **Video:** Don Gulliksen

This Sunday we welcome back Jennifer Foose as our guest musician. Thank you, Jennifer for serving today!

Happy Easter! Please note that Easter is not one day, but a season of seven weeks (including Easter Sunday). Hymns, Scripture readings, and sermons all reflect resurrection themes. Rejoice in the season!

Today, our women's group (WELCA) is offering meatballs for sale. See WECA President, Marga Conn, for details.

There has been a tragic house fire in Lake Telemark. The house is totally destroyed, and there has been one fatality. Holy Trinity will be collecting gift cards to enable the survivors to purchase emergency clothing, toiletries, etc. Please bring gift cards (NOT CASH) to Holy Trinity this Sunday morning. Preferred gift cards are Walmart, Target, and Shoprite. However, any gift card of any denomination would be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers are needed and appreciated for our garden beautification project. Workdays include: April 30 from 9:00am to 4pm, and May 1 from 1-5pm. For details, contact Anika Zoeller at anikazoeller6114@gmail.com. This is Anika's Eagle project.

New Designated Parking Areas. In light of the growing number of worship attendees with medical conditions, the Council has now designated all upper lot parking places (in front of the main entrance) for handicapped parking and/or parking for those who are medically challenged and can not climb the stairs connected to our rear parking lot entrance. Please be courteous and park in the rear parking lot if you are not medically challenged.

Our choir is coming back to life! Special thanks to Dr. Joanne Schaper and Barbara Selland for their work in keeping our choir "in tune" for the Spring season, even in the absence of a Director of Music.

You can help give our flower beds a facelift! As part of her Eagle Scout Project Anika Zoeller will re-face the flower beds adorning the back entrance of our church. Donations are now being received to defray the cost of the pressure treated wood and other supplies. Please place your donation in the designated collection box in the rear of our sanctuary.

We are selling painted rocks for \$5 each to help defray the cost of the flower garden beautification project. The rocks were painted by our Sunday School children. The display table and donation jar are located in the Sunday School hallway. Bravo kids!

Opportunities to provide humanitarian aid to refugees from the Ukraine. Send your contributions to Lutheran Disaster Response (see the ad in today's bulletin).

RISE UP is collecting toiletries to aid our locals. Did you know that food stamps do not cover basic toiletry items like soap and shampoo? Please donate items in the special bin located in our church vestibule. For more information, contact Angela Bloshuk at 973-476-0101 or email her at: riseupangela@gmail.com

Offering envelopes are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We will not be printing individual boxed envelope sets this year. Please feel free to take some of the preprinted envelopes from the back and write your name in the space provided.

We are no longer accepting donations for Dolly's Room. If you have something you would like to donate, please save it until the fall. Please do not leave items in the vestibule.

Lectors (readers on Sunday mornings) are needed and appreciated. Read the assigned Scripture for the day! Sign up sheets are located in the rear of the sanctuary, or ask Pastor Jack for details: jackspartan79@gmail.com

Lunch & Learn Adult Bible Study will be offered again on May 4! in person or via ZOOM video link only from noon – 1:00pm. .. Please contact Pastor Jack (jackspartan79@gmail.com) about the ZOOM link.

Clothing Donations: Please DO NOT drop off clothing at our church vestibule or lobby area. Instead, please place all donated articles in the RED BIN in the rear parking lot of the church. Shoes, handbags, stuffed toys, and linens are accepted as well!! For more information, contact Ellen Crane at 973-625-1353.

Food Collections. Please note: Please donate only NON-PERISHABLE food items. Do not drop off milk, bread, or various dairy products as these items may spoil prior to public distribution.

Want to give electronically? 40% of our offerings now come in via electronic giving sources. To learn more, simply go to our web page at www.rockawaylutheran.org and click on the "donate" button. . . then follow the simple instructions. Still not sure? Please contact Donna Gulliksen at: Donna.Gulliksen@gmail.com or call her at 973-697-1895. Regular offerings (with date and frequency of your choice) as well as one-time gifts can be established electronically. All transactions are confidential.

Looking Ahead

Tues., April 26	Church Council Meeting - 7:00pm
Sat., April 30	Garden Project- 9:00am – 4:00pm
Sun., May 1	Garden Project 1:00pm -5:00pm

Five-Part Sermon Series

“What Shall We Do?”

Lessons Learned from the 1st Century Christians



First century Christians (in the immediate aftermath of the glorious resurrection) asked themselves, “What now?” and “What shall we do in light of the resurrection?”. Join Pastor Jack as he explores the significance of the early church’s mission to contemporary Christian living. Learn how to apply Biblical principles to your daily walk with Jesus.

- 5/8 “Stop the Funeral” - reminders of the resurrection promise
- 5/15 “Open the Doors” – exploring the inclusive nature of the church
- 5/22 “Follow the Spirit”- discerning the Spirit’s work today
- 5/29 “Loosen the Chains” – How God frees US to rejoice
- 6/5 “Feel the Power of God” – The Spirit fortifies us daily