

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

Worship 11:00 A.M.

Minister: Rev. Diana Edis

Musician: Larissa Goruk

Worship Leaders: Pat Cristiano & Carol Bulford

Videographer: George Edis

Reader: Lori Wilson

Worship is live streamed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/princerupertlutheran/>.

Welcome to Worship with St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

Weekly Prayer Petitions

Local: Fellowship Baptist, Prince Rupert

Synod: Dunbar Lutheran in Vancouver; Our BC Synod Staff and Synod Council

ACC: Archbishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Algoma

ELCIC: The congregations of the Central Manitoba area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

Discipleship Opportunities

1. The Pastor is away on holidays. The office will be closed until April 11, 2024

2. Tonight is our monthly Family Fun and Games night. Bring something for the potluck dinner and then enjoy an evening of "Cut-throat Lutheran Dominoes." Starting @ 6pm

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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!

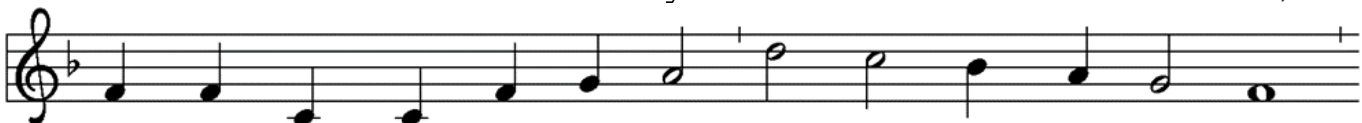
Gathering Hymn

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

No. 363



- 1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
- 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
- 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
- 4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,
- 5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.
with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal:
who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;

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loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
comes to glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing
Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
wel - comes in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.
Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: GAUDEAMUS PARITER, Johann Horn, 1490–1547

L: 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.

Hymn of Praise

pg 139



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Our first reading is from Acts, beginning at the 4th chapter

4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

We read Psalm 133 responsively: (*leader reads the light print, congregation reads the bold*)

How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up-on the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar | of his robe.**

It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the | hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Our second reading is from 1 John beginning at the 1st chapter 1:1 – 2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

²My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

pg. 142



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Glory to you, O Lord

When 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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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."

A 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." Then 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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. The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.*Sermon**Rev. Diana Edis**Hymn of the Day**We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

WOV 675



1	We	walk	by	faith	and	not	by	sight;	with
2	We	may	not	touch	your	hands	and	side,	nor
3	Help	then,	O	Lord,	our	un -	be -	lief;	and
4	That,	when	our	life	of	faith	is	done,	in



gra -	cious	words	draw	near,	O	Christ,	who	spoke	as
fol -	low	where	you	trod;	but	in	your	prom -	ise
may	our	faith	a -	bound	to	call	on	you	when
realms	of	clear	-	er	light	we	may	be -	hold
									you

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none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed. We confess:

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 power of 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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence

Prayers of Intercession: (petition end: God of grace)
(petition response: **hear our prayer.**)

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
Amen.

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Offerings may be mailed to the church, placed in our mailbox, sent by e-transfer to offering2stpauls@citywest.ca, or given through CanadaHelps to St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert.

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.

L: Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope† bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

No. 535

Refrain— sung twice each time

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves. The first system is the refrain, which is repeated twice. The lyrics are: 'Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.' The second system continues the refrain. The third system is the end of the refrain, marked 'End'. The fourth system is a new section with two verses of lyrics: '1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread, 2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,'. The music is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our
bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your
ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.
1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
 strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
 Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
 English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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