

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 23 APRIL 2023

ORGAN PRELUDE

Es Ist Gewisslich an der Zeit, Verses 1 and 2 Heinrich Scheidemann (1595-1663)

HYMN 219

- 1 This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow. My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow: Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.
- 2 My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber: till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number: Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.
- ³ Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river: Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver: Had Christ, that once was slain,

ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

GREETING

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

CONFESSION

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LESSON

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ... ³⁶ Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' ³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' ³⁸ Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

- I love the Lord because he / heard my / voice: the / voice of · my / suppli-/-cation;
- Because he in/clined his / ear to me: in the / day / that I / called to him.
- The cords of death encompassed me * the snares of the / grave took / hold on me: I / was in / anguish · and / sorrow.
- I believed that I would perish I was / brought · very / low: I said in my haste / 'All / men are / liars.'
- How shall I re-/-pay the Lord: for / all his / bene- fits / to me?
- I will take up the / cup of · sal-/-vation: and / call up· on the / name · of the / Lord. I will pay my / vows · to the / Lord: in the / presence · of / all his / people.
- Grevious in the / sight \cdot of the / Lord: is the / death / of his / faithful ones.
- O Lord I am your servant * your servant and the / son of · your / handmaid: you / have un-/-loosed my / bonds.

I will offer you a sacrifice of / thanks-/-giving: and / call up·on the / name · of the / Lord.

- I will pay my / vows · to the / Lord: in the / presence · of / all his / people,
- In the courts of the / house · of the / Lord: even in your midst O Jerusalem * / Praise / - the / Lord.
- Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son: and / to the / Holy / Ghost;
- As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be: world without / end./ A-/-men.

LESSON

1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from the First Letter of Peter:

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. ²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN 387

1 Rise and hear! The Lord is speaking, as the gospel words unfold;

we, in all our agelong seeking, find no firmer truth to hold.

- 2 Word of goodness, truth, and beauty, heard by simple folk and wise, word of freedom, word of duty, word of life beyond our eyes.
- ³ Word of God's forgiveness granted to the wild or guilty soul, word of love that works undaunted, changes, heals, and makes us whole.
- 4 Speak to us, O Lord, believing, as we hear, the sower sows; may our hearts, your word receiving, be the good ground where it grows.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-39

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.¹⁷ And he said to them, What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' ¹⁹He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' ²⁵ Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. ³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The appointed preacher offers a sermon.

CREED

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. *All* Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day cf. 1 Corinthians 15:3-7

in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you, **and also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN 194

- Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise; sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise: he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled, Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.
- 2 Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits of the holy harvest field, which will all its full abundance at his second coming yield; then the golden ears of harvest

will their heads before him wave, ripened by his glorious sunshine, from the furrows of the grave.

- ³ Christ is risen, we are risen; shed upon us heavenly grace, rain, and dew, and gleams of glory from the brightness of thy face; that we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be, and by angel-hands be gathered, and be ever, Lord, with thee.
- 4 Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high; Alleluia to the Saviour, who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity; Alleluia! Alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.

EUCHARIST

The Lord be with you and also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For you have created the heavens and the earth, and formed us in your own image. In the fullness of time you sent forth your Son, your eternal Word, who laid down his life for our salvation and rose from the grave, the first-fruits of your new creation.

Eucharistic Prayer E

You send forth your holy and life-giving Spirit to give life to our mortal bodies and to renew the face of the earth. Therefore with all the heavenly hosts, we give voice to everything that you have made, and sing the eternal hymn of praise.

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.]

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory. Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

The celebrant distributes communion.

HYMN 425

 Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
 Saviour, abide with us, and spread thy table in our heart. 2 There sup with us in love divine, thy body and thy blood, that living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 507

- We have a gospel to proclaim good news for all throughout the earth; the gospel of a Saviour's name: we sing His glory, tell his worth.
- 2 Tell of his birth at Bethlehem, not in a royal house or hall but in a stable dark and dim, the Word made flesh, a light for all.
- 3 Tell of his death at Calvary, hated by those He came to save, in lonely suffering on the cross; for all he loved His life he gave.
- Tell of that glorious Easter morn: empty the tomb, for he was free.
 He broke the power of death and hell that we might share His victory.
- 5 Tell of His reign at God's right hand, by all creation glorified.
 He sends his Spirit on his church, to live for him, the Lamb who died.
- Now we rejoice to name him King: Jesus is Lord of all the earth. This gospel message we proclaim: we sing his glory, tell his worth.

DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Chorale Prelude on "Ein Feste Burg"* Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We are taking a collection during all of the services in the church building through the offering plate and through a tap and pay card reading system at the back of the church. PayPal and standing orders are also possible through our website or by contacting the church Treasurer. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.