

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

Pre-Service Music and the Ringing of the Outside Church Bell

Opening Hymn: 469 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

- 1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n today!”
Saints on earth and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply.

- 2 Love’s redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won;
Lo! Our Sun’s eclipse is o’er;
Lo! He sets in blood no more.

- 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

- 4 Lives again our glorious King!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save;
Where thy victory, O grave?

- 5 Soar we now where Christ has led;
Foll’wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv’n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Text: Public domain

Please stand if able

- L O Lord, open my lips,
C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

C [spoken] **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

L Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
C **O come, let us worship Him.**

Venite [sung]

LSB 220

C **O come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving,
let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.**

**For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.
The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
the strength of the hills is His also.**

**The sea is His, for He made it,
and His hand formed the dry land.
O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.**

**For He is our God,
and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His
hand.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
C **O come, let us worship Him.**

Sit

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

L A reading from Acts, chapter 2.

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 1:17–25

L A reading from 1 Peter, chapter 1.

¹⁷If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

“All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,
and the flower falls,

²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L A reading from Luke, chapter 24.

¹³That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹But 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 happened. ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”

²⁵And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” ³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had

happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory (Easter)

L Sing to the Lord and bless His name, proclaim His salvation from day to day.

C [spoken] **Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.**

L Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that sleep.

C **Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.**

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Sit

Sermon Hymn: 585 “Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide”

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
For round us falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light,
Shine forth undimmed into the night.
- 2 In these last days of great distress
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That we keep pure till life is spent
Your holy Word and Sacrament.
- 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold
Speak tongues of fire and make us bold
To shine Your Word of saving grace
Into each dark and loveless place.
- 4 May glorious truths that we have heard,
The bright sword of Your mighty Word,
Spurn Satan that Your Church be strong,
Bold, unified in act and song.
- 5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
Or with some man-made thoughts or things

Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.

- 6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
Preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart's defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.

Text: tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 1): Philipp Melanchthon, 1497–1560; (st. 1): German version
Geistliche Psalmen, 1611, Nuremberg; (sts. 2–6): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92
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Sermon

“I Told You So”

Luke 24:13-35

Canticle: 941 “We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God”



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
2 The band of the a-pos-tles in glo-ry sing Your praise;
3 You, Christ, are King of glo-ry, the ev-er-last-ing Son,
4 You sit in splen-did glo-ry, en-throned at God's right hand,
The Fa-ther ev-er-last-ing, by all the earth a-dored.
The fel-low-ship of proph-ets their death-less voic-es raise.
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res-cue ev-'ry-one:
Up-hold-ing earth and heav-en by forc-es You com-mand.
To You all an-gel pow-ers cry a-loud, the heav-ens sing,
The mar-tyr's of Your king-dom, a great and no-ble throng,
You laid a-side Your glo-ry, were born of vir-gin's womb,
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi-nal day,
The cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim their prais-es to You bring:
Sing with the ho-ly Church through-out all the world this song:
Were cru-ci-fied for us and were placed in-to a tomb;
So help Your ser-vants You have re-deemed by blood, we pray;
“O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
“O all-ma-jes-tic Fa-ther, Your true and on-ly Son,
Then by Your res-ur-rec-tion You won for us re-trieve—
May we with saints be num-bered where prais-es nev-er end,
Your maj-es-ty and glo-ry fill the heav-ens and the earth!”
And Ho-ly Spir-it, Com-fort-er— for-ev-er Three in One!”
You o-pen-ed heav-en's king-dom to all who would be-lieve.
In glo-ry ev-er-last-ing. A-men, O Lord, a-men!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934, alt.

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Offering Presentation and Prayer

Prayer of the Church P: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Kyrie

**C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Stand

Celebration of Holy Communion

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Communion Liturgy

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 Him thanks and praise.**

P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C **For His mercy endures forever.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Sit

Communion Distribution and Hymns:

476 "Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow"

- 1 Who are you who walk in sorrow
Down Emmaus' barren road,
Hearts distraught and hope defeated,
Bent beneath grief's crushing load?
Nameless mourners, we will join you,
We who also mourn our dead;
We have stood by graves unyielding,

Eaten death's bare, bitter bread.

- 2 Who is this who joins our journey,
Walking with us stride by stride?
Unknown Stranger, can You fathom
Depths of grief for one who died?
Then the wonder! When we told You
How our dreams to dust have turned,
Then You opened wide the Scriptures
Till our hearts within us burned.
- 3 Who are You? Our hearts are opened
In the breaking of the bread—
Christ the victim, now the victor
Living, risen from the dead!
Great companion on our journey,
Still surprise us with Your grace!
Make each day a new Emmaus;
On our hearts Your image trace!
- 4 Who are we who travel with You
On our way through life to death?
Women, men, the young, the aging,
Wakened by the Spirit's breath!
At the font You claim and name us,
Born of water and the Word;
At the table still You feed us,
Host us as our risen Lord!
- 5 "Alleluia! Alleluia!"
Is the Easter hymn we sing!
Take our life, our joy, our worship
As the gift of love we bring.
You have formed us all one people
Called from ev'ry land and race.
Make the Church Your servant body,
Sent to share Your healing grace!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007

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919 "Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

- 1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,
Among us with Your grace
That Satan may not harm us
Nor we to sin give place.

- 2 Abide, O dear Redeemer,
 Among us with Your Word,
 And thus now and hereafter
 True peace and joy afford.
- 3 Abide with heav'nly brightness
 Among us, precious Light;
 Your truth direct and keep us
 From error's gloomy night.
- 4 Abide with richest blessings
 Among us, bounteous Lord;
 Let us in grace and wisdom
 Grow daily through Your Word.
- 5 Abide with Your protection
 Among us, Lord, our strength,
 Lest world and Satan fell us
 And overcome at length.
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
 Among us with Your love;
 Grant steadfastness and help us
 To reach our home above.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Stand

Collects

- L O Lord, hear my prayer.
 C **And let my cry come to You.**

Collect of the Day

L O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Collect for Grace

- L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day.

Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: 879 “Stay with Us”

1 Stay with us, till night has come:
Our praise to You this day be sung.
Bless our bread,
Open our eyes:
Jesus, be our great surprise.

2 Walk with us, our spirits sigh:
Hear when our weary spirits cry,
Feel again
Our loss, our pain:
Jesus, take us to Your side.

3 Walk with us, the road will bend:
Make all our weeping, wailing end.
Wipe our tears,
Forgive our fears:
Jesus, lift the heavy cross.

4 Talk with us, till we behold
A joyful life You will unfold:
Heal our eyes
To see the prize:
Jesus, take us to the light.

5 Stay with us, till day is done:

No tears nor dark shall dim the sun.
Cheer the heart,
Your grace impart:
Jesus, bring eternal life.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

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+vivat Jesu – Jesus Lives!+

Announcements

Postlude

Refreshments and Adult Bible Class

Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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