



17910 S. Prairie Avenue, Torrance, CA 90504, 310-793-0071

“Loving God, Loving Others, Bringing People In”



Third Sunday of The Resurrection

April 14, 2024

8:30 AM

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (please stand) *Children of the Heavenly Father*



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

The Invocation - Here, we invoke the name of the Triune God whom we serve. “*In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*” is a simple creed. We are confessing who we believe the one true God is. We are also asking for and acknowledging God’s presence in the service. “For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.” (**Mt 18:20**)

CONFESSION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

kneel/stand

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, You have washed us in the water and the Word of Holy Baptism. You have given us New Life and filled us with Your Spirit, giving us the right to be called Your Children. Yet, because our old nature remains with us until death, we still sin against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we do and by what we fail to do. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may live and walk in the New Life that You created in us when You brought us to faith to the glory of Your holy name. Amen**

ABSOLUTION

(please stand)

Confession - We enter into proper fellowship with God and our brothers and sisters by letting the Light of God's Truth shine on us, illuminating our sin. By confessing our sins, we walk in that light.

Absolution - Christ has conferred on the Church the power to forgive or retain sins (**Mt 16:16-20**). When sins are forgiven, or "*absolved*," Heaven is opened to the forgiven. When sins are retained, they are bound to the unrepentant, and Heaven is locked to them. This ability to forgive and retain sins is referred to as The *Office of the Keys*. The congregation, in effect, hands these *Keys* to the pastor and says: "Use them to shepherd us." When you hear the words of absolution, you can be as sure of their truthfulness as if Christ Himself were there uttering these words: "You are forgiven."

KYRIE

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world for the well-being of the Church of God and for the Unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.



C A - men.

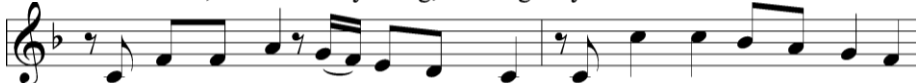
HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C 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.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Kyrie - The word Kyrie is short for the ancient Greek phrase “*Kyrie eleison*,” which means “Lord have mercy.” It is not specifically a prayer of forgiveness. We already asked for forgiveness at the beginning of the service with Confession. We use the Kyrie not unlike the way it is used in the Bible—a general call for God’s help, for instance in **Mk 10:47**, where blind Bartimaeus cries out to Jesus for healing. Here, we are simply following his example and calling out to our God to have mercy on us.

The Hymn of Praise - The Hymn of Praise can be either “*This is the Feast*,” or “*Gloria in Excelsis*,” which means glory to God in the highest. In either case, it follows the Kyrie as praise and thanksgiving for God’s answer to our cry for mercy.

P Let us pray.

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

(please be seated)

THE FIRST READING

Acts 3:11–21

While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Salutation - Before the Collect of the Day and also at the Preface, Pastor and people speak the words, "*The Lord be with you... And also with you.*" Pastor and people bless each other as a sign of the bond of love in Jesus that should reside among God's people (**Jn 15:17**).

The Collect - Pronounced: "kol'·ekt," are a "*collection*" of requests, intercessions, and thanksgivings from the congregation.

THE EPISTLE READING 1 John 3:1–7

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke 24:36–49

C **Glory to You, O Lord**

As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

The Readings - This section of the service continues until the Service of Holy Communion begins. Here our soul is fed with the Word of God through the readings and the sermon. For it is by the power of the Word of God that we are brought to faith and strengthened in our faith, not by any decision or act of our own.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

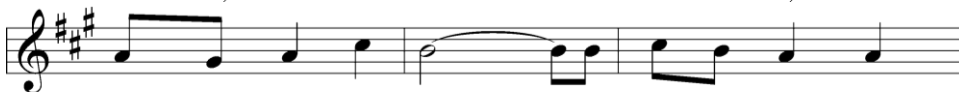
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated)

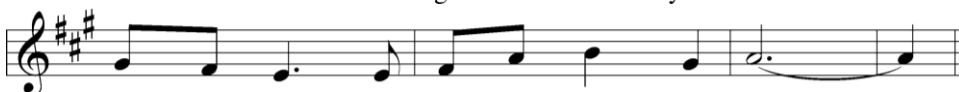
HYMN OF THE DAY *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*



1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No
2 We may not touch His hands and side, Nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And
4 For You, O res - ur - ect - ed Lord, Are
5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In



gra - cious words we hear From Him who spoke as
fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise
may our faith a - bound To call on You when
found in means di - vine: Be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You



none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.
we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"
You are near And seek where You are found.
and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

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The Creeds - We confessional Lutherans boldly confess "Scripture alone!" We do not place creeds on the same authority as Scripture, but they are important to us because they teach what the Scriptures teach. Throughout history people have twisted the Bible. Thus, creeds become important tools for confessing correct doctrine.

Hymn of the Day - The Hymn of the Day is chosen to reflect the theme of the sermon.

SERMON

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT *(please place offerings in the designated box in the Narthex)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(please stand)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

G **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.**

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G **Amen.**

The Sermon - The sermon is the exposition of the Scripture with the proper balance between words of Law and words of Gospel. The Law exposes and condemns our sin and prepares us for the Gospel that offers us the forgiveness of Christ.

The Offering - The Offering is a time of worship like the hymns and prayers. We are blessed with the opportunity to give to the work of the church from the bounty of God's blessings to us. However, the question always seems to arise, "How much should I give?" The Old Testament law of tithing is an admirable goal to have, but it is not a requirement for the New Testament people of God who have been set free from the Law. Therefore, it is better to ask the question: "How much **can** I give?" rather than **should**. In the end, the amount is between you and the Lord, as we are reminded by Paul's words to the Corinthians, "Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (**II Cor. 9:7**)

The Prayer of the Church - This prayer is on behalf of the Church at large. Besides praying for the sick and hurting in our congregation, it is a broad ranging prayer that the Word may be preached for the strengthening of God's people and the salvation of the lost.

The Lord's Prayer - We join in praying the prayer our Lord taught us as we celebrate His kingdom come, and His Will being done on earth as it is in Heaven. For He reigns now and forever along with all the saints on earth and in Heaven! (**Mt 6:9 and Lk 11:2-4**)

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN *Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go*



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;
King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;
This world of time to con - se - crate,
Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
True peace, true love to all man - kind.

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POSTLUDE

Benediction - (Latin: *good speak*) This is a short divine blessing where God speaks His blessings over us through the mouth of the pastor. The familiar blessing that begins, "The Lord bless you and keep you," is given the name "Aaronic Blessing" because it is the blessing God commanded Moses to give to his brother Aaron to speak to the people (**Num. 6:24—26**).

