



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."

Luke 24:38-39

Sunday, April 7, 2024
Second Sunday of Easter

Service Theme
THE LIVING LORD GIVES PROOF AND PEACE

In most world religions, the alleged foundational event was experienced by only one person. A self-proclaimed prophet would allege he alone had some special encounter with God. "No really! Just trust me. It really happened." The resurrection reality is so very different. In the Great Resurrection Chapter (1 Corinthians 15), St. Paul writes an entire paragraph listing all the people to whom Jesus appeared after he rose, including a group of over five hundred at one time. It is like St. Paul is telling skeptics, "You don't need to take my word for it. Hundreds of us saw Jesus back from the dead." The proof of Jesus' resurrection brought peace and strength to those early believers. They knew there was more to their existence than just their time on earth. They knew the reality that eternal life was theirs, a gift from their living Lord. It gave them incredible joy and courage. May the resurrection reality give us the same.

Hymn

CW 160 This Joyful Eastertide

**1 This joyful Eastertide
Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow.**

Refrain

**Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

**2 Death's flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver.**

Refrain

**3 My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number.**

Refrain

DIVINE SERVICE II

Christian Worship Supplement, page 28

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and
of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I
have failed to do,**

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD

- 1 **All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**
- 2 **Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**
- 3 **O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.**
- 4 **You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.**

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

FIRST LESSON – 1 Corinthians 15:1–11 (EHV)

Jesus' resurrection is a reality – experienced by many eyewitnesses.

Brothers, I am going to call your attention to the gospel that I preached to you. You received it, and you took your stand on it. ²You are also being saved by that gospel that was expressed in the words I preached to you, if you keep your hold on it—unless you believed in vain. ³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:

that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried,

that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.

⁶After that he appeared to over five hundred brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, but some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, he appeared also to me, the stillborn child, so to speak.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles, and I am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted God's church. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not ineffective. On the contrary, I worked more than all of them (and yet it wasn't my doing, but it was the grace of God, which was with me, that did it). ¹¹So whether it is I or they, that is what we preach, and that is what you believed.

PSALM – 16 (CW p. 68)

Refrain

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

**Keep me safe, O God,*
for in you I take refuge.**

**I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord;*
apart from you I have no good thing.”**

**I have set the LORD always before me.*
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

Refrain

**My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;*
my body also will rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the grave,*
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.**

**You have made known to me the path of life;*
you will fill me with joy in your presence.**

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND READING – 1 John 1:1–4 (EHV)

St. John reminds us that there were witnesses who saw and touched Jesus raised from the dead. This resurrection serves as proof that eternal life is ours.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have observed and our hands have touched regarding the Word of Life—²the life appeared, and we have seen it. We testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³We are proclaiming what we have seen and heard also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We write these things to you so that our joy may be complete.

VERSE OF THE DAY – CWS p.31

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia. (John 20:29)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

M: The Gospel according to Luke 24:36-49(EHV)

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

The risen Savior offers proof and peace to his disciples.

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷But they were terrified and frightened and thought they were looking at a ghost.

³⁸He said to them, “Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”
⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While they still did not believe it (because of their joy), and while they were still wondering, he said to them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³He took it and ate in front of them. ⁴⁴He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Hymn

CW 155 Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

**1 Christ the Lord is ris'n again;
Christ has broken death's strong chain.
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
Singing evermore on high: Hallelujah!**

**2 He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today.
We, too, sing for joy and say: Hallelujah!**

**3 He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hallelujah!**

**4 He whose path no records tell
Has descended into hell;
He the strong man armed has bound
And in highest heav'n is crowned. Hallelujah!**

**5 He who slumbered in the grave
Is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings
That the Lamb is King of kings. Hallelujah!**

**6 Now he bids us tell abroad
How the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiv'n,
How we, too, may enter heav'n. Hallelujah!**

SERMON TEXT & THEME

Luke 24:36-49... Peace be with you

- 1) Peace to calm your troubled heart.
- 2) Peace to share Jesus with others.

NICENE CREED – CWS p.32

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and
unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son
of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from
God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH –

God of all grace, we thank you for the gift of eternal life in your Son. By the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and by the faithful testimony of the apostles, you have assured us that our faith stands on a sure and solid foundation.

Though we do not see Jesus with our physical eyes, help us see him with the eyes of faith. Through your Holy Spirit, breathe on your Church that it may faithfully proclaim the gospel of our risen Savior with courage and diligence in all lands and to all people. Grant that we also may be illumined by the heavenly light of your Word, and so keep us in the one and only true faith.

Preserve us from all assaults on our souls, deliver us from doubt and despair, and preserve us from worldly wisdom and false teaching.

Forgive the sins of your people. Strengthen the doubting and faithless. Bring back the forgetful and wayward, and comfort the anxious and the distressed.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

As we go from this holy place today, grant peace and rest to us all. We pray this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT (CWS p.33)

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, *who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe.* Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

- 1 **O holy, holy, holy
 Lord God of pow'r and might,
 Your glory, earth and heaven
 In countless ways recite.
 Hosanna! Come and save us,
 Lord God of hosts on high,
 And in your grace and mercy
 Receive our fervent cry.**
- 2 **Hosanna in the highest!
 How truly blest is he
 Who in God's name is coming
 To set his people free!
 He comes to bring salvation
 And with his blood outpoured,
 Deliver us from bondage—
 Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

(Sing) **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 your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

SONG OF SIMEON - CWS p.37

- 1 **O Lord, now let your servant
 Depart in peace, assured:
 For I have seen your promised
 incarnate, saving Word—
 A Light that will enlighten
 All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
 The brilliant, crowning glory
 Of those in Israel!**
- 2 **All glory to the Father,
 All glory to the Son,
 All glory to the Spirit,
 Forever three in one;
 For as in the beginning,
 Is now, shall ever be,
 God's triune name resounding
 Through all eternity.**

THANKSGIVING

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be
 gracious to you.
 The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you
 peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn

CW 341:1-3 Crown Him with Many Crowns

1 Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

2 Crown him the Lord of love—
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye
At mysteries so bright.

3 Crown him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.



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Announcements

Church Cleaners:

April 14 - Simon // April 21 - Matthew

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (7) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 am Worship (with Communion)
11:30 am First Fellowship
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore

Pastors Conference in Mississauga from April 8-10

Th (11) 6:00 pm Illuminé (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (12) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study
4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship

Su (14) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Divine Sisters Meeting

Tu (16) 7:00 pm Elders Meeting

We (17) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits"

Th (18) 6:00 pm Illuminé (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (19) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study
4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (21) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 am Worship (with Communion)
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore
4:00 pm Voters Meeting in Poltimore