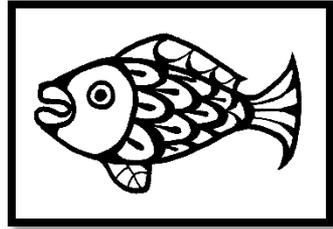


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, 9:00 A.M., APRIL 18, 2021

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.



Welcome to guests and visitors! *This pamphlet will guide your worship today. The assembly's parts are indicated by **C** and bold font. The vertical line in the left margin indicates when the assembly stands as each is able.*

About Holy Communion with Saint John Lutheran Church

“It is taught that the true body and blood of Christ are truly present under the form of bread and wine in the Lord's Supper and are distributed and received there” (Augsburg Confession, Article X). “A person who has faith in these words, ‘given for you’ and ‘shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,’ is really worthy and well prepared.” “Forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament” (The Small Catechism, Part VI). “This church practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion” (The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 50).

EASTER GREETING

Following the introductory verses:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A welcome and introduction to the day are made.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

302 N. Parker Dr., Janesville, WI 53545

Office Tel. (608) 752-3159

saintjohnlutheran@sbcglobal.net

www.sjlc-elca.org

Pastor: Rev. Bond Haldeman

Mobile Tel. (608) 208-0283

pastor.bond@sbcglobal.net

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

☩ We thank you, O God.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

☩ We bless you, O God.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

☩ We praise you, O God.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

ENTRANCE PSALM (66)

O God, how awesome are your deeds!

☩ Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth bows down before you,

☩ sings to you, sings out your name.

Come now and see the works of God,

☩ how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.

He turned the sea into dry land,
so that they went through the water on foot,

☩ and there we rejoiced in him.

In his might he rules forever; his eyes keep watch over the nations;

☪ let no rebel rise up against him.

Glory 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.

GREETING

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

☪ And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God.

**☪ Alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

**☪ Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God,

**☪ for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

☪ And also with you.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☪ Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

A musical offering is made by the 180 Group (video).

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

¹²Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

☪ Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**☪ ²“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”**

³Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

**☪ ⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

**☪ ⁶Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!”
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

**☩ ⁸I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

They told what had happened on the way.

☩ He had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

He said, "It is written, that the Messiah is to suffer,

☩ And to rise from the dead on the third day.

Alleluia. Our hearts burn within us

☩ while you open to us the scriptures. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

The holy gospel according to Luke.

☩ Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and

why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.

☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow the sermon.

MUSICAL OFFERING

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☩ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

☩ And also with you.

The assembly remains in place, as the service continues.

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**☩ 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.

☪ Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you . . . through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☪ Amen.

OFFERING PRESENTATION

Offerings are received at the door as one enters. The offering is presented for the work of Christ's Church, here and throughout the world.

OFFERTORY

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☩ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia. Christ is the image of the invisible God;

☩ He is the firstborn of all creation.

In him all things in heaven and on earth were created,

☩ things visible and invisible.

Whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers,

☩ all things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

☩ He is the head of the body, the church.

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,

☩ so that he might come to have first place in everything.

In Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell;

☩ Through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things;

Reconciling all things whether on earth or in heaven,

☩ by making peace through the blood of his cross. Alleluia.

OFFERING PRAYER

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☩ Amen.

The table is set.

DIALOGUE

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

The minister continues, concluding: ... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)

**☪ 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. . . .

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

☪ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life . . .

Grace our table with your presence.

☪ Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. . . .

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

☪ Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places . . .

we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

☪ Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**☞ 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to receive from this table.

Eat and be satisfied.

☞ Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG (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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated where you are. The communion elements will be brought to you. The host is received in your open hand. The wine will be taken by you from an individual glass. Carefully place your empty glass on the pew until end of worship.

BLESSING & POST-COMMUNION PSALM (118)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☞ Amen.

Sing to the Lord a new song;

☞ sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Declare his glory among the nations

☞ and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

☞ he is more to be feared than all gods.

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;

☞ ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name;

☞ bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

☞ let the whole earth tremble before him.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

**☞ let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**

Glory 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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☞ Amen.

BLESSING

Response after the blessing:

☞ Amen.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check web-sites and printed materials for further information.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

☞ Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news.

☞ Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

We Are Fed

It appears the gospel writers knew that people would question whether Jesus was indeed fully human. Details such as how he wept at the death of his dear friend Lazarus, lost patience with those who had turned the temple into a marketplace, and was a bit annoyed with his mother when she asked him to help out at the wedding in Cana remind us that Jesus felt many of the things we feel ourselves.

Similarly, in case anyone wondered if Jesus had really risen from the dead, Luke tells us how, after Jesus appeared to his disciples, he asked for something to eat. This may seem like a small detail, but there's no doubt it is an important one. After all, only people who are living and breathing must eat; there is no getting around that physical need.

However, this detail does not remind us only that Jesus really was raised from the dead. It also brings to mind the many times Jesus gathered around a table with a great variety of people, feeding them in both body and soul. As we remember each of these interactions, we are reminded that even though we do not dine with Jesus in the flesh, today he is still at work to nurture us.

Jesus feeds us through his words of forgiveness, through the love of our family and friends, and through the blessing of community. Most notably, Jesus feeds us at the Lord's supper, where he invites all to taste and see God's goodness and grace. Through bread and wine we are fortified with Christ's body and blood to be witnesses to God's love out in the world as we go about our daily work, bless one another with our time and gifts, and serve our neighbors in need.