Hope Restored to All People

April 23, 2023



Third Sunday of Easter

WELCOME, GUESTS!!! We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS — Hope Restored. The certain hope of eternal life with God is founded on the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of Christ. God had promised this ancient hope in the Garden at the dawn of time. God had carried this ancient hope in his Word through the ages. How did the disciples fail to anticipate the resurrection? How did the teachers and people of Israel fail to see the Messiah God had promised and delivered? They let their wants and cultural expectations color their view of Scripture, and hope was lost. But God restored this ancient hope by raising Jesus from the dead and pointing his people back to his promises.

MORNING PRAYER - O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION—CW, p.15



OPENING HYMN: #184

O HOLY SPIRIT, ENTER IN

Please Stand for last verse



Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–73, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1, 3, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 2, alt.

Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



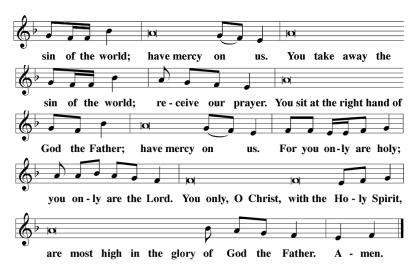
God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one, God, now and forever.



Please Be Seated

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2: 14a, 36 – 47

This lesson continues Peter's Pentecost sermon from last Sunday with the culmination of his message to the people of Israel. They had lost the ancient hope long promised, and instead they placed their hope in the punctilious performance of human ordinances.

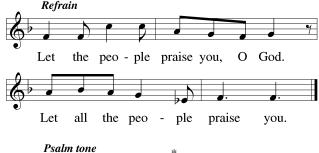
Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." Now when the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Gentlemen, brothers, what should we do?" Peter answered 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. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call."

He testified solemnly with many other words and was appealing to them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation."

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added. They continued to hold firmly to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers. Awe came over every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common.

They were selling their possessions and property and were distributing the proceeds according to what anyone needed. Day after day, with one mind, they were devoted to meeting in the temple area, as they continued to break bread in their homes. They shared their food with glad and sincere hearts, as they continued praising God and being viewed favorably by all the people. Day after day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 67





May God be gracious to us and <u>bless</u> us* and make his face shine up<u>on</u> us; may your ways be <u>known</u> on earth,* your salvation among all <u>na</u>tions.

May the nations be glad and <u>sing</u> for joy,* for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations <u>of</u> the earth.

Refrain



and all the ends of the earth will <u>fear</u> him.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son*

and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,

as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,*

is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON 1 PETER 1: 17 – 21

Peter's first epistle is a letter of hope in the midst of suffering. He wrote to believers elected by God but persecuted for their faith. Trials and grief try to choke out our hope. But how empty life would be if we followed the way of the world!

If you call on the Father who judges impartially, according to the work of each person, conduct yourselves during the time of your pilgrimage in reverence, because you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, not with things that pass away, such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like a lamb without blemish or spot. He was chosen before the foundation of the world but revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (Luke 24:32)



GOSPEL LUKE 24: 13 – 35

For these two disciples on the road, it was a day of great puzzlement, sadness, and disillusionment. They left the Holy City having heard the report of the women and Peter and John. But their understanding of God's plan of salvation was deficient: they weren't expecting a resurrection!

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Now, on that same day, two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about all of these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing this, Jesus himself approached and began to walk along with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. He said to them, "What are you talking about as you walk along?" Saddened, they stopped. One of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked them.

They replied, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be condemned to death. And they crucified him. But we were hoping that he was going to redeem Israel. Not only that, but besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Also some women of our group amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning. 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. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb. They found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." He said to them, "How foolish you are and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and to enter his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village where they were going, he acted as if he were going to travel farther. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, since it is almost evening, and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he reclined at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and began giving it to them. Suddenly their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. Then he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was speaking to us along the road and while he was explaining the Scriptures to us?" They got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem. They found the Eleven and those who were with them assembled together. They were saying, "The Lord really has been raised! He has appeared to Simon." They themselves described what had happened along the road, and how they recognized him when he broke the bread.



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

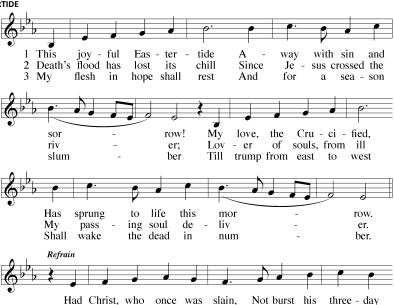
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate 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.

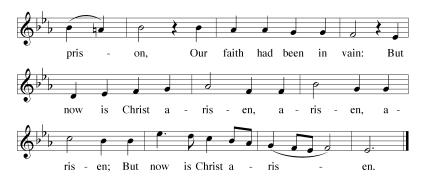
Please Be Seated



THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE



#160



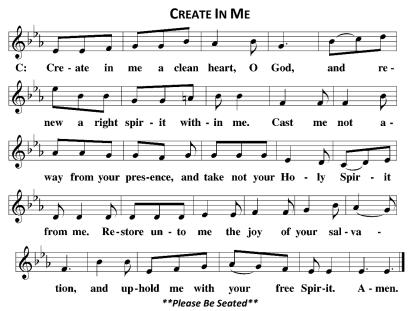
Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934.

Tune: VRUECHTEN (67 67 with Refrain) Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684.

SERMON TEXT SERMON:

LUKE 24: 13 – 35

WHAT IS BEFORE YOU FEAR OR HOPE?



OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver." This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.

Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.

Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

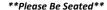
Silent prayer.

Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

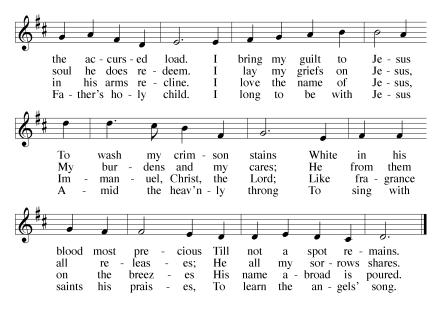


DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#372

I LAY MY SINS ON JESUS





Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.

Tune: AURELIA (76 76 D) Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76.

Please Stand

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: And al - so with you.

C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

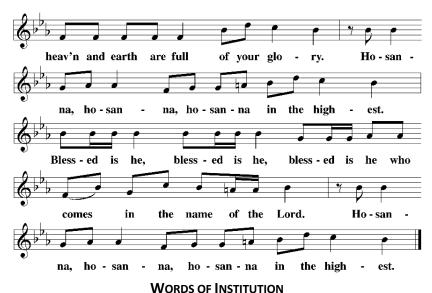
C: It is good and right so to do.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should

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, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:





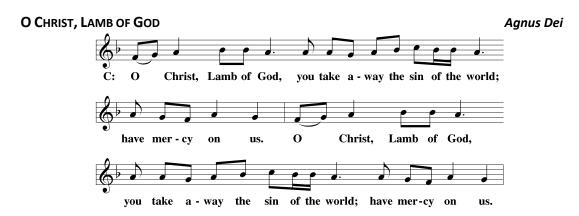
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

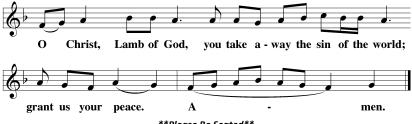
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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.





Please Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

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.



Please Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: #436

JESUS, SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP



Text: Henry Cook, 1788-1868, alt.

Tune: CAPETOWN (777 5) Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76, alt.

What We believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marriage Enrichment Seminar – Hearing your feedback, we have changed the name and are making this seminar available for our members to give you a taste and see. Here is an opportunity to be with your Grace family and consider ways to add to your marriage. Save the date, 5:00 pm May 19, here at church. Yes, you may invite single friends, but please come! This seminar will be a biblical approach to relationships. Please email or text Pastor if you would like to attend so he can plan accordingly.

Sunday Morning Bible Study – The Acts of the Apostles was written by Luke to record the witnesses of the Christian Church, focused on faith in Jesus, and the challenges they faced as the church continued. So Pastor Emmons challenges you to bring your questions. Come and go as you wish! We start around 9:00 am; reading is always voluntary; bring your questions.

Midweek Bible Study – It is back 6 pm on Tuesday evenings! Our Midweek Bible Study of Romans resumes, or whatever topic might arise. If you would just like to peek behind the curtain to see what we are studying, you can join us by Zoom or come to the Port's home: 1923 NW Nickernut Court, Redmond Below is the Zoom link.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057 Password: GraceOT

Strategic planning – As promised, we will look at our strategic planning. We have many new faces, so that Pastor Emmons will send a survey in the next few weeks. So please look for this and send it back in so we can compile and prepare for our strategic planning.

Pastor Conferences – Pastor Emmons will attend the West Coast Conference from April 26 to 29 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Port Orchard, WA.

Congregational/ Voter's Meeting – Our congregational meeting is scheduled after service on April 30 this is an opportunity for all members of our congregation to voice their concerns. May 7 will be our voter's meeting, this consists of all confirmed men over 18 we must have at least 8 of the voters in order to hold our meeting.

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