WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 77)

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. 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, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

GATHERING HYMN Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! (WOV 674)

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain
Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain

3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,  
gift of the future now flowing to me. **Refrain**

4 Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:  
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. **Refrain**

5 City of God, Easter forever,  
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
river of life, saints and archangels,  
sing with creation to God the I AM! **Refrain**

**GREETING  (LBW p. 78)**  
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.**

**KYRIE  (LBW p. 78)**  
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
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.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to  
the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

**HYMN OF PRAISE  (LBW p. 79)**  
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  (LBW p. 82)
The Lord be with you.
**And also with you.**
Let us pray. . . .
O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Acts 3:12-19
The First Lesson is from the third chapter of Acts.

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God’s promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ’s death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus’ name. Luke writes.*

12 [Peter] 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? 13 The 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. 14 But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, 15 and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 16 And 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. 18 In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.” Here ends the reading.

PSALM: Psalm 4
1 Answer 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.
   “You mortals, how long will you dishonor- | or my glory; how long will you worship dumb idols and run af- | ter false gods?”
2 Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful; when I call upon the LORD, | he will hear me.
3 Tremble, then, and | do not sin; speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.
4 Offer the appointed | sacrifices, and put your trust | in the LORD.
5 Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see | better times!”
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.
You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:1-7
The Second Lesson is from the third chapter of 1st John.

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins. John writes.

See 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. Beloved, 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

Here ends the reading.

VERSE (LBW p. 83)
Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness. Luke writes

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look 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.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to
eat?” And they gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

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

You are witnesses of these things.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUNG DISCIPLE TIME

SERMON Spread the Word

HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, You Give the Great Commission (WOV 756)

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:

Refrain
With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community: Refrain

3 Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body, this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty: Refrain
Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society: Refrain

Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity: Refrain

APOSTLES’ CREED (LBW p. 85)
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
    creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
    He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
    and born of the virgin Mary.
    He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
    was crucified, died, and was buried.
    He descended into hell.*
    On the third day he rose again.
    He ascended into heaven,
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
    He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
    the holy catholic Church,
    the communion of saints,
    the forgiveness of sins,
    the resurrection of the body,
    and the life everlasting. Amen

THE PRAYERS
Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before
God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and
wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the
church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear
us, O God. Your mercy is great.
Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness (especially). Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us (especially). Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PEACE
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING and OFFERTORY (LBW p. 86)
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.
OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 88)
Let us pray.
Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE (LBW p. 88)
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 him thanks and praise.

PREFACE (LBW p. 88)
It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (LBW p. 89)
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow’r and might:
Heav’n 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 (LBW p. 89)
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, 
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. 
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**LORD’S PRAYER  (LBW p. 92)**
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.

**COMMUNION HYMN  (LBW p. 92)**
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, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS DURING COMMUNION  *Come, Let Us Eat*  (LBW 214)**
1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
    come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together,
    our Lord's body let us take together.

2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
    come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,
    Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.
3 In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
In the presence of our Lord we gather,
in the presence of our Lord we gather.

4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

**HYMN**  *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart: Gift of Finest Wheat*  (WOV 711)

**Refrain**

You satisfy the hungry heart
with gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
the bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
they know and heed his voice;
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,
we follow and rejoice. *Refrain*

2 With joyful lips we sing to you
our praise and gratitude
that you should count us worthy, Lord,
to share this heav'nly food. *Refrain*

3 Is not the cup we bless and share
the blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain*

4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,
no mortal tongue can tell:
whom all the world cannot contain
comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain*

5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;
then selfless let us be,
to serve each other in your name
in truth and charity. *Refrain*
POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND CANTICLE  (LBW p. 92)
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen
Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev’ryone what he has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER  (LBW p. 94)
Let us pray.
Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BLESSING  (LBW p. 95)
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen

SENDING HYMN  Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing  (LBW 363)
1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
In death his love shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
He comes to claim the here and now, and conquer ev'ry place and time.

3 Not throned afar, remotely high,
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Savior with the Father reigns.

4 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

5 Christ is alive! Ascended Lord-
He rules the world his Father made,
Till in the end, his love adored
Shall be to all on earth displayed.

**DISMISSAL (LBW p. 95)**
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**