

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday, April 17, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 18, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Welcome to worship at St. Matthew! To friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to visitors, we extend it sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Redeemer. Come again!

Assisted hearing devices and orders of service are available from the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Pastor Hugo or the lay minister before the service begins. Other prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 763-788-9427.

Parents with small children are encouraged to sit near the front in order to better see and participate during the service. If you desire other facilities, a cry room is located in the back of the worship area and bathrooms with changing tables (including back-up supplies) and infant seats are located behind the worship area (two right turns as you pass the double doors out of the worship area – just past the water fountain).

Thank you for turning off all electronic equipment (cell phones, items that receive internet signal, etc.). These items interfere with our sound system.

+ CONNECT +

OPENING HYMN: “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” (st. 1-5)

**I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head!**

**He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives exalted, throned above; He lives to rule his Church in love.**

**He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with his eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.**

**He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.**

**He lives to bless me with his love; He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.**

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES:

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: Christ has risen from the dead. God has crowned Him with glory and honor,

C: **He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.**

L: In your presence there is fullness of joy;

C: **At your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

L: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up

C: **And have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: The second half of the epistle lesson for today from I John, chapter three, will lead us into a time of confession of our sins:

Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that Christ appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

C: We do need to turn to you, Lord. We do need to repent. We do need refreshing. It has only been two weeks since Easter day and we are already living as if the Resurrection weren't real. We fail to see your power over the impossible. We live our lives as if everything depended on us. Forgive us again, Lord, as we confess to you:

(A time of silence for personal confession)

L: St. John continues:
See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"

God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!

He, because I could not pay it, Gave me full redemption price.

Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any

That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!

Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!

I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.

Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my Baptism did release me

In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!

Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed.

Now that to the font I've traveled, All your might has come unraveled,

And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!

**Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Bapt'sm has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.**

**There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!**

("God's Own Child, I'll Gladly Say It" by Neumeister; tr. by Robert Voelker, copyright 1991 Robert E. Voelker, permission applied for.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **O Resurrected Lord Jesus, you conquered death and bear its scars.
As you directed your disciples toward peace and resurrection and
opened their minds to all you had in store for them, so move us and
be at work in us that peace and resurrection might be our reality. In
your holy name, Jesus, Amen.**

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: Acts 3:11-21

While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the

prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.”

L: The Word of our risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 24.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. He said to them, “This is what I told 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.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

L: This is the Gospel of our risen Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

HYMN OF THE DAY: “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

**He’s risen, he’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
Death’s prison he opened, incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
While earth, sea, and mountain the praises prolong.**

**The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan’s domain his hosts shouted and jeered,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones feared.**

**But short was their triumph, the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan he vanquished, his foes;
The conquering Lord lifts his banner on high.
He lives, yes, he lives, and will never-more die.**

**Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions his blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are his own.**

**Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain;
In glory he reigns, yes, and ever shall reign.**

MESSAGE: "How Long Till We Eat?" – Pastor Bill Hugo

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

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.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

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

C: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (st. 6-8)

He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King!

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy this blest assurance gives; I know that my Redeemer lives!

+ + +

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Saturday -

Lay Minister: Larry Betzold

Sunday -

Lay Minister: Louise Roberts

Ushers: Davis Team

Power Point: Caitlin Kyseth

Acolyte: Parker Kyseth

Lector: Andrew Wagner