

The Third Sunday of Easter

04-19-2026

Greg Fetzner, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand, as you are able.

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P 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.

C **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.**

P 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 your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

C **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.**

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

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN [ELW#392 – “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”](#)

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

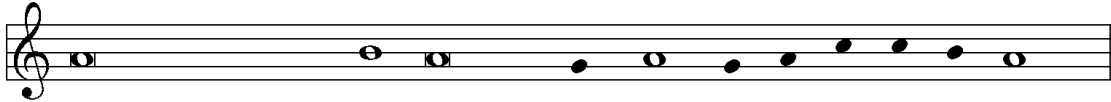
C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

C **And also with you.**



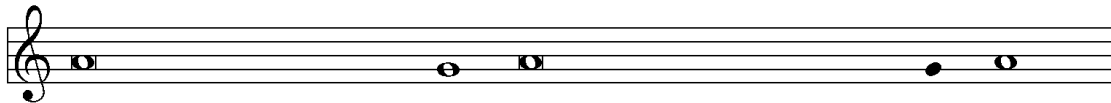
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



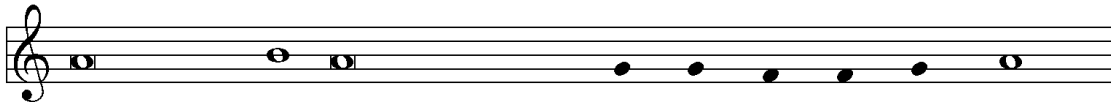
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men



A This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



G Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.
Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

HYMN OF PRAISE [ELW#362 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"](#), v.1-4

P Let us pray. O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world. Grant that we may follow his example and be witnesses to the truth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Please be seated.

PSALM 30

- L ¹I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- C ²**O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**
- L ³You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- C ⁴**Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**
- L ⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- C ⁶**While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.**
- L ⁷You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.
- C ⁸**I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**
- L ⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?
- C ¹⁰**Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper."**
- L ¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
- C ¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

ACTS 19:1-19a

- L A reading from Acts: ¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: [ELW#421 – “By All Your Saints”](#), v. 1, 8, 2, Last

SERMON: ([Sermon Audio Link](#))

Please stand, as you are able.

- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C **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

- L** Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

- L** Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

- L** Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

- L** God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

- L** Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. We pray for Barbara Ash, Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Bob Hardy, Mark Hughes, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

- L** Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

- L** For whom or what else shall we pray?

- *For peace and reconciliation among the nations, especially in Iran, Lebanon, Gaza, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Venezuela...*
- *For Christian unity and courage in seeking and speaking peace...*
- *For rescue, recovery, and rebuilding work after storms, tornadoes, and flooding across the Midwestern US...*
- *For victims of gun violence, especially in school shootings in Turkey...*
- *For elections and political transitions around the world, especially in Hungary...*
- *For all who struggle amidst rising fuel costs around the globe...*
- *For the victims and survivors of the ship which sank between Bangladesh and Myanmar...*
- *For safety for those on the Gaza flotilla from Spain...*

- For victims of the stampede at Laferrière Citadel in Haiti...
- For the diversity and gifts of the human family...
- For those who face financial stress in this tax season, and for renewed wisdom among leaders who discern how to use shared resources for the common good...
- For migrating birds and insects, and for animals waking from hibernation...

L Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

L God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
C **Amen**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.



Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen

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**

P The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for the table is now ready.

C Thanks be to God.

After all have communed, the following is sung:



C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please stand, as you are able.

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

C Amen



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P 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.

C Amen

SENDING HYMN: [ELW#542 – “O Living Bread from Heaven”](#)

P Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Announcements

- Please lift up the family and friends of Pam Schuldes, cousin of Gina Barbaro and wife of Nick Schuldes, who passed away after battling scleroderma and liver cancer
- Celebration of Life Service for Ann Spiegler on Saturday, 5/19/2026 at 1 pm

*Offering to be sent to
 Robert Brackbill
 10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
 Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
 9122 Sybert Drive
 Columbia Hills
 Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Date	Day	Theme	Text	Leader(s)
April 19	Easter 3	Paul's Conversion	Acts 9:1-19a	Ron
April 26	Easter 4	Paul and Silas	Acts 16:16-34	Monica
May 3	Easter 5	Paul's Sermon at Athens	Acts 17:16-31	Heidi and Bob
May 10	Easter 6	Partnership in the Gospel	Phil 1:1-18a	Julie and Dave
May 17	Easter 7	The Christ Hymn	Phil 2:1-13	Ron
May 24	Pentecost	Day of Pentecost Rejoice in the Lord	Acts 2:1-21 Phil 4:4-7	Monica

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