

**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World  
and  
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church  
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***Holy Communion Service  
Third Sunday of Easter  
April 14, 2024***

## PRELUDE

played by organist

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 143

*“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”*

## GREETING

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.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us seek the healing grace and love of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

C **God of grace and glory, you have brought us through the night of our human imperfection into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Our lives and our world are in need of your forgiveness. Raise us to new life in Christ, O God. Renew us as you make all things new. Rescue us from failings and fallings. Restore us by your grace, and reconcile us that we may live with you, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

P Let us rejoice with all creation! The light and love of the risen Christ cleanses us from all that would keep us from God. Jesus Christ loves us and + sets us free from the errors of our ways. Alleluia!

C **Alleluia! Amen!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**C** 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.

## **WE HEAR GOD'S HOLY WORD PROCLAIMED**

### **INTRODUCTION**

*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.*

### **The First Lesson is from Acts chapter 3 verses 12-19**

*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.*

<sup>12</sup>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? <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>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.

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

The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 4**

*The LORD does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)*

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me when I call.

<sup>4</sup>Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

**The Second Lesson is from 1 verses John chapter 3 verses 1-7**

*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.*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.


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

The Word of the Lord.


**C Thanks be to God**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:


(Congregation stands and sings “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” following the Second Reading.)




Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Caribbean traditional  
Music: HALLE, HALLE, Caribbean traditional

## **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 24 verses 36b-48**

*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.*

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>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." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>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." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>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, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

Bishop Murray Finck

*“Open our Eyes, Hearts, and Minds, Lord”*

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

*“Shout to the Lord”*

## **THE NICENE CREED**

**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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 THE PEOPLE**

**L ... God of grace,**

**C hear our prayer.**

## **OFFERTORY**

*“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”*



## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Risen Lord, you call us to believe and tell the story of your grace. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Help us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**LBW [Green Book] Page 71**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. The Table of the Lord is ready. All are welcome!  
*Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited by the ushers to come forward to receive Communion. If you are unable to come to the altar, Communion will be brought to you in the pew. We believe Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice. Anyone with any questions may speak with the Pastor. The inside circle of glasses contains grape juice.)*

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**C** Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this heavenly banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**LBW [Green Book] # 145**

*“Thine is the Glory”*

## **DISMISSAL**

**P** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

**played by organist**

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**Interim Pastor:** Bishop Murray D. Finck

**Organist:** Sharon Heck

**Flowers are given by:** *No Requests.*

## THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

<i>President:</i>	Bishop Murray D. Finck
<i>Communion Assistant</i>	Carmen Leslie
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sylvia Makus
<i>Reader / Prayer Leader:</i>	Nancy Anderson
<i>Financial Team:</i>	Kay Pushman and Alma Zamzow

## THIS WEEK

**Wednesday:** 12:00 noon Bible Study – Fellowship Hall

**Sunday:** 10:30 a.m. Communion Service

### *Happy Birthday [this week]*

Bishop Murray Finck April 15

### **Redeemer Finance: April Offering through April 7, 2024**

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$7,308.00
Offering	<u>\$1446.00</u>
Needed to meet expenses	-\$5,862.00

## CHURCH COUNCIL

**President** Kay Pushman, **Vice-President** Wendy Alfageme,  
**Secretary** Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer** Phyllis Mackey, **Finance**  
**Chair** Doris Weinert

**Members at Large**, Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero,  
Sylvia Makus, and Michael Vanvales

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Jean, Kathy, Wendy, Beverly, Dena, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Jerry, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Ken, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, Nancy, Phyllis, Sylvia, Gil, Flo, Eileen, Erich, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, Lisa, Patty, Barbara, Joan, Dee, Susan, Anita, Norma, Lathy, Juanita, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Anne, Doris, Linda, Bruce, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darlene, Sharon, Danota, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Bill, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Maeve, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, Sands, Gloria, Tom, Rosalia, Wendy and Elaine. Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

*Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, (ELCA) and Bishop John Taylor (ECUSA), the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian and Israel/Hamas conflicts, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.*

*Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Announcements

- † Welcome to everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors. Visitors are invited to fill out a card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Everyone is invited down to the Fellowship Hall after Service for coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!).
- † Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Thank you!
- † Great news: We have started our Bible Study again. We will be meeting on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon for about one hour in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to join us. Bring your Bible and maybe a friend or two [and your lunch if you wish]! Bishop Murray Finck will be leading.
- † If you are having a little problem with hearing on Sundays, please remember that there are speakers in the ceiling light fixtures so sitting closer to one of those may help.
- † The NEW Flower Chart is available for sign-ups in the entryway. One bouquet is \$15.00. Both are \$30.00. Please include any dedication for your flower request when signing up or include a note beforehand if there is a dedication. If you take the flowers in the plastic holders, please return the holders. We try to reuse them and are currently out of them.
- † Printed copies of our current newsletter are available in the entryway. It is online on our website at: [www.redeemerasealbeach.com](http://www.redeemerasealbeach.com). It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email, or the midweek communiqué from the pastor, please put your email address on the attendance sheet in the pew pocket and put it in the collection plate, so we can add you or correct the address we have.