

Second Sunday of Easter
April 11, 2021
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN

The Easter season includes seven Sundays when we ponder the mystery of Christ's risen presence, primarily through the Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples who witness the risen Christ on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus opens his hands and invites to touch his wounds. Through today's gospel, we are transformed in our fear into a community of open doors, peace, and material sharing, such that no one among us is in need. Like Jesus, we are called to be community that embodies God's risen and present love.

A note about in-person worship: Because the pandemic is not yet behind us and some members still have underlying health conditions and concerns, there are some temporary changes in our liturgy, as well as a variety of new protocols in our in-person service. These changes are intended for the sake of the shared health of our community, particularly the most vulnerable among us. As we learn and adapt to this next chapter of our life together, we're grateful for your understanding, grace, and care. For more information about Level 3 of our Covid Response Plan, please see the Covid page on our website, and don't hesitate to reach out to the Task Force with any questions. Even with the new protocols, we give God thanks for the opportunity to gather for worship in new ways, and we trust in the Spirit to guide us!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION + FORGIVENESS

Today's confession liturgy draws from the words of 1 John 1:1-2:2, one of the readings assigned for today.

Leader: Let us take a moment of silence to confess our sins before God and one another.

Silence for reflection.

L: God is light and in God, there is no darkness at all. Let us confess together...

All: If we say that we have fellowship with God while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

A: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MUSIC**Happy Day**

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| <p>1 The greatest day in history
Death is beaten You have rescued me
Sing it out Jesus is alive
The empty cross the empty grave
Life eternal You have won the day
Shout it out Jesus is alive
He's alive</p> | <p>Chorus</p> | <p>And oh happy day happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed
(What a glorious, glorious day)
(I'll never be the same)</p> |
| <p>2 When I stand in that place
Free at last meeting face to face
I am Yours Jesus You are mine
Endless joy perfect peace
Earthly pain finally will cease
Celebrate Jesus is alive
He's alive
What a glorious, glorious day
I'll never be the same</p> | | <p>Oh what a glorious day
What a glorious way
That You have saved me
And oh what a glorious day
What a glorious name
Hey</p> |

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

A: And also with you.

L: Let us pray together:

A: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the risen Christ and the gift of new life. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MUSIC**Glorious Day**

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>One day when heaven
was filled with His praises
One day when sin
was as black as could be</p> | <p>Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin
Dwelt among men my example is He
The Word became flesh
And the light shined among us His glory revealed</p> |
| <p>Living He loved me
dying He saved me
Buried He carried my sins far away
Rising He justified freely forever
One day He's coming
O glorious day (glorious day)</p> | <p>One day they led Him
up Calv'ry's mountain
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree
Suffering anguish despised and rejected</p> |

Bearing our sins my Redeemer is He
The hand that healed nations
Stretched out on a tree
And took the nails for me

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer
One day the stone rolled away from the door
Then He arose over death He had conquered

Now is ascended my Lord evermore
Death could not hold Him
The grave could not keep Him
From rising again

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming
One day the skies with His glories will shine
Wonderful day my beloved one
bringing My Savior Jesus is mine

O glorious day glorious day
O glorious day

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Linqing Chu

HYMN OF THE DAY Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing #389 verses 1, 3, 4, 5

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

And always with you.

Let's share a sign of that peace with one another!

If you're worshipping in-person, you're invited to stand up, remain in your pews, and turn to neighbors near you, offering a physically-distant sign of peace: a wave, nod or bow, peace sign, or crossing arms over the chest as a symbol of an embrace. If you're worshipping on Zoom, you're invited to turn on your video and wave or give a peace sign to others on-screen.

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

This is the Christ

Keith Williams

If you're worshipping with us in-person today, please note that offering plates will not be passed around at this time. You are welcome to drop off offering before or after the services. If you're worshipping with us virtually, we invite you to make an offering by sending a check to the church or by visiting our secure online giving page which can be found at the bottom of our home page: www.crossofglory.us. Thank you for your generosity!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation...

Living God, we praise you for the resurrection dawn. Enter into our locked places with a liberating word of peace. Open us up, that we might embrace the world with renewed hope and courage. God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of new life, like dew upon the mountains, refresh your creation. Restore the waters, cleanse the air, and provide revitalizing rains to parched land. Guide our steps that we might walk gently on the earth. God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you show us the ways of justice and peace. Equip nations and governments to lead with care and concern for the most vulnerable among us. And guide us all in the new life we're called to in today's text from Acts; a life of mutuality, just distribution, and sustainable sharing. God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, you invite us to touch your wounds. Today we pray that you would feel our wounds. Meet us in our suffering, and bring your healing touch to all those in need, especially Gil Hartlage, Mavis Wold, Vicky Jacobson, Jeannie Kuzmich, Brenda Edstrom, Bill Bailey; other loved ones in our community: Trevor, Kevin, Eva, Lloyd, Bonnie, Steve, Carla, and Rick; and all those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving and remembrance, we recall the lives of those who have gone before us. Join us together with them in resurrection hope. God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Trusting in the new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, through Jesus Christ our risen Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Drawn together as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

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.

BLESSING

May the risen One fill you with life, nurture your faith, deepen your love, and † grant you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Thine is the Glory

#376 verses 1-3

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting! **Refrain**

3 No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. **Refrain**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

If you're worshipping in-person, please join us for a brief time of fellowship following today's service outdoors in the parking lot. In the case of bad weather, the Fellowship Hall will remain available for masked and distanced fellowship.

If you're worshipping with us on Zoom, you are welcome to stick around for Virtual Coffee Hour. This time will not be structured as it has been in recent months. Simply stay for fellowship and conversation for as long as you'd like!

POSTLUDE

MUSIC CREDITS

The Order of Service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship which is commended for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Guest Preacher: Linqing Chu

Lead Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik

Pianist, vocalist, worship team director: Mark Trease

Vocalist, choir director: Keith Williams

Lector: Kris Simon

Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Mike Edstrom, Erik Haugland

Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cross of Glory is now operating under Level 3 of our Covid Preparedness & Response Plan, allowing for an in-person worship option on Sundays and expanded on-site gatherings during the week. If you'd like to host an on-site gathering, please call or email the office for scheduling. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Covid Task Force.
- With in-person worship now being offered, please contact the church office if you'd no longer like to receive mailed or email bulletins. Please note: If you plan to attend in-person and would like a printed bulletin, please bring the copy mailed to you. All bulletin information will be projected on the screen; a limited supply of printed bulletins will be available at this time.
- The Minneapolis Area Synod has also created a virtual service for today, with Rev. Dr. Eric Barreto preaching on today's lesson from Acts. To view this online service, visit www.crossofglory.us.
- If you're interested in joining with other Cross of Glory members, students at Progeny, and other Brooklyn Center neighbors for community gardening this spring & summer in the plots in our church's backyard, please contact Pastor Ali.
- Mark your calendar: our next Table Talks (monthly Adult Sunday school) is scheduled for Sunday, April 25 following worship. Stay tuned for further details.
- Liturgy means "the work of the people." We're grateful for all the ways our shared work helps shape our weekly worship. If you're interested in serving as an usher, greeter, reader, musician, or tech support, please contact the church office.
- Please reach out to Pastor Ali with any other announcements or pastoral care concerns by email (atranvik@crossofglory.us) or phone (763-533-8602)

Congregational Support as of 2/28/2021

Annual Budget: \$230,000.00

Year to Date Budgeted: \$38,666.70

Year to Date Received: \$50,977.98

Difference: \$12,311.28