

The Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Divine Service – Setting One

(LSB p. 151)

Confession and Absolution

Prelude

Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs

LSB 812

- 1 Come, let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one.
- 2 “Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry,
“To be exalted thus!”
“Worthy the Lamb,” our lips reply,
“For He was slain for us!”
- 3 Jesus is worthy to receive
Honor and pow’r divine;
And blessings more than we can give
Be, Lord, forever Thine.
- 4 Let all creation join in one
To bless the sacred name
Of Him who sits upon the throne
And to adore the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation, Confession, and Absolution

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit: Psalm 145:4–7, 9; antiphon: v. 10



- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

- P** One generation shall commend your works to an- | other,*
and shall declare your | mighty acts.
- C** On the glorious splendor of your | majesty,*
and on your wondrous works, I will | meditate.
- P** They shall speak of the might of your | awesome deeds,*
and I will declare your | greatness.
- C** They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant |
goodness*
and shall sing aloud of your | righteousness.
- P** The LORD is | good to all,*
and his mercy is over all that | he has made.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

Kyrie

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

This Is the Feast

- Refrain:* **C** This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- C** Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (*Refrain*)
- C** Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. (*Refrain*)
- C** Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (*Refrain*)
- C** For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia. (*Refrain*)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.
- P** O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit

First Reading: Acts 9:1–22

¹But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the

synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, 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 at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came 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 he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." ²¹And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" ²²But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

The reading concludes:

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual: adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

C Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle: Revelation 5:1-14

¹Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

⁶And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll

and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth."

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

The reading concludes:

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead
will never | die again;

death no longer has dominion over him. Alle-| luia.

Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us | on
the road,

while he opened to us the | Scriptures? Alle-| luia.

(Repeat Alleluia)

Holy Gospel: John 21:1-19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know

everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

The reading concludes:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

With High Delight Let Us Unite

LSB 483

- 1 With high delight
Let us unite
In songs of great jubilation.
Ye pure in heart,
All bear your part,
Sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.
To set us free
Forever, He
Is ris'n and sends
To all earth's ends
Good news to save ev'ry nation.
- 2 True God, He first
From death has burst
Forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy
Doth vanquished lie;
His death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be
Like victory
O'er death and grave,"
Saith He, who gave
His life for us, life renewing.
- 3 Let praises ring;
Give thanks, and bring
To Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed
By word and deed
To ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall His love
Give us above,
From misery
And death set free,
All joy and full consolation.

*Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-99; tr.
Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76
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Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

- C** I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down
from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin
Mary

and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures

and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both
the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is

worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of
sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Petitions conclude:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Offertory

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to
me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on
the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the
name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of
all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O
Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary..., evermore praising You
and saying:

Sanctus

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had
mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-
begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our
Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation
accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body
and His blood on the cross.
Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg

You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father...

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C 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.

Sit

Distribution

Eat This Bread

LSB 638

Refrain:

C Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to Him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Trust in Him and you will not thirst.

- I** 1 *This is His body given for you; this is His blood that was shed for you. (Refrain: All)*
- I** 2 *As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show His death until He comes again. (Refrain: All)*
- I** 3 *Eat His flesh and drink His blood, and Christ will raise you up on the Last Day. (Refrain: All)*
- I** 4 *Anyone who eats this bread will live forever. (Refrain: All)*
- I** 5 *If we believe and eat this bread, we will have eternal life. (Refrain: All)*

Text (sts. 1–2): Stephen P. Starke, 1955; (sts. ref. 3–5): Robert J. Batastini, 1942; (sts. ref. 3–5): Taizé Community Text (sts. 1–2): © 1998 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. ref. 3–5): © 1984 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community, France, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004516

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

LSB 411

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. *(Refrain)*
- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. *(Refrain)*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934
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Stand

Thank the Lord

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek 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 Collect

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

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.

Sit

In Thee Is Gladness

LSB 818

- 1 In Thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given
The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest,
Our bonds Thou breakest;
Who trusts Thee surely
Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining,
Dying or living
To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!
- 2 Since He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Postlude

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