

Third Sunday of Easter, year A

April 26, 2020 ✝ Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: Third Sunday of Easter, year A

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them, opens the Scriptures to them, making their hearts aflame, and then opens their eyes to see him in the breaking of the bread. The story of Emmaus is the story of our lives!

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. However, you can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle.

PRELUDE: from **Suite in D Major: 4. March (Bourrée), 5. March**

George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)

Recorded by Cantor Cherwien and Charles Lazarus on April 9, 2020. Click the bold title to watch.

HYMN: **ELW 377, Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!**

click the title to listen

Sung at Mount Olive on the Sixth Sunday of Easter, year C, May 26, 2019.

EASTER GREETING

Greet one another with the good news!

☐ Christ is risen! Alleluia!

☑ **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

Word

PRAYER OF THE DAY

click the bold title for the Prayer and the First Reading

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; reader – assisting minister Steve Berg *in Prayer of the Day video*

¹⁴ Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the people: ³⁶ “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name

of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Sing or say the psalm together:

PSALM: Psalm 16:1-4, 12-19



about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.”²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?”²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

SERMON

Road

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Click on the title, “Road,” to watch

HYMN: **ELW 374, Day of Arising**

click on the bold title to listen

Sung at Mount Olive on the Third Sunday of Easter, year A, April 30, 2017.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Our Assisting Minister for today, Steve Berg, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ.

*Included in our prayers this morning we remember with the saints who have died these loved ones who died this past week: **Aisha Wilkes** (James Wilkes’ sister), **Billy Wilkes** (James Wilkes’ brother, who had been gone away for some time and whom the family has learned died some time ago).*

Pray these aloud, perhaps with one as leader if there are more than one gathered, and add any you feel drawn to add.

Uplifted by the hope of healing and resurrection, let us join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world and all in need.

Silence.

Pour out your Risen Christ on our suffering world, O God. Tend our wounds. Heal our pain. Console the fearful and the dying. Comfort those who mourn. Grant us courage and hope for better days. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Stay with us, O God. Shower special blessings on those who serve in this time of emergency, especially healthcare professionals, food industry workers, first responders, delivery drivers, warehouse workers and all those who toil every day amid the dangers of infection and death. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Grant wisdom and endurance, O God, to political leaders and scientists around the world. Turn the hearts of the careless and the selfish among us. Empower the work of your church, including our own partners in ministry: Lutheran World Relief, Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, Bread for the World, Lutheran Volunteer Corps, the Lake Street Council and the Powderhorn Neighborhood Association. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Bring wholeness to those who need your special touch – the sick, the homeless, the unemployed, the lonely and the demoralized. We pray especially for those we name before you on our prayer list, and for our brother, James, who mourns the deaths of his siblings, and for all those we name before you now *God, in your mercy . . .*

Giving thanks for baptism, we join Neil, Joyce, Ellie, Eleanor, Margaret and Adam in celebrating the anniversary of their entrance into your church. Keep all of us steadfast in your love. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Add any petitions you feel drawn to pray. Then:

In thanksgiving for all the saints, especially remembering the apostles Philip and James, as well as Catherine of Siena, Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria, and all those who have died and are dear to us *God, in your mercy . . .*

Whatever else you see that we and the world need, grant us O God, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

OFFERING: **Stay With Us**

Egil Hovland

Sung by the Mount Olive Cantorei on the Third Sunday of Easter, year A, April 30, 2017.

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. The Olive Branch has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See:

<https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

PEACE

Please greet others with Christ's peace. If you haven't called someone to join this prayer together, perhaps you might take the time now to call another and wish them peace.

HYMN: **ELW 369, Christ the Lord is Risen Today**

click on the bold title to listen

Sung at Mount Olive on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, year B, April 22, 2018.

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Pray the Lord's Prayer together.

Someone may offer a blessing on behalf of all:

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard and keep our hearts and minds in + Christ Jesus. Amen.

☞ Christ is risen! Alleluia! ☞ **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

☞ Go in peace to love and serve as Christ. ☞ **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE:

"Sortie"

Improvisation by Chad Fothergill

Click the bold title to listen. This is an improvised postlude played by Chad Fothergill at the sending Eucharist for "Faith to Sing Always," a regional conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians; recorded on June 16, 2012, at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College.