

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024



HYMN

482 This Joyful Eastertide

PSALM 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

⁵Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?

Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”

⁷You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

C Lord, You know all our sins—even more than we know them ourselves. We have sought our own honor above Yours, loved vain words, and questioned the truth of Your word. Yet in Your grace and mercy, You show Your goodness to us in Jesus. Hear us as we call to You, and forgive us for His sake. Fill our hearts with joy as we place our trust in You to give us peace and a safe place to live forever.

FIRST READING

1 John 3:1–7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.

⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

SECOND READING

Acts 3:11–21

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled.

¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN

605 Father Welcomes

SECOND READING

Luke 24:36–49

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, **“Peace to you!”** ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit.

³⁸And he said to them, **“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?”** ³⁹See

my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,⁴³ and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

G I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

G 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.

OFFERING

HOLY COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PEACE OF THE LORD

John 20:19

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

Those gathered are invited to offer a handshake, fist-bump, or hug with those around them, while saying "Peace be with you" as a way to share the peace we have in God with one another.

LAMB OF GOD

John 1:29



G 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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Ten Thousand Reasons (printed page 5)

Refrain



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;



wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,



O my soul; I'll wor - ship your ho - ly name.



1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing; —
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the



7 it's time to sing your — song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name — is — great, and your heart is kind. For all — your
end — draws — near, and my time has come; 7 still — my



pass, — and what - ev - er lies be - fore me,
good-ness, I will keep — on — sing - ing—
soul will sing your praise — un - end - ing—



Refrain

let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
ten thou-sand rea - sons for my heart to find.
ten thou-sand years and then for - ev - er - more.

THE DISMISSAL

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

GOD'S BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord



Go in God's Grace and Peace

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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HOLY CROSS

LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Welcome to Holy Cross! We're glad you're with us to worship today, and hope God's Word will refresh you. We pray you might find peace and comfort in the forgiveness Christ freely gives. We believe you'll be renewed and refreshed by the Holy Spirit who gives and strengthens faith through the Word and Sacraments. You're always welcome to worship with us, and join any activities we host. We are excited you are here, and pray God's richest blessings upon you today.

GUESTS & VISITORS

We'd love to know that you were with us today. Scan the QR code below to check-in online, and we'll connect with you soon! *You can also use the check-in card you'll find in front of you, and either place it in the offering plate, or hand it to an usher anytime.*

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We love kids in Church! There is a kids station as you enter the sanctuary, which has books and bags for younger children to borrow. Coloring pages and children's bulletins are for anyone to use. *Please return books and bags when you are finished.*

OFFERINGS & GIFTS

Giving back to God in thanks for all He provides is an important part of worship and our ministry to the community. If you have something to give, place it in the offering plate as it goes by. **You can also safely give online** using the QR code below or visit holycross.life/connect

HOLY COMMUNION

We believe Christ when He says He is truly present in the bread and the wine of Communion. Those who are baptized, and believe the promise of Christ; that His body and blood are given for you, for your forgiveness—are welcome to receive the Sacrament.

If this is not what you believe, or aren't sure whether to receive or not—we ask that you refrain until you've spoken with the Pastor. You are invited (kids too!) to receive a blessing. Come forward, with your arms folded across your chest, and the pastor will bless you.

**Gluten-free bread (individually wrapped) is available for those who need it. Simply ask the pastor when you come forward. White grape juice is also available in the center ring of the communion tray.*

CHECK-IN and GIVE ONLINE
or go to holycross.life/connect



HOLY CROSS HAPPENINGS

April 14, 2024

SPRING FLEA MARKET AT HOLY CROSS

Mark your calendars for Holy Cross' Spring Flea Market on Saturday, May 25. We're still in the planning stages so if you would like to help plan, organize, run or be a vendor, **please contact Kerry Geffert at president@holycrosstrumbull.com. Many hands will be needed!**

CROP WALK—

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

Get your walking shoes ready! The 50th Annual Greater Bridgeport CROP Hunger Walk will be Sunday, May 5, beginning at 1:30 pm. We will be looking for both walkers and financial supporters of walkers. Watch for more information in the coming weeks. Let's all help to end hunger!

LADIES BUNCO NIGHT!

Sunday, April 21, at 6pm. Bunco is a fun, fast-paced dice game, and no experience is needed in order to attend. Snacks will be provided, but feel free to bring a beverage of your choice. Sign up in the lobby or email Elisabeth.erb@gmail.com.

LWML 30TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

All women are invited to attend the LWML New England District 2024 convention on Friday and Saturday, April 26-27, at the Trumbull Marriott. The theme is "Songs in the Night," based on "Where is God my Maker, who gives songs in the night" (Job 35:10). Our very own Pastor Erb will lead the Bible study on Saturday morning and afternoon. Additional speakers include Katie Schuermann, Rev. Gregory Wismar, Rev. James Krikava and Rev. Robert Beinke. Registration is available for one or two days—on Friday from 11am to 9pm and Saturday from 8:30am to 4pm. Additional information can be found at: lwml-ned.org. Any questions, please contact Sharon Dever at president@lwml-ned.org.

HOLY CROSS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Registration is ongoing for the 2024-2025 school year at our preschool. Part-day and full-day programs are offered for Pre-K, 4s and 3s. **To find out more details, contact our Preschool Director, Michele Glennon: preschool@holycrosstrumbull.com or 203-268-6471.**

WEEK OF APRIL 14

STAY UP TO DATE



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Watch our services online. Search YouTube for *Holy Cross Trumbull*

SUNDAY 9:30am—10:30am -----Worship
10:45am -----Sunday School & Bible Class

MONDAY 7am—5:30pm -----Preschool

TUESDAY 7am—5:30pm -----Preschool

WEDNESDAY 7am—5:30pm -----Preschool

THURSDAY 7am—5:30pm -----Preschool

FRIDAY 7am—5:30pm -----Preschool

SUNDAY (4/21) 9:30am—10:30am -----Worship
10:45am -----Sunday School & Bible Class