

# Second Sunday of Easter

04/07/2024

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

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**PRELUDE** "Let Us Break Bread Together," spiritual arranged by Cindy Berry

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen**

**P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**C** **We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.**

**P** Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**C** **We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

**P** To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN** [ELW#510 "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"](#)

**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.**



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



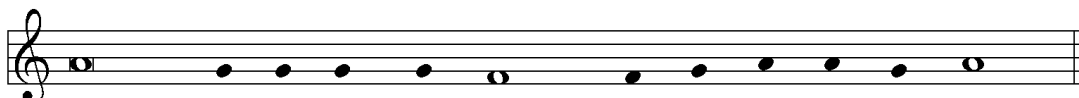
**A** For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



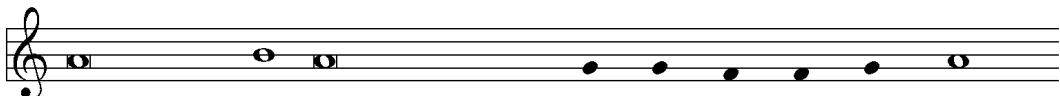
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



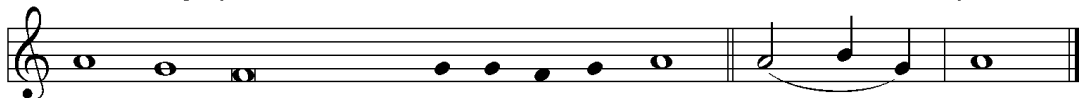
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

**HYMN OF PRAISE** [ELW#376 "Thine Is the Glory"](#)

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*Please be seated.*

**PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24**

**L** <sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a joyful sound.

**C** <sup>2</sup>**For the Lord Most High is to be feared: a great king over all the earth,**

**L** <sup>3</sup>who subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet;

**C** <sup>4</sup>**who chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

**L** <sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's horn.

**C** <sup>6</sup>**Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

**L** <sup>7</sup>For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with a song.

**C** <sup>8</sup>**God reigns over the nations; God is enthroned on high.**

**L** <sup>9</sup>The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.

**C** **The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.**

**ANTHEM** "One Bread, One Body," by John Foley; soloist - Brad Bondhus

## **ACTS 1:1-14**

**L** A reading from Acts: <sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** [ELW#838 "Beautiful Savior"](#)

SERMON: ([Sermon Audio Link](#))

*Please stand, as you are able.*

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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**

- L** Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

- L** Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

**L** Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**L** Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**L** Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain, Heidi Brackbill, Parker Brennan, Rebecca Brennan, Michelle Drayson, the Elshafei family, Alexis Erdman, Samantha Erdman, Jeff Fultz, Mary Goehring, Bob Hardy, Mark Hughes, the Johnson family, Robert Karner, Charles Larsen, Charlotte Leer, the McNamara family, Donna Mayhew, Wendy Neumann, Julie Obie, Peter Olsen, Dottie Reitz, Robert Reitz, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, MaKenzie Snyder, the Spiegler family, Chuck Trautwein, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**L** Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**L** Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**L** Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

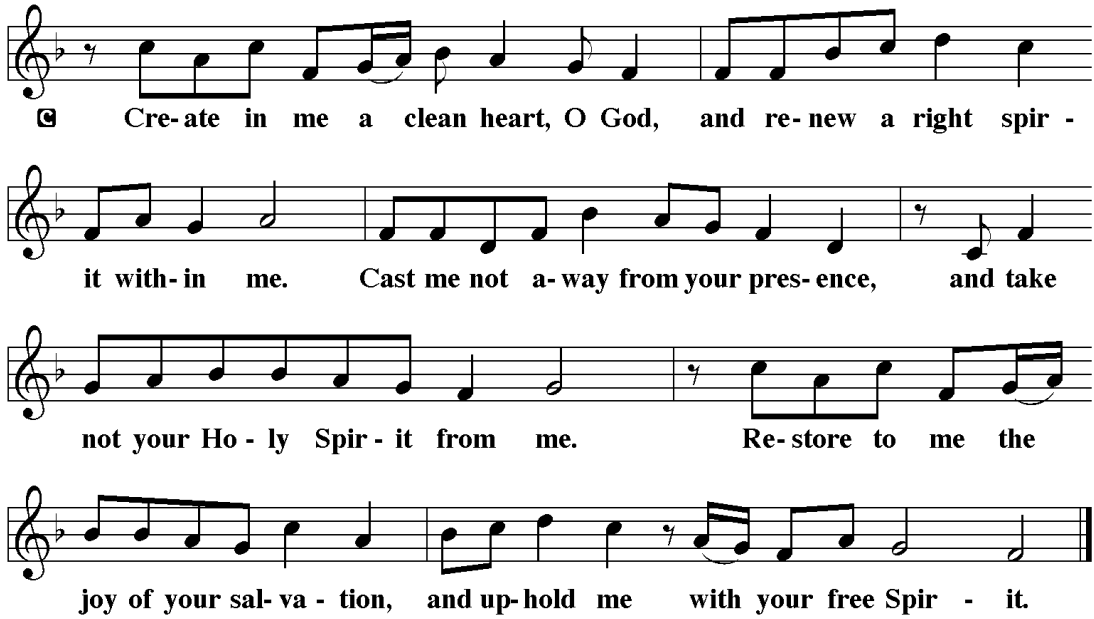
**C** **Amen.**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**OFFERING\*:** ([On-Line giving Link](#))

*The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.*



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the  
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

**P** Let us pray. Merciful Father,

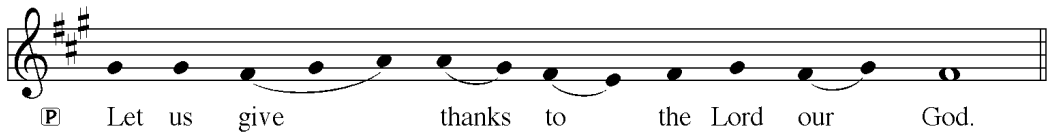
**C** **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

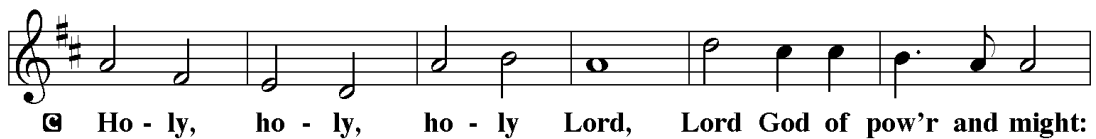


**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

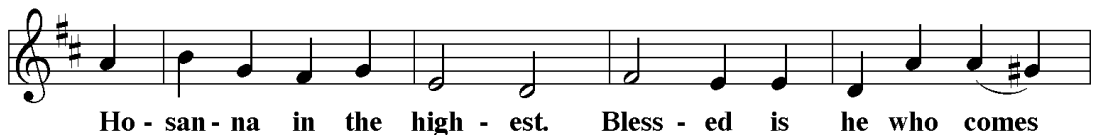
*The thanksgiving continues with the preface; the congregation responds:*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



**P** Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C Amen**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C** **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**

**P** The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for the table is now ready.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*After all have communed, the following is sung:*



**C** 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, grant us peace.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

**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**

**SENDING HYMN** [ELW#619 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives!" vv. 1-4](#)

**P** Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** "It is Well With My Soul," by Phillip Bliss and Martha Mier

\*Offering to be sent to  
Robert Brackbill  
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church  
9122 Sybert Drive  
Columbia Hills  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291)



A special "Thank You!" to Debbie and Brad Bondhus  
for providing musical leadership today,  
and we pray for safe travel for Katie and Ed Hawkins.

### Upcoming Narrative Lectionary Texts

|          |           |                             |
|----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| April 14 | 3 Easter  | Acts 3:1-10                 |
| April 21 | 4 Easter  | Acts 17:1-9 1 Thess. 1:1-10 |
| April 28 | 5 Easter  | Acts 18:1-4 1 Cor 1:10-18   |
| May 5    | 6 Easter  | 1 Cor 13:1-13               |
| May 12   | 7 Easter  | 1 Cor 15:1-26, 51-57        |
| May 19   | Pentecost | Acts 2:1-4; 1 Cor 12:1-13   |



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