

April 18, 2021
3rd Easter

Mt. Calvary, Upper Northfield
St. John's, Mahone Bay

Prepared By Pastor Brooklynn Lane



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Sunday, April 18, 2021

Service of the Word

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP – (written by Thom Shuman)

We are witnesses,

to the love God has poured into us.

We are witnesses of God's love,

sharing it with each person we meet.

We are witnesses to everyone we encounter,

little children, sisters and brothers, siblings,

all creation, all nations, the whole of God's family.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

Amen

GATHERING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds - Evangelical Lutheran Worship # 367
Sing Along: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYWM6jUelll>

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

You are gracious and merciful, O God, slow to anger, rich in love. Receive our prayers as you have
promised and uphold us by your Spirit, until all things, mended by your mercy, are made whole and
well in you, through Jesus Christ, our healer and our hope. **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Acts 3:12-19 (NRSV)

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

PSALM - Psalm 4 (NRSV)

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;

you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;

how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;

the Lord will hear me when I call.

Tremble, then, and do not sin;

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices,

and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart,

more than when grain and wine abound.

In peace, I will lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.

SECOND READING – 1 John 3:1-7(NRSV)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who

sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Word of God, word of life **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING – Luke 24:36b-48 (NRSV)

The holy gospel according to Luke

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, You Give the Great Commission - Evangelical Lutheran Worship #579

Sing Along: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bn_YyrfOUPk

NICENE CREED

**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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness
and bears the wounds of the world.
Therefore, let us be bold as we pray,
trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts
and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness
in the name of Jesus to all nations. Receive our prayers, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal
your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and
sustainable home. Receive our prayers, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and
strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your loving kindness to national, state,
and local leaders of people. Receive our prayers, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those
who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. Be close
to the hearts of the lonely. We pray this morning for Ran Schuey, Myrtle Andrews and Jocelyn
Wentzell. Receive our prayers, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal
yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual
love and bold witness. Receive our prayers, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gathering our many prayers into one, let us pray.

O loving God, you know the needs of all the world. By your Spirit, grant that we, having turned to you in prayer, now might turn to one another in peace, tend and keep what you have made, and love our neighbor with the love of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing - Evangelical Lutheran Worship #389

Sing Along: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ooY8qT159L0>

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be living signs of the resurrection!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Grocery Card Fund Raiser:**

Orders for the next **Grocery Gift Card** fundraiser are due to David Eisnor by Sunday April 25th. Remember that you can place your order early –and cheques postdated for Sunday April 25 are welcome! For more information, or if you have any questions please speak with David.

- **Council Meeting** Tuesday April 27 @ 7pm

- **Bible Study** will take place on Thursday April 29 @ 2 p.m. in the Christian Education Centre. All are Welcome

- **Wednesday Walking Club:** Are you looking for some fellowship and enjoy the outdoors? Please join Pastor Brooklynn every Wednesday morning (weather permitting) as we enjoy a leisurely 45 min stroll through the Town of Mahone Bay. Please meet at the church for departure at 9:30 am. Everyone is Welcome. **Start Date: April 28**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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