



April 26, 2020

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & ECDC
222 S. Church Street, PO Box 67, Wartburg, TN 37887
David W. Graves, Pastor 573-999-2648

Welcome everyone to our worship service today. If you are a guest, please fill out a fellowship card in the pew and sign one of our guest registry books located at the entrance doors. Please make your presence known to the Pastor if possible.

God bless your time in the Lord's House.

Church Office Hours are Monday-Friday 9am-3pm
Pastor David workdays are Sunday, Tuesday-Friday
Church 423-346-3554 / ECDC 423-346-3500

Website: www.splcwartburg.org

Email: stpauluthrn@highland.net

“LOVING GOD, LOVING PEOPLE, LOVING ALL FOR CHRIST

The Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome
 Prelude
 Ringing of the Bells

Opening Hymn #918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
 Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
 strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
make haste to help me, O Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

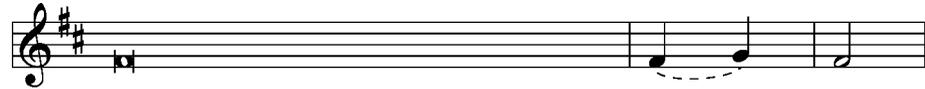


L The Lord is risen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.

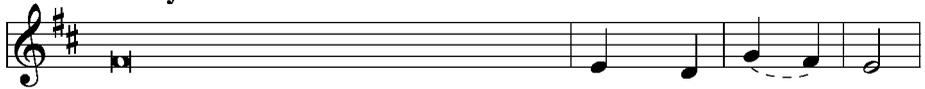


C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

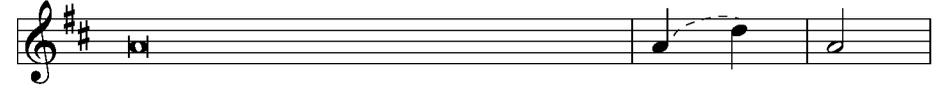
Venite



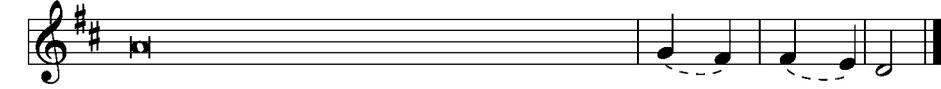
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,
5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.
5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



L The Lord is risen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Readings from Holy Scripture

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-25

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #585 Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide, For round us
 2 In these last days of great dis - tress Grant us, dear
 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold Speak tongues of
 4 May glo - rious truths that we have heard, The bright sword



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word,
 Lord, true stead - fast - ness That we keep pure
 fire and make us bold To shine Your Word
 of Your might - y Word, Spurn Sa - tan that



that sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.
 till life is spent Your ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment.
 of sav - ing grace In - to each dark and love - less place.
 Your Church be strong, Bold, u - ni - fied in act and song.

- 5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
 That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
 Or with some man-made thoughts or things
 Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.
- 6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
 Preserve our faith our whole life through—
 Your Word alone our heart's defense,
 The Church's glorious confidence.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

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.

Offering

Hymn of Praise #640 Thee We Adore, I Hidden Savior



1 Thee we a - dore, O hid - den Sav - ior, Thee,
 2 In this me - mo - rial of Thy death, O Lord,
 3 Thou, like the pel - i - can to feed her brood,
 4 Foun - tain of good - ness, Je - sus, Lord and God:
 5 O Christ, whom now be - neath a veil we see,



Who in Thy Sac - ra - ment art pleased to be;
 Thou dost Thy bod - y and Thy blood af - ford:
 Didst pierce Thy - self to give us liv - ing food;
 Cleanse us, un - clean, with Thy most cleans - ing blood;
 May what we thirst for soon our por - tion be:



Both flesh and spir - it in Thy pres - ence fail,
 Oh, may our souls for - ev - er feed on Thee,
 Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win
 In - crease our faith and love, that we may know
 To gaze on Thee un - veiled and see Thy face,



Yet here Thy pres - ence we de - vout - ly hail.
 And Thou, O Christ, for - ev - er pre - cious be.
 For - give - ness for our world and all its sin.
 The hope and peace which from Thy pres - ence flow.
 The vi - sion of Thy glo - ry, and Thy grace. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Kyrie

Like Mary at the empty tomb,
 we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors,
 we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room,
 we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, **have mercy on us.**

Lord's Prayer

Collect of the Day

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. **Amen.**

Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Collect for an End to Epidemic

Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress. In mercy put an end to the epidemic that afflicts us. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all that mourn. Sustain all medical personnel in their labors, and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

Closing Hymn #466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!
 4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
 5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;

Re - jice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
 Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.
 He has a - ris - en this world to save.
 Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.

For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go;
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 And in its con - quest His might did show.
 On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there."
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;
 Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Dear Saints of St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Today we are presented with Luke's gospel and his account of the Supper at Emmaus. We have been in John's gospel for a few weeks now and that is for good reason; John gives a rather long and detailed account of the resurrection and the events that happened immediately after it. Luke also has a longer resurrection account with some different details which we get today. Today of all days this reading seems comforting. We have been journeying on this strange road the Coronavirus has made for six weeks now and are weary and ready for it to be over. It has brought about a trauma that we all carry and one that will affect us for many years to come. The disciples endured a deep trauma as well; the death of Jesus Christ and now the word of his resurrection spreading but seemingly uncertain to these gentlemen. Life seemed rather unreal...much like it does now. We can empathize with how disorienting that can be! Jesus encounters them on the road and opens their hearts to what the Scriptures (the Old Testament) said about the Messiah, how he would come to die and rise from death, and while he seemed to be going farther they begged him to stay with them. As they sit at table Jesus takes the bread, blesses it, and gives it to them and at once they recognize him. This powerful account of the resurrection reminds us that Jesus is journeying on to be with more than just the disciples, his mission is *to* all of us and *in* all of us to spread the good news. Yet when we are weary, he stays with us and feeds us with himself. That is why our hearts burn for the Lord's Supper; we miss the Lord in the breaking of the bread. We miss the presence, the real physical presence of Jesus in the Sacrament. Once you have it, you know what it means to be without and that is a truly painful feeling. This journey seems to be a lonely one, one where we can feel less and less the presence of God. Never forget that Jesus is on this journey with you, and longs for you to finally say to him "stay with us Lord" and receive him in the supper he gives. I think we have learned a lot in this past month and a half, we have learned what is important, what is essential, and more our hearts cry out to Jesus; "stay with us Lord." When we gather back together, I hope that is our attitude towards the Lord's Supper and *why* we gather. We need this meal as we journey on, let's never take it for granted again, let's never let Jesus pass us by but beg him to stay, and yes beg him to stay every Sunday. We will emerge from this a truly changed congregation, I hope for the better, but through it all this time of trial and testing has been more and more purifying and needed no matter how horrible it has been. I appreciate the encouragement and the love of the Word that you have received in a new way via the Internet, wireless networks, etc. I can see the Lord working in each of you in such a new and exciting way and I look forward to where he is leading us in the weeks to come.

+Pastor David