

Sunday, April 26, 2020
Third Sunday of Easter

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font,
and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

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

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
 Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789
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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.**

Kyrie

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



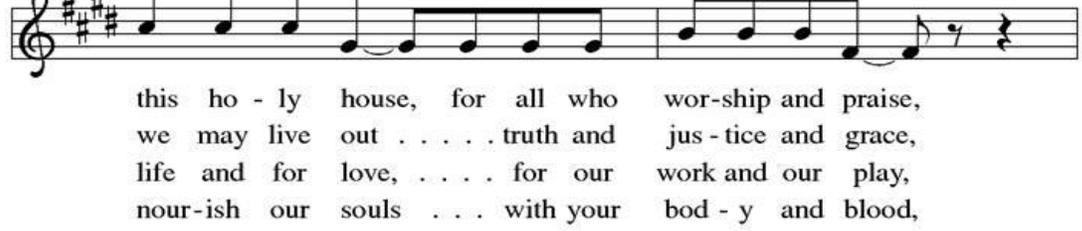
Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
hun-gry and the poor; that
friends and fam-i-ly; for
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



Refrain
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

**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.**

Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], 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.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter 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. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

¹²How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God’s people.

¹⁵**Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God’s people,

¹⁹**in the courts of the LORD’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. ***Alleluia.*** (John 20:29)

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, chapter 24.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But 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. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and 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. ²⁴Some 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.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But 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. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They 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?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Response after reading.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

You Are Mine



1 “I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 “I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 “I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom,

I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see.
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.

(2) In the



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here.
 Come and rest in me.
 all will know my name.
 up, now walk and live!

To stanza 2
 To refrain
 To refrain
 To refrain



Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine.”

To stanzas 3 and 4

4 “I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas

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Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

Separated in our residences but united by God's promises of restoration, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need, echoing today's psalm with the response, give ear to us.

A brief silence.

Come to the church, so burdened by heartache. Give us faith to know your loving presence among us. Open the scriptures to us, and nourish us with the bread of your word. Direct our clergy and church leaders (*Interim Bishop Peter Rogness and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton*), in their novel and difficult tasks. Bind into one all denominations around the globe in hope for the renewal of all things, and uphold the work of the World Council of Churches.
O God our merciful Savior,
give ear to us.

Come to the earth. Bless all the natural world. Renew landscapes, cleanse the waters, and protect the animals. Save your people especially at this time from destructive storms and floods. Keep viruses in check, for the sake of your beloved humans.
O God our benevolent Gardener,
give ear to us.

Come to the nations. Preserve all peoples from war and violence. Guide the leaders of nations, our president, our governors, and our legislators toward wise decisions in struggling against the virus and in reviving the economy. Teach all peoples how to share limited resources with those in greater need. Guide the work of the United Nations during this unprecedented situation.
O God our mighty Peacemaker,
give ear to us.

Come to all who suffer from the virus. Comfort the mourners, heal the sick, sustain medical workers. Empower those researchers who are seeking a vaccine. Stay with us, and accompany all those who are isolated or afraid. Give to those with prior ailments and chronic disease their necessary medical care. Especially we pray for those we name here before you (*especially Sadie Peterson, Joan Utzig, Lynne Gordon (Sharon & Russ Jones' daughter), Bonnie Hackl, Clarence Taplin, George Buringa (Tara's father-in-law), Gaile Meister (Tara Buringa's mother), Bruce Scholler, Janice Reeves (Marliss Buehlman's sister), Gary Brown, Melissa Wagner, Bill and Margaret Akins, Ron Fingerhut, Jackie Singleton, Evelyn Matten, Carolyn Dalton (friend of Barb Baxter), Rollie Jeans (Nancy Baenen's dad), Phil Phippen, Kirk Amble (son of Sharon and Russ Jones), Sophie, and David Williams*):

O God our compassionate Healer,
give ear to us.

As at Emmaus you joined the meal of the disciples, so come also to our tables. Uphold farmers, ranchers, migrant workers, and all who produce, package and market our food. Guard the health of those who work at grocery stores. Bless the efforts of local food banks. Enable us to feed the children who have relied on food given out at school. Show us how to feed the people living in refugee camps and nations experiencing famine and drought.

O God our generous Provider,
give ear to us.

Walk with us on our roadways, whether marked with sorrow or joy, and receive our petitions, both sad lament or fervent praise.

A brief silence.

O God our beloved Companion,
give ear to us.

Accept our praises for those who have died in the faith, including those who stricken with the virus, the medical workers who died healing others, and recently departed this week Catherine of Siena, the apostles Philip and James, and Bishop Athanasius, each of whom served you in their own time and place. Accompany us now, as you did them, until at the end of all things we feast at your table with all the saints in glory.

O God, the Mystery of Life,
give ear to us.

With bold confidence in your providence, O holy and gracious God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our saving Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING (a moment of silence is observed as we reflect on giving of our time, talents, and treasures as an offering to God)

Your continued financial giving is important for the health of our congregation – especially in this time. We appreciate your generosity, and we will need to work together to continue to support our mission. You always have the option to mail your offering to the church office, give by texting 833.914.1465, or sign up for Simply Giving by contacting Financial Secretary Scott Mueller at 608.588.5702 or scott.tami.mueller@gmail.com.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Ruler of heaven and earth,

Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need by giving of our time, talents, and treasures, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

Sending Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

LBW 315 (on last page)

Blessing

Dismissal

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and

heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha -
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in

bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

River Valley Neighbor Helping Neighbor fund now seeking donations

COVID-19 is impacting all of us, but some of our neighbors are having a tough time financially. They've lost their jobs or are unable to work, and are finding it difficult to pay their bills. They never thought that they would need help, yet they may not be able to stay in their homes, make their car payment, or keep their broadband service or other utilities without financial support.

And while we can't be together physically, we in the River Valley are still all in this together.

This is why the three area food pantries (Arena, Lone Rock, and Spring Green) and the River Valley Commons are partnering on the River Valley Neighbor Helping Neighbor fund. The fund's mission is, *"To assist River Valley community members with immediate financial needs during the COVID-19 crisis. Funds are available to help with housing, utilities, broadband, and transportation costs."*

All money donated to the fund will be used to pay bills for individuals in the River Valley school district area. Individuals will have to apply for funds. The application will be available by April 30.

Members of the committee working on the fund include Jean Alt, Megan Bond, Heather Chastain (Community Food Pantry of Spring Green), Carol Jefferson, Evelyn Matten, Stef Morrill (River Valley Commons), Kristi Porter (Arena Food Pantry), and Kathy Rossing (Lone Rock Food Pantry), assisted by River Valley Commons Board members Jack Demby and Joy Kirkpatrick.

This is a short-term fundraising campaign. We'll be taking donations for just one month – until May 24th – but will continue distribution after that date as needed. If we do not have enough funds to meet the needs, we may have an additional round of fundraising after June 15.

Every dollar will help. Even a small donation will be valuable to those in need. Please consider giving to the fund and helping your neighbors if you can.

To donate, visit the River Valley Commons website (<https://www.rivervalleycommons.org/>) or send a check to The Peoples Community Bank, PO Box 369, Spring Green, WI 53588. Checks should be made to the River Valley Commons with "RV Neighbors" in the memo line.