

**Service of Holy Communion**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 24, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

<b>PRELUDE</b>	<i>Christians, to the Paschal Victim</i>	- Charles Callahan
	<i>Earth, Earth, Awake!</i>	- Sally Ann Morris
	<i>O Filii et Filiae</i>	- Anthony Giamanco

**WELCOME**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!  
**He is risen indeed!**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of baptism:*  
In the name of the Father and of the Son + of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O Lord our God, we give you thanks

For the new life you raise up in us

Through the mystery of our baptism—

The sorrow of the empty cross,

The surprise of the empty tomb,

The love that death could not destroy.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,

Poured out upon us in baptism,

Fill us with the joy of the resurrection,

So that we may be a living sign

Of your new heaven and new earth;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

Red Book #363

## **GREETING**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed.**

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**                    *page 138 in the front of the red book*

**THIS IS THE FEAST**                    *page 140 in the front of the red book*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **THE WORD**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*Following the children's message, the children are blessed to go downstairs with their leaders for the children's church. The children's church returns to the sanctuary at the sharing of the peace.*

**FIRST READING**                    **Acts 5:27-32**

*Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.*

<sup>27</sup>When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather

than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 118:14-29**      *read responsively*

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:  
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>"This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

<sup>25</sup>**Hosanna! O LORD, save us!  
We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!**

<sup>26</sup>Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup>**The LORD is God and has given us light.  
Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

<sup>28</sup>You are my God, and I will thank you;

you are my God, and I will exalt you.

**<sup>29</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.**

## SECOND READING Revelation 1:4-8

*The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.*

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL****John 20:19-31**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John the twentieth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

**SERMON**

*The congregation may stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Now the Green Blade Rises*

Red Book #379

**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**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, full of compassion and love, help your church minister to the wounds of our hurting world even as we live in the joy of the resurrection. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Direct those who are given human authority to lead with humility and discernment. By your Holy Spirit, channel their attention toward the things that make for peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Surround those of different faiths with wisdom and compassion, and give us all grace to work together in mutual respect and cooperation. We remember especially Jews and Muslims who have also celebrated holy days this month. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold your children who cry out to you. We remember at this hour the people of Ukraine, those affected by mass shootings in Brooklyn and Pittsburgh, and all who live in the shadow of violence. Wherever people are overcome by the fear of death, breathe into them your life and peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Assist our congregation as we go through times of change. Help us encourage and build one another up as we walk each day as a community. Teach us to address challenges healthily and creatively. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort us by the memory of your saints who now see you face to face, and who lived on earth in times no less confusing than our own. Give us faith, hope, and love like theirs. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

### THE MEAL

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

#### ORGAN OFFERTORY

*With High Delight, Let Us Unite*

- Hans-Heinz Haase

#### OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

Blessed are you, O God, 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, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has



destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
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 death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,

and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

**Finally, as Jesus has taught us, we are bold to pray:**

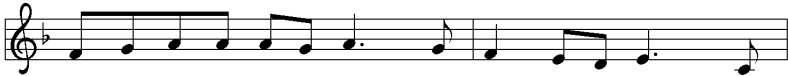
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

#### LAMB OF GOD



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.

## **SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive; please keep 6 feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.*

## **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *led by the assisting minister*

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you have given the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**      *Thine is the Glory*      Red Book #376

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**      *The Strife Is O'er*      - Alex Wyton

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Jim Cunningham	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Susan Farrell	<b>Reader</b>
Evan Stein	<b>Crucifer</b>
Holly Schubert	<b>Children's Church</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Josh Kamerer	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Heather Helsel	<b>PowerPoint Assisting Minister</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>
Susan Farrell and Larry Christy	<b>Ushers</b>
Bob and Karen Domanski	<b>Counters</b>

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Sue and Dan Morrow,  
in memory of Wil Morrow.*

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 4/25	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wed., 4/27	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 4/28	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 4/29		Pastor Kimberly's Day Off
Sat., 4/30	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)

### ZOOM MEETING INFO:

To join online, click 'Join Our ZOOM Meeting' in the email.

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Italian Dinner & Flea Market at St. Faustina Parish on Sat. April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Dinner will be take-out only from 3-6 p.m., with the flea market from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 342 Normal Ave. Slippery Rock, PA 16057

## PRAYERS

Family of Don Hapeman (Jeanette Cunningham's stepfather); family of Jim Petsinger; Ellen Dodge; family of Jean Morrow; Jamie McPoyle & family; Andrea Dubler; Keith Morgan; Jan Nieto; family of Marilyn Dempsey; Michelle; baby Mac & family; family of Megan Gibson; Chrissy; family of Charlie Stitt; Jennifer Hartle Fink; family of Rob Huey; the people of Ukraine & others affected by the conflict; Tracy Steadman & family; Cassidy; continued healing for John Negley; Tom Walker; Roberta; Cindy Regis & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Tad Sellers; Anne Ferguson; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson; Judy; Claudia; Karen; Anita

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### **Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]**

*Paul's conversion, baptism, and preaching*

### **Psalm 30**

*You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)*

### **Revelation 5:11-14**

*The song of the living creatures to the Lamb*

### **John 21:1-19**

*Jesus appears to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias*

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