

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and

resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

WELCOME! We are glad to have you join us in worship today. Here are a few notes to help you feel more at home participating in our worship.

Worshiping. Today's service is printed in this bulletin. Parts in **bold** indicate responses by everyone in which you are invited to participate.

Communion: *Lutheran Christians believe that the Lord Jesus Christ feeds us with his true body and blood "in, with, and under" the bread and wine in the Lord's Supper. All baptized Christians who receive Communion in their own churches are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please note that the darker wine is non-alcoholic and is available from the Lector. Communion will be distributed continuously, in procession. Please come forward as directed by the ushers.*

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

270 South Broadway + Hicksville NY 11801

Church Office: Monday/Tuesday 9 am - 2 pm Wednesday/Thursday 9 am - 3 pm, Friday Noon - 3 pm

Church Office: 516/931-0710

Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter

Christine Goetzger-Sedlak, President of the Congregation

Mason Griffin, Minister of Music

Fern Funk, Parish Administrator (*email ststephenoffice@msn.com*)

Church Website www.ststephenshicksville.com

Join us on Facebook: St. Stephens Lutheran Church, Hicksville, NY

+ GATHERING +

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **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. 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.

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 daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

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.

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 SONG: *As We Gather at Your Table* (ELW 522)



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-ph-ant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -



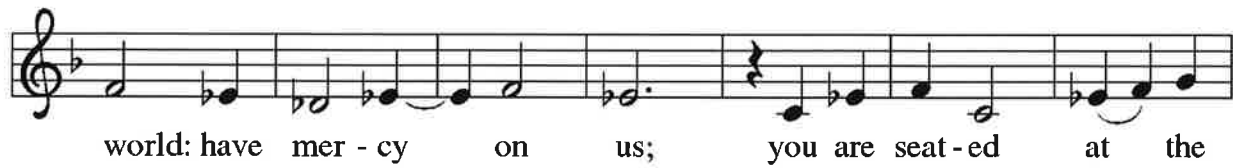
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



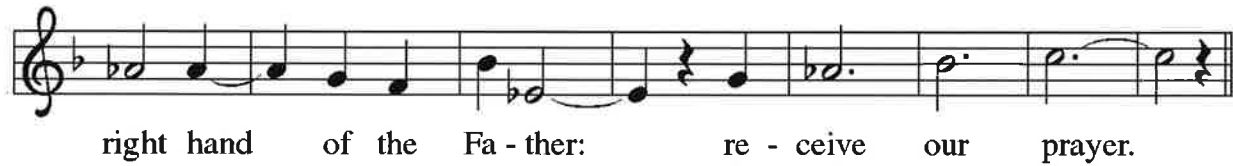
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the



right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

Refrain



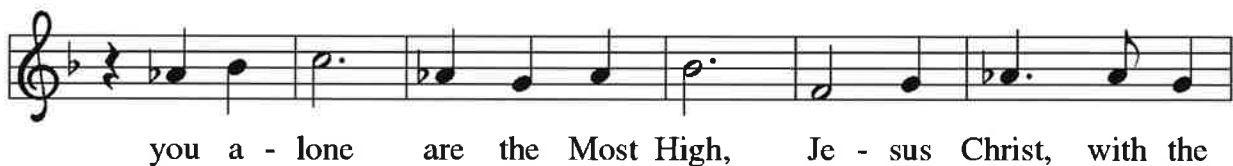
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, the high-est, and




peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 3 For you a-



lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the



Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.



A-men. A-men. A-men.

Final refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, the high-est, and peace to God's



peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

A reading from Acts.

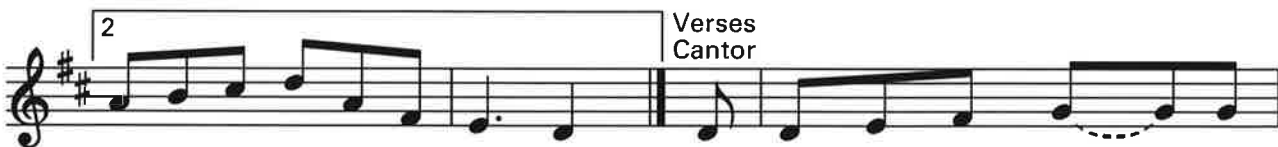
Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out." ...The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: This Day Was Made by the Lord ~ Christopher Walker



This day was made by the Lord, let us re-joyce, let us be glad.



let us re-joyce in sal - va - tion! 1. I thank you, your love is e -
2. Your hand raised me up _____ in
3. The stone which the build - ers re -
4. You o - pened the gates _____ of
5. ¶ You are my strength and my

1. ter - nal, you have giv - en me life. You have giv - en me life.
 2. tri-umph, you have giv - en me life. You have giv - en me life.
 3. ject - ed is the cor - ner - stone, _ is the cor - ner - stone. _
 4. heav - en, you have giv - en me life. You have giv - en me life.
 5. Sav - ior, you have giv - en me life. You have giv - en me life.

1-5. I will pro - claim the won - ders you do!

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from 1 John.

¹See 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.

²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

...The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

P The holy gospel according to Luke. C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.” ...The gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *We Remember* ~ Marty Haugen

Refrain

We re - mem - ber how you loved us to your death,
and still we cel - e - brate, for you are with us here;
and we be - lieve that we will see you when you come
in your glo - ry, Lord. We re - mem - ber, we
cel - e - brate, we be - lieve.

Verses



1. Here, a mil - lion wound - ed souls are
 2. Now we re - cre - ate your love, we
 3. Christ, the Fa - ther's great "A - men" to
 4. See the face of Christ re - vealed in



yearn - ing just to touch you and be healed.
 bring the bread and wine to share a meal.
 all the hopes and dreams of ev - 'ry heart,
 ev - 'ry per - son stand - ing by your side,



Gath - er all your peo - ple, and hold them to your heart.
 Sign of grace and mer - cy, the pres - ence of the Lord.
 Peace be - yond all tell - ing, and free - dom from all fear.
 Gift to one an - oth - er, and tem - ples of your love.

APOSTLES' CREED

A With the whole Church, we confess our faith.

C 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 OF INTERCESSION

A 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.

The response to the Prayers of Intercession is: C hear our prayer.

A 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.**

PEACE

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

P Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

+ MEAL +

OFFERING: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* (ELW 674)



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Refrain
Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **C Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you. **C And also 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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P ...Grace our table with your presence. **C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P ...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **C Come, Holy Spirit.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.


C Our Father, who art in heaven...

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. **C Thanks be to God.**

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

SONG DURING COMMUNION: *One Bread, One Body* (ELW 496)

Refrain



One bread, one bod - y, one Lord of all; one cup of
 bless - ing which we bless, and we, though man - y
 through - out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
 3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

Refrain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and 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. **C Amen.**

+ SENDING +

P The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. **C Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *We All Are One in Mission* (ELW 576)



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

O Lord, may I hunger for you, the bread of angels, the food of holy souls, the nourishing bread which sustains the hearts of men and women and contains in itself all sweetness. May my soul desire you, may it seek you, may it find you, may it tend to you, may it reach you. And be, yourself alone, my hope, my trust, my riches, my pleasure, my joy, my rest, my tranquility, the peace of my soul. Be my refuge, my consolation, my help and my strength. Be my wisdom, my portion, my good, my treasure, and may my soul remain eternally, firmly and immovably rooted in you alone. —*Bonaventure*

Upcoming Commemorations

**Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573;
renewers of the church**

Friday, April 19, 2024

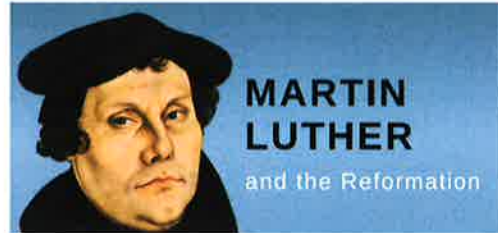
These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

Announcements for the week of *April 14, 2024*

*Altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and
in memory of John Bezko by Jeanne Bezko*

Our Next Zoom Study!

By popular demand, this six week course will focus on Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation. Let's have a conversation about Luther's movement from the Catholic Church, his work with Philip Melanchthon, and the beginnings of the Lutheran reform. We'll also explore how the Reformation spread in the 16th century. Please join us!



Sessions are on Zoom, Monday nights at 7 PM.

Dates for the course are: April 22 and 29, May 6, 13, 20, and June 3.

If you have any questions, please call Pastor Joann.

May Newsletter blurbs are due Wednesday, April 24. Email to TMaurer145@aol.com

WELCA Conference Bible Study ~ Wednesday, April 17 with Pr. Micah Stumme will not be in the park. It will be in St. David's Lutheran Church, Massapequa Park.

A chart on the lobby bulletin board allows us to designate weekly Sunday service altar flowers or the monthly sanctuary lamp candle as special memorial/in honor of gifts. Use the envelopes provided to forward the gift (\$25.00 for flowers; \$15.00 for candle). Be sure to include information concerning who is being honored/memorialized by your gift as well as your name, address and telephone number. You may also contact the church office at 516/931-0710.

PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK (April 14th - April 20th)

Today	3rd Sunday of Easter
	9:30 am Holy Communion
Tuesday	7:00 pm <i>Back to Basics (AA)</i>
Thursday	7:30 pm Property Committee
Next Sunday, 4th Sunday of Easter	
	9:30 am Holy Communion

SERVING AT WORSHIP TODAY

Sunday, 9:30 AM

ASSISTING MINISTER:	Jane Ebersberger
LECTOR:	Rich Humann
ACOLYTE:	Gavin Barone
ACCOMPANIEST:	Gregory Hunter
USHERS:	Tyler LaVorgna, John Musi
GREETER:	Maureen O'Brien
AUDIO/VISUAL:	Tyler LaVorgna
ALTAR GUILD:	Jane Ebersberger, Christel LaVorgna

PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you would like to have your name or your friend or family member's name added to the Prayer List, please call the office. Please remember to keep the office updated.

PRAY FOR OUR CONGREGATION

Lauren Artus
Dolly Braun
Dottie Eberhardt
Roger Engert
Dottie McPartlin
Lois Menik

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILIES

Joe (brother-in-law of Mark Hammaren)
Vinny Aiello (husband of Laureen Aiello)
Fred & Janet Barrell (brother-in-law & sister of Susan Portz)
Wendy & Joe Bezko Colligan (sister & brother-in-law of Jeanne Bezko)
Roseann DeGennaro (cousin of Laureen Aiello)
Joe DiSalvo (cousin of Maureen O'Brien)
James Ebersberger (brother of Jane Ebersberger)
Elaine Lehe (sister of Maureen O'Brien)
John Parrett (husband of Claire Parrett)
Krista Parrett (daughter-in-law of Claire Parrett)
David Smiloff (brother of Debbie De Louise)
Diana Smiloff (sister-in-law of Debbie De Louise)
Arlene Stafford (aunt of Kathy Hesse)

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS

Dan Buckholt (friend of Allison Barone)
Robert Ciaccio (friend of The Barone Family)
Ed & Marie Gomula & The Gomula Family (friends of Debbie De Louise)

John Judge (friend of Jane Ebersberger)
Carol Lorenzut (friend of Bill & Lauren Artus)
Ellen Motoi (friend of Maureen O'Brien)
Betty, John & Mary Beth Ott (friends of Jane Ebersberger)
Bill Stanton (friend of Kelli Barone)
Stephanie Thorton (friend of Hesse Family)