
3rd Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Opening Hymn #735

Long Before the World Is Waking

1. Long before the world is waking,
Morning mist on Galilee,
From the shore, as dawn is breaking,
Jesus calls across the sea;
Hails the boat of weary men,
Bids them cast their net again.

2. So they cast, and all their heaving
Cannot haul their catch aboard;
John in wonder turns, perceiving,
Cries aloud, "It is the Lord!"
Peter waits for nothing more,
Plunges in to swim ashore.

3. Charcoal embers brightly burning,
Bread and fish upon them laid:
Jesus stands at day's returning
In His risen life arrayed;
As of old His friends to greet,
"Here is breakfast; come and eat."

4. Christ is risen! Grief and sighing,
Sins and sorrows, fall behind;
Fear and failure, doubt, denying,

Full and free forgiveness find.
All the soul's dark night is past,
Morning breaks in joy at last.

5. Morning breaks, and Jesus meets us,
Feeds and comforts, pardons still;
As His faithful friends He greets us,
Partners of His work and will.
All our days, on ev'ry shore,
Christ is ours for evermore!

Invocation

*P: We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

C ♪: Amen.

Confession & Absolution

*P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and
confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C ♪: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.

**P & C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable
sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with
which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy
temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorrow
for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of
Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, inno-**

cent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

C ♪: Amen.

Gloria Patri

C ♪Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie

C ♪Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

The Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C ♪: And with thy spirit.

The Collect for the Day

P: Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪: Amen.

The First Reading – Acts 9:1-22

¹But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” ⁵And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the

Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” ²¹And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” ²²But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 30

Antiphon – Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

¹I will extol you, O Lord, for you have | drawn me up*
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

²O Lord my God, I cried to | you for help,*
and you have | healed me.

³O Lord, you have brought up my soul from | Sheol;*
**you restored me to life from among those who go
down | to the pit.**

⁴Sing praises to the Lord, O | you his saints,*
and give thanks to his | holy name.

⁵For his anger is but for a | moment,*
and his favor is for a | lifetime.

Weeping may tarry | for the night,*
but joy comes with the | morning.

⁶As for me, I said in my pros- | perity,*

“I shall never | be moved.”

⁷By your favor, | O Lord,*

you made my mountain | stand strong;

you hid | your face;*

I was | dismayed.

⁸To you, O Lord, | I cry,*

and to the Lord I plead for | mercy:

⁹“What profit is there in | my death,*

if I go down | to the pit?

Will the dust | praise you?*

Will it tell of your | faithfulness?

¹⁰Hear, O Lord, and be merciful | to me!*

O Lord, be my | helper!”

¹¹You have turned for me my mourning into | dancing;*

you have loosed my sackcloth

and clothed me with | gladness,

¹²that my glory may sing your praise and not be | silent.*

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for- | ever!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Antiphon – Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

The Second Reading – Revelation 5:8-14

⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding

a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Verse of the Day – Romans 6:9, Luke 24:32

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.

The Gospel Reading – John 21:1-19

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not

know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk

wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

P & C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #733
This Joyful Eastertide

1. This joyful Eastertide
Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain:

Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.

2. Death's flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver. [*Refrain*]

3. My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number. [*Refrain*]

Sermon Text – John 21:1-19

Sermon

Christ appears in power and majesty to strengthen faith

Offertory

C ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the

***joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.***

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Worthy are You, O Lord, to receive the praise and thanksgiving of Your people. For You have sent Your Son as the Lamb to ransom us by His blood and make us a kingdom of priests in Your service. Bless Your Church, that all we endeavor to do in Your name may be in accord with Your will. Accomplish Your holy purpose in calling many joyfully to know Your redemption.

**¹ By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest! ...**

P: Lord of life, You are glorified in the sufferings of Your faithful people. Teach us to trust You through all our trials and graciously bear up those who struggle among us, [*especially* _____,] that they would know the fullness of Your love.

**For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.**

P: Lord God Almighty, You have ordered all the nations of the earth and have set Your Church among them to shepherd them unto eternal life. Hear the prayers we continually offer for our rulers, [*especially* _____,] and grant them faithful and peaceful governance.

**¹² Praise for the light from heaven
And for the voice of awe;
Praise for the glorious vision
The persecutor saw. ...**

P: Ever-living God, You raised up Saul from among Your enemies, that he would suffer for Your name. Stir up all those baptized into Your name, and call many men to the service of Your Church. Sustain all [*including all missionaries*] who suffer for the Gospel, and continue to confound its enemies with Your wisdom.

**O Lord, for Paul's conversion,
We bless Your name today;
Come shine within our darkness,
And guide us on our way.**

P: Heavenly Father, one generation of Your saints commends Your works to another. As we have received Your glorious Gospel, grant all fathers and mothers strong and joyful faith to declare Your mighty acts to the generation to come. You gave Your Son to be the Lamb. He has given us His own flesh to be our food and His very blood to be our drink. Give us Your Holy Spirit so that we who approach His table may receive His gifts with repentant hearts and faith, that what we receive with our lips we may keep in holy hearts and show forth in holy lives.

**³ Then let us praise the Father
And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One, ...**

P: Lord of all nations, You provided a miraculous catch of fish to the apostles and, much more, blessed their efforts as fishers of men. Continue to bless the Church as she spreads the Gospel and gathers in as many as would be saved.

**Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow'r and glory
And praise to God alone.**

P: Lord, You are holy, and You sanctify us in Christ. Give us strength during temptation, courage in times of fear, comfort in distress and resolve in the face of persecution. Help us to abound in hope in every circumstance; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Communion Liturgy

P: The Lord be with you:

C ♪: And with Thy Spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts:

C ♪: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God:

C ♪: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly, meet, right and salutary...Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus

**C ♪: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: 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;

**C ♪: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

P: The peace of the Lord be with you alway!

C ♪: Amen.

The Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. A-men.

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis

**C ♪: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace,
According to Thy word.**

For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles And the Glory of Thy people Israel.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.**

The Thanksgiving

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good:

C ♪: And His mercy endureth forever.

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C ♪: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #341

Crown Him with Many Crowns

1. Crown Him with many crowns

The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

2. Crown Him the Virgin's Son,

The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose,
As of that rose the stem;
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.

3. Crown Him the Lord of Love.

Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wondering eye
At mysteries so bright!

4. Crown Him the Lord of Life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

5. Crown Him the Lord of Heaven,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is given
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns
For He is King of all.

Silent Prayer

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Portions of the Liturgy from the Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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