

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

16 APRIL 2023



**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

## *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 3*

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.  
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **EASTER GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

**C: Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.  
Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our  
resolve in seeking justice for all.**

P: Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails,

grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **HYMN #376 “THINE IS THE GLORY”**

### **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.**

### **♩ KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**♩ This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation.**

**Blessing, honor, glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign. Alleluia.  
This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...now and forever.*)

**C: Amen**

**READINGS**

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**♫ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**YOUTH SERMON – Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen**

**SERMON – Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen**

**HYMN #384 “THAT EASTER DAY WITH JOY WAS BRIGHT”**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED**

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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**

**P:** United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(Each petition ends: P: Risen Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)*

**P:** Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...our Savior and Lord.*)

**C: Amen.**

♫ **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

P: It is indeed right....and join their unending hymn:

♫ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**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.**



## ***HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED TODAY.***

*All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited to receive Holy Communion  
Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.**

### **HYMN #389 “CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING”**

#### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

**C: Amen**

#### **POST-COMMUNION HYMN (HYMN #619)**

♪ **I know that my Redeemer lives!  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living head!**

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...Jesus Christ our Lord.*)

**C: Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **HYMN #361 “THE DAY OF RESURRECTION!”**

#### **DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

#### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

#### **POSTLUDE**



**Pastor:** Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen  
**Organist:** Jason Boussetot or Linda Whitman  
**Acolyte:** Faith Will  
**Lector:** Eva Burke  
**Communion Assistant:** Cindy Burke  
**Usher:** Joe Morehead  
**Cleaners:** Ray and Deb Detlefs

**Contact Information:**

**Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen**

Cell Phone: (262) 914-9392

Email: [pastorleahhollnil@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleahhollnil@gmail.com)

**Church Office**

Phone: (563) 246-2622

Email: [clparish@fbcom.net](mailto:clparish@fbcom.net)

Website: [www.clparish.org](http://www.clparish.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/clparish1861](http://www.facebook.com/clparish1861)

**This Week At A Glance**

Wednesday	6:00 pm	Confirmation at Faith
	7:00 pm	Bible Jam at Faith
	8:30 pm	High School Bible Study at Faith
Sunday	8:00 am	Our Savior's Worship Service
	9:25 am	Sunday School at Faith
	10:30	Faith Worship Service – Youth-led

**Those to keep in prayer:** Mallory Boussetot; the homebound: Norman Boussetot, Carol Christensen, Shirley Ferguson, Ron Gasper, Delores Lahann, Myrna Kay Petersen, Rusty Porth, Betty Schau, Bus Seastrand and Vera St. John; and those serving in the military, Nick Timmerman.

**Pastor Dennis Rodenberg** (563.880.5345) may be called in case of emergencies or funerals while Pastor Leah is on maternity leave.

The **noisy offering** will be collected today, Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. The recipient is St. Peter Lutheran Church, Ft. Myers Beach, Florida. The church building was heavily damaged in hurricane Ian.

The **Youth-led Worship Service** will be Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Faith. The Sunday School children will sing the call to worship. The loose offering will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City, a place for families to stay close to their children receiving treatment at University of Iowa Hospitals.

If you would like to prepare a meal for the Nilsen's, an online account has been set up to choose your date. The website link is: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/yqyew1> (should say Meal Train for Leah Holloway-Nilsen). If you prefer, you may contact Deb Tulley or Amy Glover and they will be happy to assist you in signing up. Thank you.

# The Commission of Christ

by William Barclay

*John 20:19-23 Late on that day, the first day of the week, when for fear of the Jews the doors had been locked in the place where the disciples were, Jesus came and stood in the midst of them, and said: "Peace be to you." And when he had said this he showed them his hands and his side. So the disciples rejoiced because they had seen the Lord. Jesus again said to them: "Peace to you. Even as the Father sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you remit the sins of any, they are remitted; if you retain them they are retained."*

It is most likely that the disciples continued to meet in the upper room where the Last Supper had been held. But they met in something very like terror. They knew the envenomed bitterness of the Jews who had compassed the death of Jesus, and they were afraid that their turn would come next. So they were meeting in terror, listening fearfully for every step on the stair and for every knock at the door, lest the emissaries of the Sanhedrin should come to arrest them too. As they sat there, Jesus was suddenly in their midst. He gave them the normal everyday eastern greeting: "Peace be to you." It means far more than: "May you be saved from trouble." It means: "May God give you every good thing." Then Jesus gave the disciples the commission which the Church must never forget.

(i) He said that as God had sent him forth, so he sent them forth. Here is what Westcott called "The Charter of the Church." It means three things.

(a) It means that Jesus Christ needs the Church which is exactly what Paul meant when he called the Church "the body of Christ" (Ephesians 1:23; 1 Corinthians 12:12). Jesus had come with a message for all men and now he was going back to his Father. His message could never be taken to all men, unless the Church took it. The Church was to be a mouth to speak for Jesus,

feet to run upon his errands, hands to do his work. Therefore, the first thing this means is that Jesus is dependent on his Church.

(b) It means that the Church needs Jesus. A person who is to be sent out needs someone to send him; he needs a message to take; he needs a power and an authority to back his message; he needs someone to whom he may turn when he is in doubt and in difficulty. Without Jesus, the Church has no message; without him she has no power; without him she has no one to turn to when up against it; without him she has nothing to enlighten her mind, to strengthen her arm, and to encourage her heart. This means that the Church is dependent on Jesus.

(c) There remains still another thing. The sending out of the Church by Jesus is parallel to the sending out of Jesus by God. But no one can read the story of the Fourth Gospel without seeing that the relationship between Jesus and God was continually dependent on Jesus' perfect obedience and perfect love. Jesus could be God's messenger only because he rendered to God that perfect obedience and love. It follows that the Church is fit to be the messenger and the instrument of Christ only when she perfectly loves him and perfectly obeys him. The Church must never be out to propagate her message; she must be out to propagate the message of Christ. She must never be out to follow man-made policies; she must be out to follow the will of Christ. The Church fads whenever she tries to solve some problem in her own wisdom and strength, and leaves out of account the will and guidance of Jesus Christ.

(ii) Jesus breathed on his disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit. There is no doubt that, when John spoke in this way, he was thinking back to the old story of the creation of man. There the writer says: "And the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being" ([Genesis 2:7](#)). This was the same picture as Ezekiel saw in the valley of dead, dry bones, when he heard God say to the wind: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breath upon these slain that they may live" ([Ezekiel 37:9](#)). The coming of

the Holy Spirit is like the wakening of life from the dead. When he comes upon the Church she is recreated for her task.

(iii) Jesus said to the disciples: "If you remit the sins of anyone, they are remitted; if you retain them, they are retained." This is a saying whose true meaning we must be careful to understand. One thing is certain--no man can forgive any other man's sins. But another thing is equally certain--it is the great privilege of the Church to convey the message of God's forgiveness to men.

Suppose someone brings us a message from another, our assessment of the value of that message will depend on how well the bringer of the message knows the sender. If someone proposes to interpret another's thought to us, we know that the value of his interpretation depends on his closeness to the other.

The apostles had the best of all rights to bring Jesus' message to men, because they knew him best. If they knew that a person was really penitent, they could with absolute certainty proclaim to him the forgiveness of Christ. But equally, if they knew that there was no penitence in his heart or that he was trading on the love and the mercy of God, they could tell him that until his heart was altered there was no forgiveness for him. This sentence does not mean that the power to forgive sins was ever entrusted to any man or men; it means that the power to proclaim that forgiveness was so entrusted; along with the power to warn that forgiveness is not open to the impenitent. This sentence lays down the duty of the Church to convey forgiveness to the penitent in heart and to warn the impenitent that they are forfeiting the mercy of God.

Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT) – Public Domain