

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 18-19 2026  
*Holy Communion*

The Prelude is a signal to *end our conversation* and prepare our hearts for worship.

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND *Baptism Central 10am (u)***  
**PASSING OF PEACE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP "SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT"**

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spi - rit of\_ the Lord.  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the pre - sence of\_ the Lord.

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!
- C** Amen.
- P** Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

- C** You guide us to springs of the water of life.

- P** Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.
- C** You guide us to springs of the water of life.
- P** Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.
- C** You guide us to springs of the water of life.
- P** Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## **GATHERING HYMN**

## **“LEAD ON O KING ETERNAL”**

- 1** Lead on, O King eternal!  
The day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
your tents will be our home.  
Through days of prepara - tion  
your grace has made us strong\_;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.
- 3** Lead on, O King eternal:  
we follow, not with fears,  
for gladness breaks like morning  
where'er your face appears.  
Your cross is lifted o'er\_ us;  
we journey in its light\_;  
the crown awaits the conquest;  
lead on, O God of might!

## **GREETING**

- P** May peace be to this house and all who enter here. 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**

**Ref. Kyrie eleison, on our world\_ and on our way,  
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church,  
for the unity of all;  
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord (*Refrain*)**
- 4 For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives  
in the water and the Word;  
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord (*Refrain*)**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** Let us pray together.
- C** 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.

*(d)*

## **ANTHEM**

## LESSON OF THE DAY

**Acts 2:14, 36-41**

### The lesson begins:

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

**P The Word of the Lord.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

*(u)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Al - leluia, al - lelu - ia, al - leluia, alle - luia.**

### GOSPEL

**Luke 24:13-35**

**P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twenty-fourth chapter.**

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of

Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

**📖 The Gospel of the Lord.**

**👏 Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(d)*

**SERMON**

*(u)*

**SERMON RESPONSE "RESTORE IN US, O GOD"**

**Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;  
Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**

**APOSTLES' CREED OMIT CENTRAL 10am**

- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.**
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

*(d)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

- P Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.**

*A brief silence.*

- P Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Lord, in your mercy,**
- C Hear our prayer**
- P God of justice, where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace, where there is hurt bring healing. Lord, in your mercy,**
- C Hear our prayer**

- P** Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick (*especially*). Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C** Amen.

## OFFERING

*(u)*

### THE OFFERTORY "CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART"

Create in me a clean heart\_, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within\_ me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spir-it from\_ me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free\_ Spir-it.  
Create in me a clean heart\_, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within\_ me.

### THE 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 him thanks and praise.
- P** 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 cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **SANCTUS (SUNG)**

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

**¶ Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.**

**On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."**

**When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of**

you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**P** On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith

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

**P** Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** As a community, let us pray in the way our Lord Jesus has taught us: **(SPOKEN)**

**C** **Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. A - men.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

*(d)*

**THE COMMUNION** is given and received.

*(u)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

## THE BENEDICTION

### SENDING HYMN

### "MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE"

- 1** My Jesus, I love\_ thee, I know thou art mine;  
for thee, all the fol - lies of sin I resign;  
my gracious Redeem - er, my Sa - vior art thou\_;  
if ever I loved\_ thee, my Je - sus, 'Tis now.
- 2** I love thee because\_ thou hast first loved me,  
and purchased my par - don on Calvary's tree;  
I love thee for wear - ing the thorns\_ on thy brow\_;  
if ever I loved\_ thee, my Je - sus, 'Tis now.

## DISMISSAL

**A** Let us go forth in the name of the Lord.

**G** To know Christ, and to make Christ known.  
Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

# And Can It Be

Words by  
Charles Wesley

Music by  
Thomas Campbell



1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest in the  
2. 'Tis mys - t'ry all th'Im - mor - tal dies! Who can ex - plore His  
3. He left His Fa - ther's throne a - bove; So free, so in - fi -  
4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in sin and  
5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and all in



Sav - ior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For  
strange de - sign? In vain the first - born ser - aph tries to  
nite His grace. Emp - tied Him - self of all but love, and  
na - ture's night; Thine eye dif - fused a quick - 'ning ray, I  
Him is mine! A - live in Him, my liv - ing Head, and



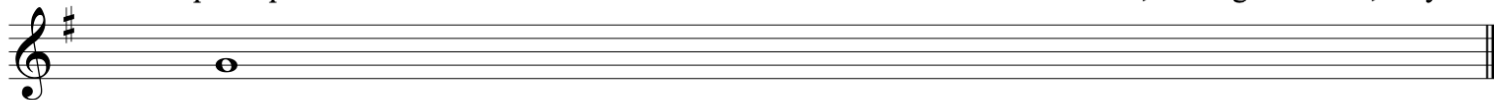
me, who Him to death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love! How can it  
sound the depths of love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all! Let earth a -  
bled for Ad - am's help - less race. 'Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and  
woke, the dun - geon flamed with light. My chains fell off; My heart was  
clothed in right - eous - ness di - vine; Bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal



be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? A -  
dore; Let an - gel minds in - quire no more. 'Tis  
free, for, O my God, it found out me. 'Tis  
free. I rose, went forth and fol - lowed Thee. My  
throne and claim the crown, through Christ, my own. Bold



maz - ing love! how can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for  
mer - cy all! Let earth a - dore; Let an - gel minds in - quire no  
mer - cy all, im - mense and free, for, O my God, it found out  
chains fell off; My heart was free. I rose, went forth and fol - lowed  
I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal throne and claim the crown, through Christ, my



me?  
more.  
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Thee.  
own.