

The Second Sunday of Easter  
April 11, 2021

Faith Lutheran Church

Online

Georgetown, TX 78628

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flcms.org

*(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)*

**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION:**

*Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

**EASTER ACCLAMATION:**

*Vicar: Christ is risen!*

**People: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 148:1-6*

*Vicar: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!*

**People: Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

*Vicar: Let them praise the name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created.*

**People: And He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

*Vicar: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,*

**People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN:** “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” (Lutheran Service Book, #477)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:

Sing to God a hymn of gladness,

Sing to God a hymn of praise;

He who on the cross a victim

For the world’s salvation bled—

Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,

Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!  
Death at last has met defeat:  
See the ancient pow'rs of evil  
In confusion and retreat;  
Once He died, and once was buried:  
Now He lives forevermore,  
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,  
Whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glory be to God on high:  
Alleluia to the Savior  
Who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit,  
Fount of love and sanctity!  
Alleluia, alleluia  
To the triune Majesty!

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## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:**

*Vicar: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Vicar: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

*Vicar: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy*

*Spirit. May the Lord, Who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**People:** Amen.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*Pastor: The Lord be with you.*

**People:** And also with you.

*Pastor: Let us pray.*

**People:** The whole creation extols Your name, triumphant Lamb of God; the universe proclaims Your glory. You were slain, and with Your blood You redeemed the world. Now risen from the dead You live and reign over all things, exercising heavenly might to bless Your people. Lord Jesus, keep the joy of Your resurrection fresh in our hearts, and by that joy propel us into avenues of discipleship that gladly share Your life with others. Amen.

**FIRST READING:** Acts 4:32–35

The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

**RESPONSORY:** Psalm 148:7-8, 13

*Lector:* Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word.

**People:** Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven.

**EPISTLE READING:** 1 John 1:1—2:2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of Life— the Life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the Eternal Life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have

fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**RESPONSORY:** Psalm 148:7a, 11-12, 14a

*Lector: Praise the LORD from the earth, [you] kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth; young men and maidens together; old men and children!*

**People: [For the LORD] has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!**

*Lector: Please rise, as you are able.*

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL READING:** John 20:19–31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe.”

Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

*Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**People: Praise to You, O Christ!**

*Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Apostles' Creed*

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

The Children's Message will return to its regularly scheduled place when we are able to increase the length of the worship service. Until then, it is available online at [www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons).

**HYMN:** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” (LSB, #475)

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord of life is ris’n this day;  
Bring flow’rs of song to strew His way;  
Let all the world rejoice and say:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory  
That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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**SERMON:** “Cosmic Celebration” (Psalm 148)

**OFFERTORY:**

While the Coronavirus may have changed the way we come through the front doors of church, thanks be to God it has not prevented us from coming to Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and giving today at [www.flcms.org/index.php/give](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/give).

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** “Voices Raised to You We Offer” (LSB, #795, verse 3)

Christ, the song of Love incarnate,  
Touching earth with heaven’s grace,  
For Your living, suff’ring, dying,  
For Your rising, hear our praise!

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, Redeemer, Lord of life!

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## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

### **THE 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.**

### **EASTER GREETING:**

*Vicar: Christ is risen!*

**People: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

### **BENEDICTION:** *(Hebrews 13:20-21)*

*Vicar: May the God of peace, Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will,*

**People: and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN:** "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands" (LSB, #458, verses 1, 3, 6, 7)

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands  
For our offenses given;  
But now at God's right hand He stands  
And brings us life from heaven.  
Therefore let us joyful be  
And sing to God right thankfully  
Loud songs of alleluia!  
Alleluia!

Christ Jesus, God's own Son, came down,  
His people to deliver;  
Destroying sin, He took the crown  
From death's pale brow forever:

Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns;  
An empty form alone remains;  
Its sting is lost forever.  
Alleluia!

So let us keep the festival  
To which the Lord invites us;  
Christ is Himself the joy of all,  
The sun that warms and lights us.  
Now His grace to us imparts  
Eternal sunshine to our hearts;  
The night of sin is ended.  
Alleluia!

Then let us feast this Easter Day  
On Christ, the bread of heaven;  
The Word of grace has purged away  
The old and evil leaven.  
Christ alone our souls will feed;  
He is our meat and drink indeed;  
Faith lives upon no other!  
Alleluia!

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**DISMISSAL:**

Please be seated  
and kindly wait for an usher to dismiss your row.

+ † +

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**In Christian Service:**

All disciples of the Lord Jesus  
*with*

Proclaimer – Rev. Walt Pohland  
Liturgist – Vicar John Cotner

Musicians: adam perez



Adam Perez and Austin Angerman

Organist: Joshua Chai

Lay Readers:

Online Reader – Carol Hancock

8:00 Lector – Janine Alford

9:30 Reader – Lance Kroesch

11:00 Reader – Mike Whittaker

Children's Chapel:

DCE Jonathan Loesch, DCE Austin Angerman