



**Come to Believe † Come to Belong**  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
April 14, 2024

**PRELUDE**

Rob Aaron

*“Come to believe, Come to belong, Come to receive, the promise of God”*

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

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence for self-reflection)*

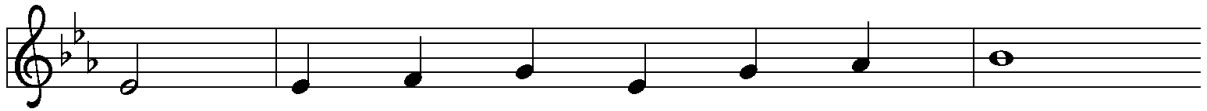
Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG

*“Now, All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”*



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: “Christ has  
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has  
set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of  
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!” Now still he  
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!” Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
strife. “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
say: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

# KYRIE (Lord, Have Mercy)

Leader  
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly  
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have  
For the reign of God, and for  
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
Lord. For your  
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of

God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together: **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. Amen.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*“Because He Lives”*

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

<sup>12</sup>And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

<sup>17</sup>“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 4

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!  
**You have given me relief when I was in distress.**  
**Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!**  
<sup>2</sup>O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?  
**How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**  
<sup>3</sup>But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;  
**the LORD hears when I call to him.**  
<sup>4</sup>Be angry, and do not sin;  
**ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.**  
<sup>5</sup>Offer right sacrifices,  
**and put your trust in the LORD.**  
<sup>6</sup>There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?”  
**Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”**  
<sup>7</sup>You have put more joy in my heart  
**than they have when their grain and wine abound.**  
<sup>8</sup>In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
**for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

## SECOND READING

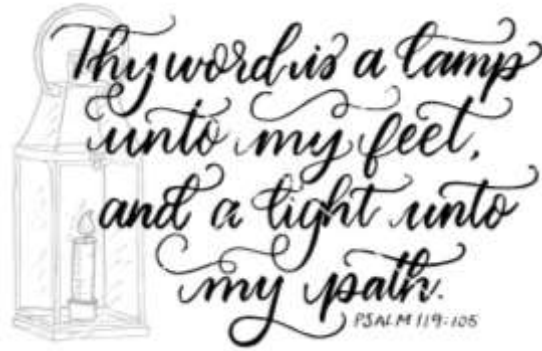
1 John 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup> See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me*

*And nothing will I fear as long as you are near, please be near me to the end.*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

## **GOSPEL**

Luke 24:36-48

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### **Glory to You, O Lord!**

<sup>36</sup>As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" <sup>37</sup>But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate before them.

<sup>44</sup>Then 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.

The gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to You, O Christ!**

## **SERMON**

Pastor Gary Heltsley

## HYMN OF THE DAY

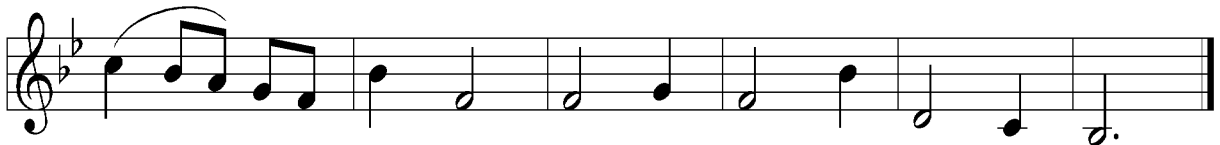
*“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”*



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, from the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P) Let us pray to our victorious Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people.

*A brief silence*

Make this congregation bold to proclaim you as our risen Lord. Help us to speak and act in ways that reflect your holiness and love to those around us.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Grant to our children your dearest blessings. Teach them to trust you with all their heart, and to find happiness in sharing your love with their friends and family.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Deliver all people from the powers of sin, evil, and death. Raise up leaders who seek to do your Father's will. Especially we pray for our elected and appointed leaders, and for the welfare of this country. Establish your people in righteousness, liberty, and peace.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Look with kindness upon all who tend the land and feed the nations with the fruits of their labor. Make them wise and faithful stewards of your bounty. Grant sun and rain in due measure, and preserve your good land from blight, drought, flood, wind, and fire.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

We pray on behalf of all whose needs of body, soul and mind are great, especially those we name out loud or silently in our hearts (*allow time for silent or spoken prayers*). Change their suffering into patient endurance, and their sorrow into enduring hope. Transform shame, guilt, and despair into hope-filled repentance.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Lord Jesus, thank you for fulfilling your promises to those who died trusting in you. Comfort those who mourn. Walk with us each day. Transform us into your blest likeness. On that great day when we see you face to face, let us with perfect clarity see you also in the faces of all whom you have redeemed.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

P) Grant to us all that is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you are risen from the dead and dwell in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY *Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together...

Loving God, we give you thanks for the generous gifts you have first given us.  
May that which we offer to you, come joyfully from our hearts and be  
pleasing in your sight. Amen.

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Sung)*

*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. Amen.*

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** – We believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine/juice, which are his body and blood. All are welcome at the Lord's Table (*the red liquid is wine; the white liquid is grape juice*).

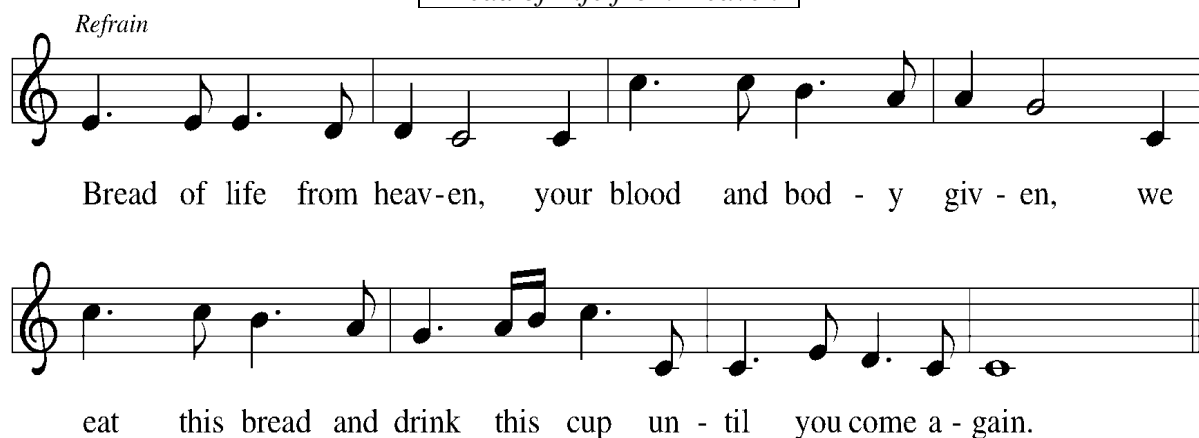
#### "Lamb of God"



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.

#### "Bread of Life from Heaven"

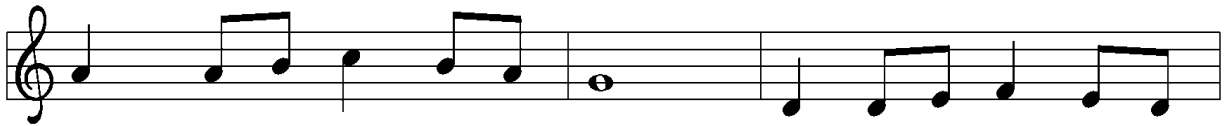
*Refrain*



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod-y giv-en, we  
eat this bread and drink this cup un-til you come a-gain.



1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing  
 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your  
 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -  
 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your  
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be  
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the  
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is  
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly  
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

*Refrain*

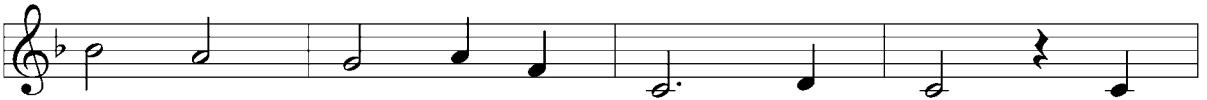


sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.  
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.  
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.  
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.  
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

*"I Love You Lord"*



I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to



wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take



joy, my king, in what you hear; may it be a



sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

"They'll Know We are Christians by our Love"



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,  
we will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,  
and all praise to Christ Je-sus, God's on-ly Son,



and we pray that all u-ni-ty may one day be re-stored:  
and to-geth-er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
and we'll guard hu-man dig-ni-ty and save hu-man pride:  
and all praise to the Spir-it, who makes us one:

*Refrain*

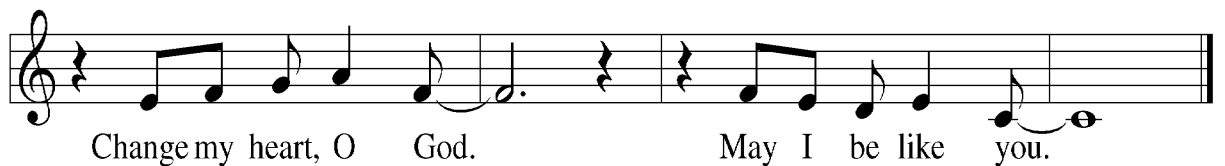
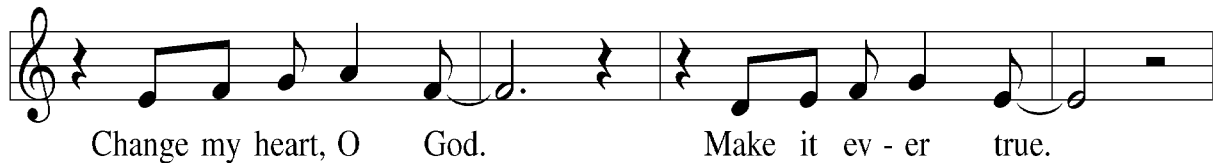
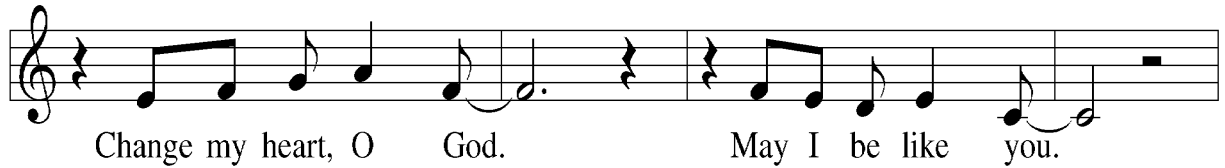
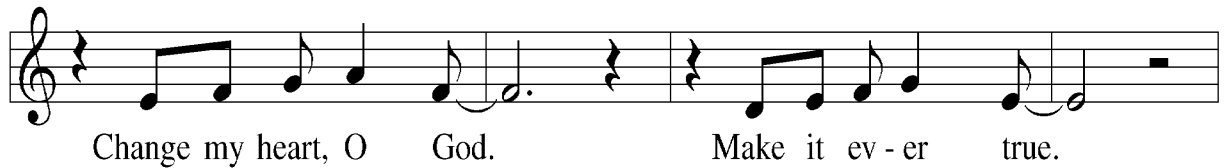


And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love. \_\_\_\_\_

*“Change My Heart O God”*



**POST COMMUNION BLESSING and PRAYER**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray together...**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING SONG**

**“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: “Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: “Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood.”  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: “I am with you ev - er - more”?  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood.”

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Rob Aaron – piano ~ Nancy Martin – choir director

Pr. Gary Heltsley – presiding

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Greeters:** Guy & Barb Bralley

**Ushers:** Greg Hanson & Liz Webber

**Reader:** Rob Aaron

**Barista:** Barb Evans

**Sacristans:** Arlene Burton & Patty Rogers

**Communion Assistants:** Diane Heltsley & Jane Indorf

**Altar Flowers:** Eastman Family

**Close Up:** Rosemary Wheaton

**Last Week's Attendance:** 98    **Last Week's Offering:** \$7,038.00

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to North Bay Lutheran Community Church!** We hope you are blessed today as we worship the Lord together. If you are a visitor, please feel free to fill out an attendance card located in the slot in front of you and drop it in the offering plate. We also invite you to stay for fellowship following our service. We are glad that you're here!

**Fellowship Time Today** – *Appetizer Sunday*. **April 21<sup>st</sup>:** *Bring anything from the North Bay Cookbook.*

**Neighborhood Bible Study** will meet on **Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>** at 12:45pm. For more information, please contact Sue Nichols at 360-277-3414.

**Dementia Support Group** will meet on **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 am. For more information, please contact Patty at 360-271-0055 (C) or 360-275-3939 (H), or email at palmcanal@hotmail.com.

**Women's Bible Study** will meet **Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Shari Stormo at 360-275-7808.

**NO Men's Bible Study.** We will be taking a break this week. We will meet again on **Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>** at 8:00 am as we continue our study of the Gospel of Luke.



**Church Directory** – It’s time to update and re-print the NBLCC telephone/address directory. Please let the office know if you would like to be added to the directory or if you have any changes that need to be made. Blue directory forms are available on the table outside the office, or you can submit your changes on the yellow communication cards that are located in the pews. Please submit your changes/additions to the office by **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Office Hours** this week are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm – Monday through Thursday. The church will be open on Friday for the Women’s Bible Study.

**Pastor Gary** is away from the office this week.

**Prayers** – Please call the church line with your prayer requests, or if you need pastoral care (360) 275-3390.

**READINGS FOR APRIL 21, 2024**

Acts 4:5-12 ~ Psalm 23 ~ 1 John 3:16-24 ~ John 10:11-18

**SERMON NOTES**

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**NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
PO Box 1643 - 221 E Lakeland Dr. - Allyn, WA 98524  
Phone: (360) 275-3390  
Email: office@northbaylutheran.org  
Web site: www.NorthBayLutheran.org