Peace

be with you JOHN 20:19

Highland Lutheran Church

38809 NE 41st Ave. La Center www.HighlandLutheranChurch.com 360.263.2302

Welcomes You

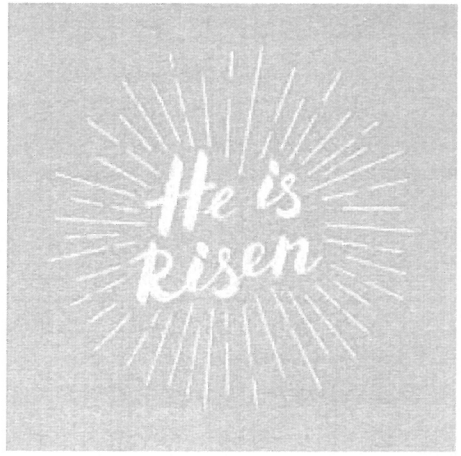
Sunday, April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

WELCOME to worship today!

There will be no refreshments following worship.

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.



WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Music for Reflection

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Lector: Pastor Erik

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 133

How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

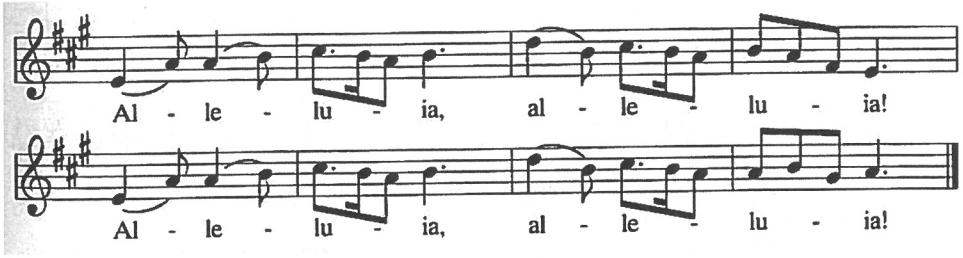
It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life forevermore

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Celtic Alleluia



Gospel: John 20:19-31

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

~Message~

Hymn of the Day *Solo*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Hear us, O God.
C: Your mercy is great.

Today we pray for the Lord's care: for those impacted by Covid-19 and for the nation as we seek racial harmony. Also for Matthew Craig, Phyllis Grauer, Billie Rebello, Pauline Morrison, Dan Smith, Britney Thompson, Robert Collinger, Daniel Vickoren, Bruce & Nathianiel Cowan, & Evvy Allen~

Today we thank God for the lives of those marking special days this week.

Birthdays: 4/11 Sandy Morkert & Steve Pazolt, 4/12 Cody Ballard, 4/16 Ed DeLano & Scott Peabody~

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.

THE OFFERING

We invite members and friends to give in response to God's grace among us. Our offering is a sign of caring for the work of the Gospel and is a significant act of worship.

If you wish to make an offering to the church, our mailing address is:
Highland Lutheran Church
38809 NE 41st Ave,
La Center, WA 98629

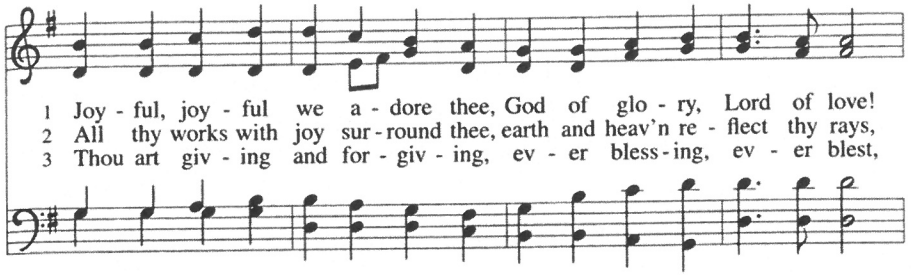
you can also give digitally through our website, highlandlutheranchurch.com or through the GivePlus app, available on Android and Apple phones

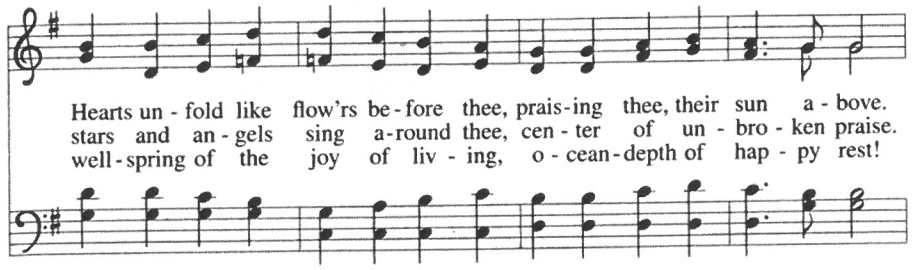
Blessing

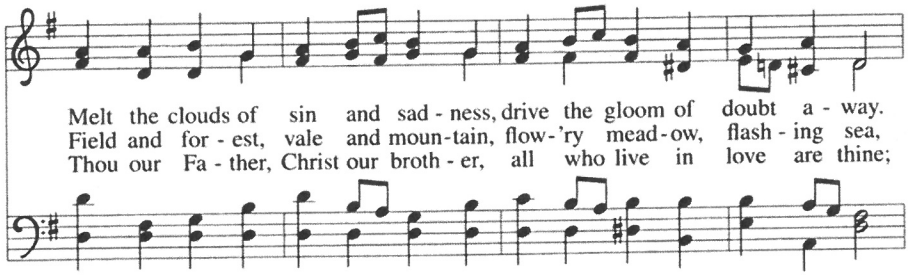
P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

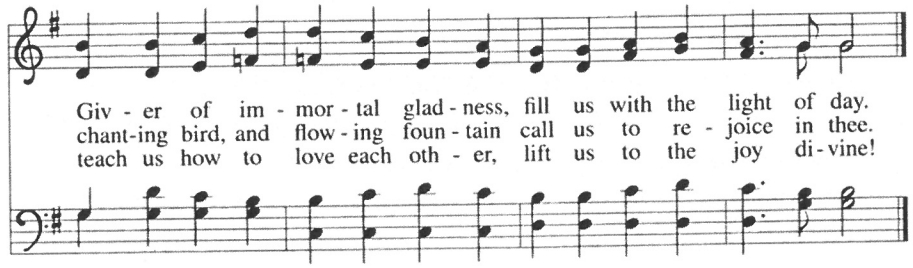
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn ELW 836 *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"*









Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

HYMN TO JOY
8 7 8 7 D

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Announcements

To help us maintain social distancing, we would like for everyone to wait to be ushered out at the end of the service.

Our usher will start from the back rows and proceed to the front. Thank you for your patience!

A well-deserved Thank You! to Mike Kuschel and his crew at A-New-View for installing our *truly beautiful* new ceiling and doors to the sanctuary. A special thanks also goes to Sharon, Loran, Jan, Maggie, beverly, & Cindy for helping to prep and stain the wood for the ceiling. If you have received your monthly Beacon, you'll see lots of pictures documenting their hard work. Also, thanks to Highland's worship committee for helping to get our church ready for the Easter services. We appreciate you!

Bible Study: Bette Morton is leading a Bible study group each Tuesday from 10-12. There is currently room for a couple more participants. The upcoming theme is called "Finding God Faithful" and will "trace the path of Joseph's life in the Book of Genesis to observe how God's sovereignty reigns, even in our darkest moments. Please contact Bette at 360-518-9402 or bettemorton03@gmail.com if you would like more information or if you would like to participate.

Covid-19 update: We have a Covid-Safety Task Force closely following guidelines and recommendations as they change. As a congregation we are committed to safety and hospitality, and knowing that some are more cautious and concerned than others, we continue to follow safety measures as part of keeping us all healthy and helping all feel more comfortable in returning to worship. We greatly appreciate your understanding, and help in showing hospitality by remembering to practice physical distancing and properly wearing your mask. We are increasing our attendance size to 50 people, so please tell your friends if they would like to attend and feel comfortable with that increase.

On a trial basis, we are going to stop asking for reservations for each service. This may end up being a temporary discontinuation, depending upon attendance- we will keep everyone posted if we feel we need to ask for rsvps again.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. [33]With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. [34]There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. [35]They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Psalm 133

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1—2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—[2]this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—[3]we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. [4]We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

[5]This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. [6]If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; [7]but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. [8]If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9]If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [10]If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

[2:1]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; [2]and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [20]After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [21]Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." [22]When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23]If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

[24]But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. [25]So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

[26]A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27]Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." [28]Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29]Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

[30]Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. [31]But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48.

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