

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 18, 2021

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska, 402-662-3125  
LuRae Hallstrom, Pastor; Cell: 402-269-7147, Home: 402-269-3147

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Eagle's Wings" WOV #779

**1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"**

*Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

**2. Snares of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear; under God's wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain***

**4. For to the angels God's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain***

Text and music: Michael Joncas, All rights reserved. ©1979, OCP. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-724367.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 4)

P: O Lord we come before you...knowing that whenever we have need of you...you are there for us.

**C: Be kind to us now and hear our prayer.**

P: O Lord you must wonder...

**C: "How long will people insult me? How long will people love what is worthless...and go after that which has no value?"**

P: Remember that the Lord has chosen the righteous for his own...and hears those who call to him.

**C: The Word of the Lord tells us that we are to be overflowing with respect for God and stop sinning.**

P: We are to think deeply about this before we go to sleep.

**C: We are to make the right sacrifices and put our trust in God.**

P: There are many who pray only for their own bounty. They pray...

**C: "Give us more blessings, O Lord."**

P: But the joy that you, O Lord, have given us is more than those who center their lives on wealth and status.

**C: When we lie down to sleep we do so in peace...for we know that you will keep us in your love.**

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The Gospel lesson tells us that the disciples were afraid and filled with doubt.

**C: In the very midst of their doubts...Jesus came to them.**

P: We come to this place with our doubts and fears. We gather to voice this prayer "Come to us, O Lord."

**C: Jesus said to the disciples,**

P: "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts come to your mind?"

**C: Why does that happen? We hear God's promises, but we still worry and doubt.**

P: O Lord, drive away our fears. Take away our doubts.

**C: Give us confidence and trust.**

P: Then Jesus ate with them. He talked to them. He opened their minds.

**C: Come to us, O Lord, forgive our doubts. Open our minds and hearts. Have mercy on us, O Lord.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

**C: 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.**

## BLESSING OF CREATION

P: O God, our creator,

**C: from the earth you bring forth fruits and vegetables, grains and flowers, and living creatures both domestic and wild to delight and enrich our lives.**

P: We ask for your blessing upon our world

**C: that the land be enriched by favorable weather and responsible farming practices;**

P: We ask for your blessing upon those who cultivate and nurture

**C: that living things of all forms may be tended with care and compassion.**

P: Shower your land

**C: with the joy of growth and rebirth as we patiently wait for an abundant harvest that benefits all that you love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*(Children are excused to go downstairs for Sunday School.)*

## THE SECOND LESSON – I John 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 24:36b-48

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost 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>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, 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 in their presence.

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

MESSAGE

Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

## HYMN OF THE DAY: "Hymn of Promise"

**1. In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed an apple tree. In cocoons a hidden promise butterflies will soon be free. In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.**

**2. There's a song in every silence seeking word and melody. There's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future, what it holds a mystery. Unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.**

**3. In our end is our beginning, in our time infinity, in our doubt there is believing, in our life eternity. In our death a resurrection, at the last a victory. Unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.**

"Hymn of Promise", words & music by Natalie Sleeth. © 1986 Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission. CCLI License #2497574.

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

### HOLY COMMUNION

P: Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

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

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit; in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus who taught us to pray...

### 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 DISTRIBUTION

#### 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 PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

**All: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: “**The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done**” vv. 1,3,4 (Tune: “The Water is Wide”)

- 1. The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia! Alleluia!**
- 3. The three sad days are quickly sped; he rises glorious from the dead. All glory to our risen Head. Alleluia! Alleluia!**
- 4. He closed the yawning gates of hell; the bars from heaven's high portals fell. Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Public Domain

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

\*\*\*\*\*

Permission to reprint/podcast/stream portions of this service obtained from One License with license #A-724367, CCLI with license #2497574 and Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB163629. Excerpts of this service are taken by permission from “Worship Resources, Making it Work in the Parish” by Rev. Jerry Nelson

\*\*\*\*\*

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** It’s wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here in person, in the parking lot and on-line!

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Velda Lenners, Jeanie Garrels, Sharon Vrtiska, Tanner Schmidt, our shut-ins.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Noah Boller (April 18), Ginger Boevink (April 19), Susan Frerichs (April 20), LaVonna Baehr (April 21), Tillman Bowhay, Carol Frerichs, Allen Harms (April 22), Janice Uecker (April 23), Delores Huls (April 24).

**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM:** Congratulations to Everett Bohling, DeLanye Currie, Kierstin Rehms and Ashton Sanders on your Confirmation Day! May the Holy Spirit be your guide and inspiration!

- Everett’s confirmation verse: Titus 2:6 – Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled.
- DeLanye’s confirmation verse: Deuteronomy 31:6 – So be strong and courageous, do not be afraid and do not panic because of them; for the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.
- Kierstin’s confirmation verse: Mark 9:37 - ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’
- Ashton’s confirmation verse: Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.

**SIGN-UP SHEET FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Please sign the sheet on the table in the narthex if you would be willing to host Fellowship Hour. As of now, we are serving individually bagged cookies/treats. Thank you for your help!

**OUR THRIVENT ACTION PROGRAM FOR APRIL IS CASA** (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children). CASA – Voices for children transform the lives of abused, abandoned or neglected children. CASA also helps parents get started back up again. Items needed for children: Coloring and activity books, colors, dvds, drawing paper and colored pencils, small stuffed animals, socks, underwear, blankets, small pillows, backpacks. Items needed for adults: soap, shampoo, deodorant, clippers, queen sheets, any bathroom item. Please bring your items to church through the month of April. The Thrivent card used for this project was from Norm Mortensen. Let us know if you would like to sponsor a project.

**HELP NEEDED:** We have quilt blocks downstairs on the table in the Fellowship for people who are willing to sew them together. Also, blankets for hemming. Thank you for your ministry!

**SUNMART RECEIPTS:** Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called "Support Our Schools and Churches." All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall (or give to a council person). When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached our first goal of \$150,000 and received the first check for \$1000, so now we are starting over again! You can also ask your check-out person if they have any extra receipts. They save the ones that people don't want and give them out – first come, first serve. Thank you to everyone who is helping with this ministry!

**PLEASE DONATE TO OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY:** American Lutheran Church gathers food donations for the Community Pantry and Emergency Services in Beatrice on an ongoing basis. The Food Pantry serves all of Gage County. If you would like to give to this ministry, please leave your donated items in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall at any time. Special items needed at this time are Peanut butter, Jelly, Pasta, Rice, Canned -- soup, fruit, vegetables, fish, and beans. NO glass jars, please. **THANK YOU for your continued support to this ministry!**

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE:** You can find our church website at [www.filleylutheranchurch.com](http://www.filleylutheranchurch.com) or by scanning this QR code:



**BULLETIN ITEMS** are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call Sandy or email her at [smahleris@gmail.com](mailto:smahleris@gmail.com).

**BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND** on Facebook and on our website, [filleylutheranchurch.com](http://filleylutheranchurch.com). Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Sandy at [smahleris@gmail.com](mailto:smahleris@gmail.com) with your email address.

**COMING UP:**

April 25 – Graduate Recognition  
May 2 – First Communion

**WORSHIP HELPERS:**

**Council** – Dave Norton-President, Virgil Jobman-Vice President, Carol Frerichs-Secretary, Brenda Hippen-Treasurer, Linda Searcey-at large

**Reader** – Dave Norton

**PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter** – Brenda Hippen

**Audio/Video** – Norm Flesner

**Accompanist:** Sandy Mahler