

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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Second Sunday of Easter – April 8, 2018

**PRELUDE – “The Trumpet Shall Sound” – Handel
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain (and snow).

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.

P: We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

C: We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

P: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for those newly baptized, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

P: We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN #384 “THAT EASTER DAY WITH JOY WAS BRIGHT”

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



^{All}
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



^{Refrain}
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...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.**

FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:32-35

PSALM 133 *Sung responsively* Psalm Tone 6

- ¹How good and how pleas- | ant it is,
when kindred live togeth- | er in unity!
- ²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up- | on the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar | of his robe.**
- ³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the | hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for- | evermore.

SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

EASTER VERSE & ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th Chapter.

☩ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

The Gospel of the LORD.

☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

HYMN #390 "THE RISEN CHRIST"

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one LORD, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
 glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of
 the world to come. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

Response : hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING “RISEN FROM ETERNAL DEATH” – KYLE HILL

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*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.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
 as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts and
 the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the
 world. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Two staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff contains the lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

Two staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The second staff contains the lyrics: "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join
 their unending hymn:

Four staves of musical notation in G major. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.

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**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.
 Hallelujah!

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.

HOLY COMMUNION - #379 "NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES"

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

May God, who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #376

"THINE IS THE GLORY"

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!" - TORRANS

☩ ☩ ☩

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors.

"God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond." –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

THE DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR....SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

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.

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.

JOHN 20:19-31: The story of Easter continues as the risen Lord appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: My Lord and my God. (John 20:28)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Risen Christ, you come to us in your word, the sacraments of your love, and the community of faith. Open our eyes to see your presence. Amen.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering: Anthony Abate, Jake Dilger, Connie Fazekas, Doris Heiserman, Marie Miller, Carl Ritter, Shannon Silliman,

Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of persons for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
GREETER	Loraine Kline
ACOLYTE	Sierra Giannattasio
ASSISTING MINISTER	Ron Fried
LECTOR	Gwen Gibiser
CANTOR	Gwen Gibiser
USHERS	Anne Nichols, Diane Wirth
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Ed Risi
ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY	Dick & Sue Storat

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal at Blue Church.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM Worship.
7 PM Confirmation Class.

MON.: **7 PM Church Council Meeting.**

WED.: 9 AM Quilting at Blue Church.

THURS.: 6:30 – 7:30 PM Den Meeting.

NEXT SUN.: **9 AM Choir Rehearsal.**
9:30 AM Christian Education at Blue Church.
10:30 AM Worship.

COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!

APR. 9, 2018 – 7 PM Church Council Meeting.

APR. 22, 2018 – 7 PM Confirmation Class.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS...in memory of Anna Francis by daughter
Anne Nichols.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Roger and Edie
Knappenberger

THERE ARE STILL OPEN DATES TO SPONSOR THE ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS AND SANCTUARY LAMP FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL. Please check the charts on the Bulletin Boards in the Narthex.
