



Mural "Peace" by Andrea Michney

"With Great Power: Dancing Together"

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

Worship with First Lutheran Church

Welcome! Our Easter celebration continues. Today, we gather with the disciples behind locked doors, trying to make sense of the news from Mary Magdalene, "I have seen the Lord!" Can this be true? Interrupting the confusion, Jesus appears, awakening us to a beat that will not stop stirring our hearts to move, with all creation to a song of resurrection, that not even death can stop. Come and join the dance that has no end.

**Prelude -
Welcome and Announcements**

Protocols for the congregation's safe gathering can be found on page 12.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Leader: This is the Easter Season! Easter is not just one day of proclaiming that life and love are more powerful than death and hatred, but a whole “week of weeks,” as we call it—seven more weeks of daring to dance our dances with hope and passion.

**Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!**

[music continues softly...]

Leader: Dancing requires that we pay attention to our dance partners. It requires finding a rhythm together. The Sunday after Easter brings the story of Jesus appearing to the disciples and breathing the Holy Spirit on them. Other scriptures this week point to the power of being together, of finding fellowship in the presence of Jesus and the presence of the community. What does it take to dance together?

**Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!**

Greeting

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Prayer -

Let us pray,

Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation –

You are the restorer of life, the conqueror of all that is death-dealing
in our hearts and in this world.

Tune us to each other.

Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek you –
so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ.

Be with us now, we pray. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE:

“Thine is the Glory”

(ELW 376 v 1 & 2)

1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting!

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: PSALM: Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

²It 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. R

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore. R

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1-10

.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.

¹We 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—²this 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—³we 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 Creator and with Jesus the Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A STORY FOR ALL AGES : *(Children's Time - may remain in their seats)*

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - ELW 172**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL: John 20:19-23

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples.

¹⁹When 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." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION - "Christ is Risen Shout Hosanna!"

(Denver Virtual Choir, <https://youtu.be/LPd9oraqb8I>)

Alleluia!

*Christ is risen! Shout hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! hush in wonder;
All creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding,
See, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
Bring a taste of love unknown.*

*Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
Nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
Where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna, everyone!*

*Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
Not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.*

***CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

You shower your church with grace, O God. Unite the whole church on earth, so that with one heart it testifies to the resurrection of Jesus Christ with power and love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You proclaim the blessing of life forevermore. Like dew upon the mountains, refresh your creation. Restore waters, cleanse the air, and provide revitalizing moisture to parched land. Give your whole creation the promise of new life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You direct the nations, O God. Guide all in authority, that they shepherd their peoples in the ways of your love. Defeat in us our impulse to war. Bestow the peace of Christ upon those in authority and breathe upon them the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You place within the heart of the church a spirit of sharing. Give us the power of your generous Spirit, that we provide for the needs of others (*specific needs may be named*). Announce your peace to those who are lonely, hurting, suffering, or afraid. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You give us fellowship with one another in this faith community (*name*). Shine the light of the risen Christ in our life together, so that we may dance and move in love for one another and our joy may be complete. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You share the gift of eternal life. In thanksgiving and remembrance, we recall the lives and gifts of those who now live in endless joy (*especially*). Unite us with them in resurrection hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may turn in their places and greet one another with a sign / wave of Christ's peace,
and may say, "Peace be with you,"*

Offering Our Resources and our Energy

Leader: Our dance with God needs fuel and energy. If we are to dance the dance of justice, find the steps of service, invite others to dance with us, we must have the resources that will assure that we have the music and the leadership, the tunes and the teachers to continue this holy dance. It's a dance of generosity, too. Following the lead of Christ calls us to pour ourselves out for the sake of love. How will you offer yourself to the community here, and beyond these walls this week?

SONG OF THANKSGIVING: *(Instrumental of Dare to Dance as people reflect)*

Space to write what you are grateful for today:

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us to step out in mission for the world.

Praising God, Nurturing Faith, and Serving All

Benediction

And may the Loving God,
Risen Christ,
and Dancing Spirit
fill you with all you need for the days ahead.

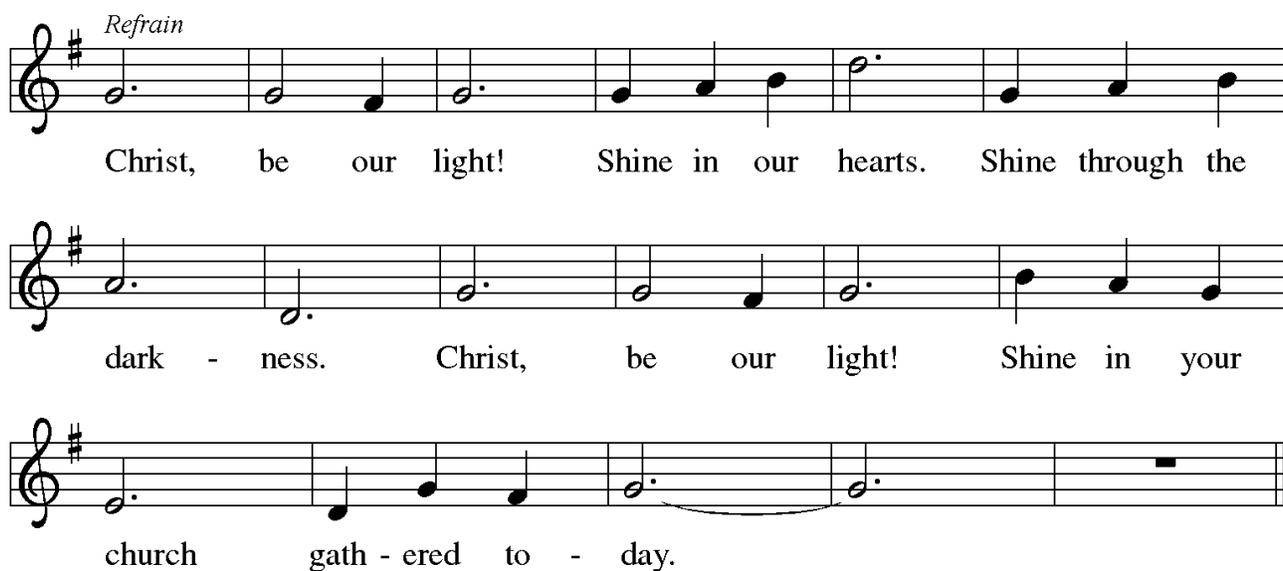
And all God's people said,
"Amen!"

Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Thanks be to God!

SENDING SONG "Christ Be Out Light" (ELW 715 v 1,2, 5) cong sing refrain

I Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. Refrain

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. Refrain

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

OFFERINGS

Offerings may be placed in the plates as you go out from this worship to live in service to God throughout the week.

Or you can give online <https://firstlutheransandpoint.breezechms.com/give/online>.

Postlude:

Worship Notes:

Image by Michnay, Andrea. Peace, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57834> [retrieved April 7, 2021]. Original source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:L%C3%A1nyok,_madarakkal_\(Michnay_Andrea\),_2018_Oroszl%C3%A1ny.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:L%C3%A1nyok,_madarakkal_(Michnay_Andrea),_2018_Oroszl%C3%A1ny.jpg).

Liturgy adapted from “Dare to Dance” www.worshipdesignstudio.com/easterdance
And From sundaysandseasons.com.
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Worship Team:

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Announcements:

New Members - The pandemic delayed several family units from joining the church around this time last year. We are looking at a Sunday, May 2nd to welcome those still interested. If you have questions about what membership is or are curious about how to get more connected with the community, let Pastor Lori know.

Prayer List: Libby DeLong, Carol Klipstein, Michelle Thurston, George Marker, Lynn Franck, Chris Ingham; Randy Petersen; Charles Shobe Sr., Nicky Schripsema; Wendi Lies; Gerda Burke; Debbie Haberlock; Kara Schripsema; Kai Haberlock; Tom Taylor; Hunter Taylor; Eugene Kurwicki; Mike Shobe; Marguerite Suttmeier, Sylvia Greenwood; Janet Merrill, and those on your hearts and minds today.

Frank Cafferty and family, upon the death of his mother Rita Beehler.

We include prayers for Luther Park - its staff, residents, and their families as a resident was diagnosed with Covid-19 this week, wisdom as we continue to learn how to live with Covid-19 in our worship and mission as the church, dancing together.

Church Office: Lisa Tyrrell, our Church Secretary on Council will be working with Pastor Lori to update our infrastructure and prepare for another staff search. In April and May, please be patient with your requests. Messages by phone and email will be checked regularly on the days when staff are not in the office.

The week of April 11-18 both Lisa and Pastor Lori will be off for Spring Break and tending to their homes / wellness, so the Council and Pastor Steve will respond to emergencies and take care of the basic needs of the congregation.

Covid - 19 Protocols for Gathering

Please note the following things to support you in your worship:

- First, thank you for adjusting to and heeding the precautions we have put in place to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus, while we gather.
- In addition to wearing face masks, remaining 6' apart from other family groups or friend cohorts, staying home if you do not feel well, and refraining from shaking hands or hugging:
- The Children's Playroom and Nursery is not available for use.
- We ask that you meditate on or hum the songs as the music plays, rather than singing.
- During the passing of the peace, we invite you to wave, show a peace sign, extend your arms in a gesture of blessing, etc. as you remain in your pew.
- At the end of the worship, please remain seated until the ushers dismiss you by rows. The upright piano side of the sanctuary will leave through the door up front. The lectern side will exit the way you came in.
- Fellowship is encouraged with social distancing, once you are outside of the building.
- We requested your name and phone number in case we need to notify you of a potential exposure to Covid-19. We will heed HIPAA laws if or when the need arises.
- On Sundays, the fellowship hall door that leads out to the Ontario St. parking lot will be exit only for anyone who might be seated in the overflow seating. The Main Ontario St. door and the doors nearest the church office will be the only doors unlocked for entry.
- Even with all of this, we cannot eliminate the risk of contracting the Covid-19 virus while gathering indoors. Therefore, we will record each worship and post for those who choose to stay home. Yes, the Holy Spirit connects us all together wherever we are, with the saints today, and all those who have gone before us in the faith.