



# “While in Their Joy: Dancing Sure”

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

Worship with First Lutheran Church

*Welcome! Our Easter celebration continues. We are thankful for the many ways the Holy Spirit connects us together. Yes, the risen Jesus appears where we are, 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! The season of new life – and a breath of the Spirit. As we enter this time of worship together, may we open our hearts to the renewal of our minds and our spirits. May we dare to let go and dance with renewed vigor as we allow resurrection hope to fill our bodies and souls!

**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:* This Sunday acknowledges that sometimes we are unsure about our steps in this world. For the disciples, even “while in their joy” at seeing Jesus after the resurrection, they were still “disbelieving and wondering.” We are reminded that even though we may not know our next steps, we can be sure they will come because we are God’s beloved children, and so we have steps to follow – those of the resurrected Jesus.

**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 set this world in motion and gave it life.

Turn us to you when our steps are not sure.

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:        “Lord of the Dance” (hum v 1,4, and 5)**

1 I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Refrain:*

Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.  
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

4 I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;  
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the Dance and I still go on.[Refrain]

5 They cut me down and I leapt up high,  
I am the life that'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. [Refrain]

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given 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 by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer.

<sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from 1 John.

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

<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 word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*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: Luke 24:36b-48**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

<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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

#### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### MUSIC FOR REFLECTION - "*Day of Arising*" (ELW 374)

”

*1 Day of arising,  
Christ on the roadway,  
unknown companion walks with his own.  
When they invite him,  
as fades the first day,  
and bread is broken, Christ is made known*

*4 Christ, our companion,  
hope for the journey,  
bread of compassion, open our eyes.  
Grant us your vision,  
set all hearts burning  
that all creation with you may rise.*

### \*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:* Jesus called his disciples "witnesses" to the possibility of resurrection. The world is in need of continued resurrection to new life. We are called to be witnesses to this journey to newness by offering our resources and our energy to the work of justice and love through our offering today.

**SONG OF THANKSGIVING:** *(Instrumental of Dare to Dance as people reflect upon what they are grateful for)*

## **SENDING**

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

*Praising God, Nurturing Faith, and Serving All*

## Benediction

*Leader:* We have heard the risen Jesus speak peace and offer us hope through his very body.

Send us forth now, O God,  
to live in the freedom of the peace that you still speak to us, making our steps more sure each  
and every day.

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 (ELW 389 verses 1,4,5)

### Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

## **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:**

Photo by hugues-de-buyer-mimeure on unsplash.com.

Liturgy adapted from “Dare to Dance” [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/easterdance](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/easterdance)

And From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Songs reprinted and streamed by permission. [onelicense.net](http://onelicense.net) #A-705894

## **Worship Team:**

Piano Recorded- Daniel Hughes

Pastors - Lori Morton and Steve Neuder

AV/Tech - Scott Youngren and Don Farnham

## **Office Contact Information:**

208-263-2048

[office@firstlutheransandpoint.org](mailto:office@firstlutheransandpoint.org)

Website: [www.firstlutheransandpoint.org](http://www.firstlutheransandpoint.org)

## **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.

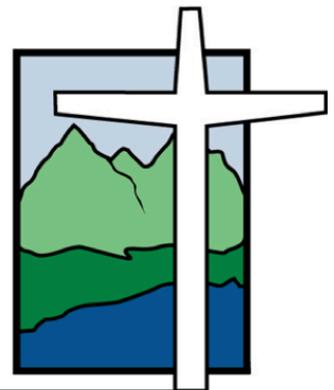
We include prayers for Luther Park - its staff, residents, and their families and all senior living communities as we continue to learn how to live with Covid-19 as communities, in our worship, and mission as the church.

**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.

---

***First  
Lutheran  
Church***



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

## **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.