

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
A Lesson from the Leaping Man
April 18 & 19, 2015

AS WE GATHER

For the third Sunday in a row we celebrate and proclaim the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ from the dead. We take so long, fifty days, for this celebration, because it is almost too good to be true! Surely as time passes, we can take things for granted, even big things. But this Sunday, the joyful and “marveling” disciples join with a formerly lame beggar now leaping and praising God to remind us of how great our hope is to be in the risen Christ. It is not too good to be true! Christ is risen! Our hope is not just for a pleasant, peaceful life in this world. He gives us the hope of a joyful life now and an eternal life in Him, both when He comes to receive us to Himself and at the Last Day when, in our bodies renewed and restored, we, too, shall leap with resurrection joy.

WELCOME

The Second Pledge “I Am A Church Member”

I will seek to be a source of unity in my church. I know there are no perfect pastors, staff, or other church members. But neither am I. I will not be a source of gossip or dissension. One of the greatest contributions I can make is to do all I can in God’s power to help keep the church in unity for the sake of the gospel.

FELLOWSHIP GREETING

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #464 “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o’er, the battle done; Now is the victor’s triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun. Allelulia!

The pow’rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Allelulia!

The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

He broke the age-bound chains of hell; The bars from heav’n’s high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!

1 continued

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death’s dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:4; 16:11b*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: to God my exceeding joy.

Pastor: In your presence there is fullness of joy;

People: at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: That our joy may be complete, let us first confess our sins to God our Father. Gracious God,

People: we confess that we are troubled by our sins and the doubts that arise in our hearts. We can hope for your grace and help only if we can hear your Word and the assurance of your forgiveness. In the name of our risen Lord Jesus, we beg you to speak your peace to us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation. Amen.

Pastor: Peace to you! Everything written about Jesus in the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms has been fulfilled. By His own authority and command I proclaim the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“This Is the Feast”

Page 155

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. *Amen. Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. *Alleluia. Refrain*

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Lord God, you sent your apostles Peter and John with your Word by which you brought healing, joy, and salvation to a lame beggar. As beggars indeed, we ask you to blot out our sins and grant us times of refreshing by your most gracious presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST LESSON *Acts 3:1-21*

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer--at three in the afternoon. Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this

complete healing to him, as you can all see. "Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you--even Jesus. He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

EPISTLE *1 John 3:1-7* (We are God's children now.)

How great is the love the Father has lavished on 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made know. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

5:00 ANTHEM

"Oh, What a Day That Will Be!"

Grades 1-4

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24:36-49* (Jesus appears to His disciples.)

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. He said to them, "This is what I told you, while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #605

“Father Welcomes”

Refrain: Father welcomes all His children To His fam'ly through His Son.

Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.

Little children, come to Me, For My kingdom is of these.

Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin. *Refrain*

In the water, in the Word, In His promise, be assured;

Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again. *Refrain*

Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with Him.

Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

SERMON

“A Lesson From the Leaping Man”

Acts 3:1-21

(Rise)

NICENE CREED *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI #633

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

Stanzas 1,4,7

At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King.

Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas’chal victim, paschal bread;

With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;

From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #482 “This Joyful Eastertide”

This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!

My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow:

Refrain

**Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen,
Arisen, arisen; But now has Christ arisen!**

Death’s flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;

Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: **Refrain**

My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber

Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number: **Refrain**

HYMN #563 “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives’ liberty, Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

HYMN #475 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

God Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord of life is ris’n this day; Bring flow’rs of song to strew His way;
Let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We thank you, O God, for this time of refreshment, which we
receive from your presence in this Holy Meal of the body and blood of
your Son for the forgiveness of our sins. Now go with us, Lord, that we
may be a people of hope until the time for restoring all things; through
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #680 “Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

Stanzas 1,3,5

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise

Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread

Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup

Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest

Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be

Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war

Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light

Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally

Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee

Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Part 2. Copyright © 2014 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Preacher & Liturgist

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Lectors

Manley Hurst, Marty Osell, Dan Vaclav

Acolytes

Abigail Fellenbaum, Zander Maxwell, Abbie Moravec

1-4 Grade Teachers

Barb Heimsoth, Pat Graf, Jane Jahnke

Organist

Roger Gottschalk

Music Coordinator

Kim Woller