GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 (201) 836-0994 THE REV. MARGARET NIEDERER – PASTOR CAROL WEBER – CANTOR

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER April 14, 2024



The Gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's Gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

VISIT US AT:
WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG
and
on Facebook

Welcome to worship!

Masking is optional but recommended while indoors.

PRELUDE Johann Sebastian Bach Christ lag in Todesbanden, BWV 718 (Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands)

Please stand and face the baptismal font near the entrance of the church.

- P. Christ is risen! Alleluia!
- C. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as Pastor begins.

- P. Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C. Amen.
- P. Look, here is water!
- C. Here is our water of life! Alleluia!
- P. Immersed in the promises of baptism,

let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea

into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your

boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

- C. Here is our water of life! Alleluia!
- P. At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection

you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,

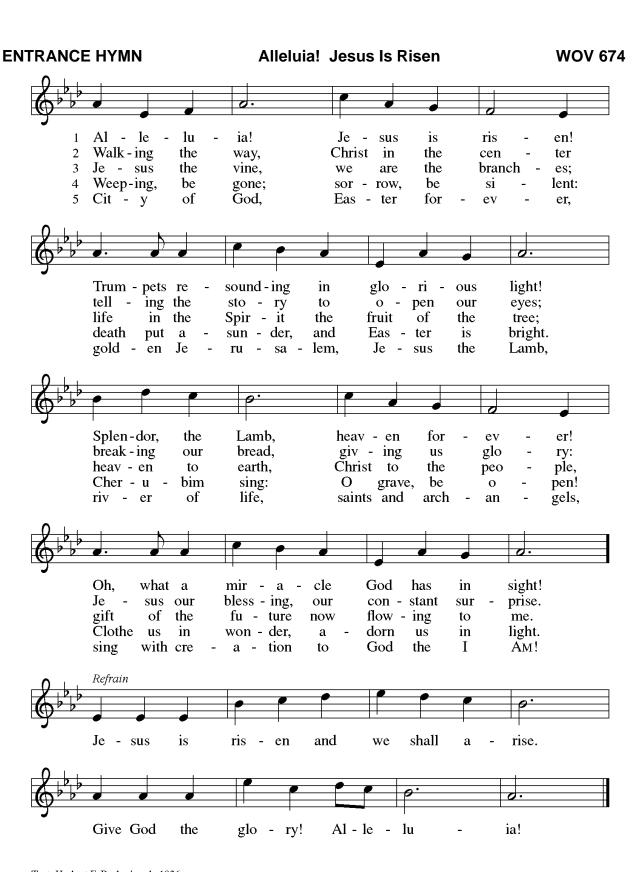
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,

through the risen Christ, our source of living water,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

- C. Amen.
- P. Look, here is water!
- C. Here is our water of life! Alleluia!



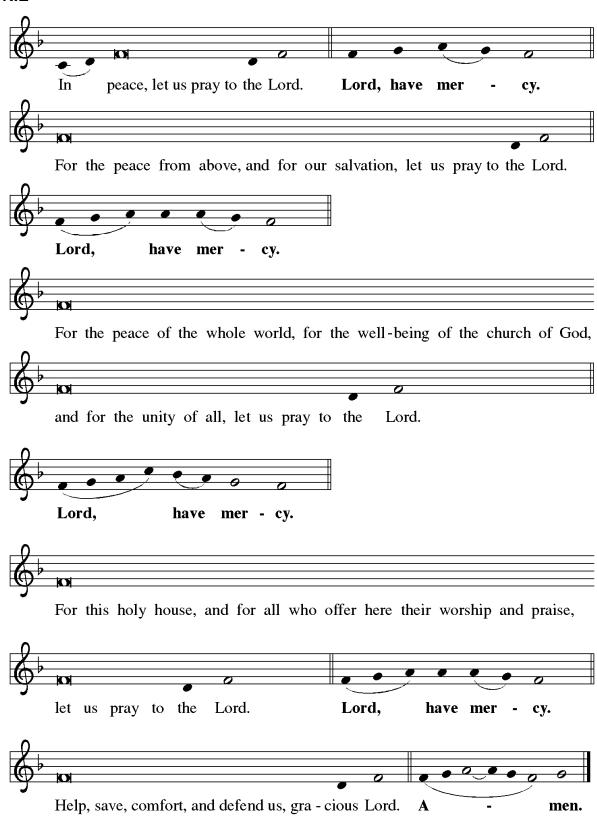
Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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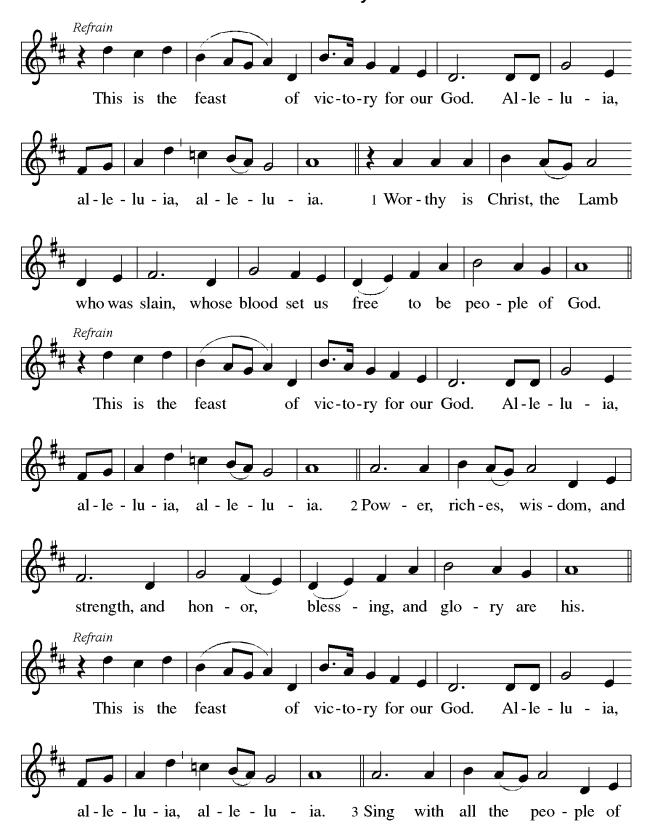
GREETING

- P. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!
- C. The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia

KYRIE



HYMN Of PRAISE: This Is the Feast of Victory





PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. And also with you.
- P. Let us pray.

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.

C. Amen.

Please be seated.

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.

A. A reading from Acts, the 3rd Chapter.

¹²[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? ¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

- A. The Word of the God. The Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.



PSALM 4

REFRAIN: Sung first by the Choir, repeated by ALL thereafter.

Robert Buckley Farlee



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The Psalm Verses are sung responsively to the following tone.



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¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender I of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and I hear my prayer.

2"You mortals, how long will you dishon- I or my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek I after lies?"

³Know that the LORD does wonders ^I for the faithful; the LORD will hear me ^I when I call.

⁴Tremble, then, and ¹ do not sin; speak to your heart in silence up- ¹ on your bed. *REFRAIN*

⁵Offer the ap - I pointed sacrifices, and put your trust I in the LORD.

⁶Many are saying, "Who will show us | any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O LORD.

⁷You have put gladness ^I in my heart, more than when grain and ^I wine abound.

⁸In peace, I will lie | down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure. *REFRAIN*

SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-7

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.

A. A reading from 1st John, the 3rd Chapter.

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

- A. The Word of God. The Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ALL SING:



Music: Plainsong mode VI

Verse

Our hearts I burn within us* while you open to I us the scriptures. (Luke 24:32)

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

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.

- P. The Holy Gospel According to Luke, the 24th Chapter.
- C. Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."

- P. The Gospel of the Lord.
- C. Praise to you, O Christ.

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let

We Who Once Were Dead

en - dured in

LBW 207

shall

we





you

as our head. Life is o - ver-flow-ing when he breaks the bread. strength to fight; death is all a-round us. Je - sus, be our light. we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead. then re-main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

5 Jesus, you were dead, but you rose and, living, made yourself our bread, in your goodness giving life though we were dead.

us share the

pain

6 This is your design; in this meal we meet you. Be our bread and wine, Jesus, we entreat you. This shall be our sign.

dy - ing;

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite
Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936
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A. Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Nicene Creed.

NICENE CREED

C. 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 was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in fulfillment of 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Julie Buckingham

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God, our inspiration and guide, you listen as we pray for our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, the New Jersey Synod, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian Community, our friends from Light and Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere, as they live out their calling to serve. God of grace, hear our prayer.

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our protector, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty, especially those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

- P. Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus, the Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C. Amen.

PEACE Stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.

- P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C. And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.



Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–1599; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976, alt. Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, medieval European tune Text @ 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

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Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C. Amen.

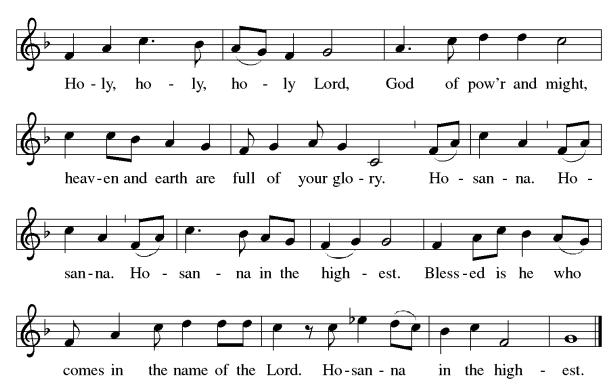
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**
- P. Lift up your hearts. C. We lift them to the Lord.
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord. C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P. It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior, Jesus who is the Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Please kneel or be seated.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, blessed, and 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C. Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C. Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:
- C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

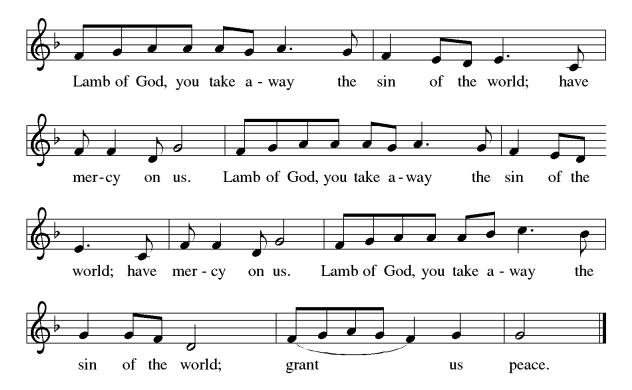
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table where all are welcome.

AGNUS DEI





CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please come forward for Communion following the Cantor/Choir, beginning with those in the back pews, from alternating sides, leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you.

Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive the wafer & cup until you step away from the communion tray.

A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.

The center contains purple grape juice.

White wine is in the remainder of the tray.

After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section. Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know you wish to receive a blessing.

Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C. Amen.**



ELW 204



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom-is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Let us pray:

Shepherding God,

you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C. Amen.

BLESSING

- P. Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P. The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.
- C. AMEN.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

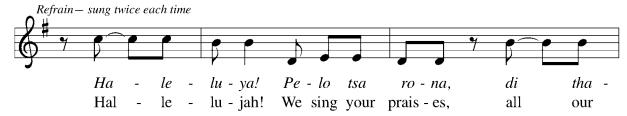


SENDING HYMN

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

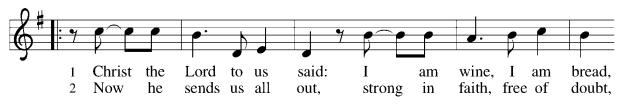
WOV 722

Each section is sung twice each time.









Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984 Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

DISMISSAL

A. Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Heut' triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630 Johann Sebastian Bach (Today God's Son Triumphs)

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY TO

Janet Thalmann, Greeter
Jack Martinez, Crucifer
Julie Buckingham, Liturgical Cantor
Sue Papera, Liturgist & Reader
Julie Buckingham, Prayers of Intercession
Janet Thalmann & Erika Ilgenfritz, Altar Guild

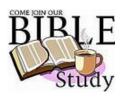


Tuesday, April 16th, at 7:30 PM

Connection link will be emailed



At Grace in Memorial Room Wednesday, April 17th, at 1:30 PM



Via Zoom Thursday, April 18th, at Noon

Resurrection to Ascension Readings & Connection link will be emailed

PRAYERS

Joan Costello (Jackie's mother-in-law & Kaitlin's & Lindsay's grandmother); Carol Weber; Doris Baumann (Carol's mom); Katie Wolfe (Carol's cousin with vision issues); Darla Lambson (Carol's sister's sister-in-law, suffering from an aggressive form of leukemia); Brad Gohmann and his family (Carol's nephew's uncle-in-law with cancer); Donald Lazlear and his family (Zulema's friends); Katie (Zulema's niece), Surella (Katie's mom); Rose Davis (Surella's friend with cancer); Marc & Bella Yaffe (Leslyn's and Michael's children); Leslyn Cooke; Melanie M. (Julie's friend); The cousin-in-law of Julie's coworker, undergoing rehab for injuries sustained in an automobile accident; Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor): Marion Soohoo (Will's Mother-in-law recovering from surgery); Arlene Rizzo (Sue's friend undergoing cancer treatments) and Arlene's family: Chris Palmer (Sue Papera's friend who has health concerns); Caleb (Sue's friend with mental health issues); Jenny L. (Sue's friend with health issues); Carol Mulvaney (Sue's friend with breast cancer); Edward Foley (back surgery, father of Nancy who does the payroll for Grace); Jason and Paul Thalmann (Janet's nephew and brother); Beverly Philip (a friend of Janet's sister-in-law with severe dementia); Kathy O'Brien (a co-worker of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Bert Maltz (a friend of Janet's sister-in-law. Several health concerns); Michele Rusciano (a friend of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Mark Crovatto (Al's son); Susan Beever (Mary Ellen's friend); Dominick Capalba (Mary Ellen's 6 year old friend with brain cancer); Patty Fitzgerald (Mary Ellen's sister with terminal lung cancer); Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law) who work for the State Department; John Steffen (Lorli's brother with health concerns); Tammy (Lorli's niece who has an immune disorder); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Peter Schelbli (Erika's nephew with cancer); Kevin (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); Doris Feirer (a friend of the congregation); Dennis Keohane (Catherine's uncle); Charlie and Mary Lewis (Fred's brother and sister-in-law with health concerns); Donna Maxwell with health concerns; James Mingo (Donna's grandson with health concerns); Arouss Darpinian (friend of the congregation with health concerns); Hana Kim (health concerns); Mary Sue (health concerns); Marcia & Chuck Hendron (Kay's parents); US citizens imprisoned in Russia: Paul Whelan (in prison for over six years) and Evan Gershkovich (a Wall Street Journalist detained since March 29, 2023); the hostages in Gaza; Christians under persecution and all experiencing violence, captivity, or war: the people of Israel, Gaza, Palestine; Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan; Sudan; organizations and individuals who are providing resources and care for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health care workers, national and regional relief officials; those affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

Let Lynn or Pastor know of any changes needed on the prayer list.



COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church Friday, April 19, 2024

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

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