

Third Sunday of Easter
April 18, 2021
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN

As we continue to move through the pandemic, there are some temporary changes in our liturgy, as well as a variety of new protocols in our in-person service. These changes are intended for the sake of the shared health of our community, particularly the most vulnerable among us. As we learn and adapt to this next chapter of our life together, we're grateful for your understanding, grace, and care. For more information about Level 3 of our Covid Response Plan, please see the Covid page on our website, and reach out to the Task Force with any questions. Even with these protocols in place, we give God thanks for the opportunity to gather for worship in new ways, and we trust in the Spirit to guide and enliven us.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION + FORGIVENESS

We begin our worship acknowledging that we are sinners. We cling to the ways of death instead of opening our hands to the gift of life, given to us through Jesus' resurrection. Let us take a moment of silence to confess our sin in the presence of God and one another...

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, whose mercy is abundant, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May the Holy Spirit empower you in the freedom of this forgiveness, that the love of the risen Christ would guide all that you say and do, and that joy of the risen Christ would go with you. **Amen!**

OPENING HYMN Now the Green Blade Rises verses 1, 2, 3 and 4

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

- 1** Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

- 2** In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

- 3** Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **A: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray together:

A: Gracious God, you come among us and offer us your peace. Help us resist the false ways of peace of our world, and open us to the kind of peace that you give, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is risen and who is here. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 6:9-16a

Today's Old Testament reading is from Jeremiah, the 6th chapter:

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Glean thoroughly as a vine the remnant of Israel; like a grape-gatherer, pass your hand again over its branches. To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? See, their ears are closed, they cannot listen. The word of the Lord is to them an object of scorn; they take no pleasure in it. But I am full of the wrath of the Lord; I am weary of holding it in.

Pour it out on the children in the street, and on the gatherings of young men as well; both husband and wife shall be taken, the old folk and the very aged. Their houses shall be turned over to others, their fields and wives together; for I will stretch out my hand against the inhabitants of the land, says the Lord. For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain; and from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely. They have treated the wound of my people carelessly, saying, "Peace, peace," when there is no peace.

Thus says the Lord: Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 4

- ¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- ²"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"
- ³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.
- ⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
- ⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust 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 in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.
- ⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Keith Williams

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:36b-48

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ali Tranvik

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Peace of the Lord

Verses 1, 2 and 3

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

- 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:
the peace of the Lord is for you and for me,
and also for all of God's children.
The peace of the Lord is for you and for me,
and also for all of God's children.
- 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord,
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:
the peace of the Lord is among us right now,
so open yourselves to receive it.
The peace of the Lord is among us right now,
so open yourselves to receive it.
- 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord,
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:
the peace of the Lord kept within cannot live,
so open yourselves now to share it.
The peace of the Lord kept within cannot live,
so open yourselves now to share it.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

And always with you.

Let's share a sign of that peace with one another.

If you're worshipping in-person, you're invited to stand up, remain in your pews, and turn to neighbors near you, offering a physically-distant sign of peace: a wave, nod or bow, peace sign, or crossing arms over the chest as a symbol of an embrace. If you're worshipping on Zoom, you're invited to turn on your video and wave or give a peace sign to others.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY RESPONSE **Is He Worthy?**

If you're worshipping with us in-person, please note that offering plates will not be passed around at this time. You are welcome to drop off offering before or after the services. If you're worshipping with us virtually, we invite you to make an offering by sending a check to the church or by visiting our secure online giving page which can be found at the bottom of our home page: www.crossofglory.us.

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| 1 | Do you feel the world is broken We do Do you feel the shadows deepen We do But do you know that all the dark Won't stop the light from getting through We do Do you wish that you could see it all made new jWe do | 2 | Is all creation groaning It is Is a new creation coming It is Is the glory of the Lord To be the light within our midst It is Is it good that we remind ourselves of this It is |
|----------|--|----------|--|

Chorus 1 Is anyone worthy
Is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy, Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory Is He worthy of this
He is

| | | | |
|----------|---|-----------------|---|
| 3 | Does the Father truly love us He does Does the Spirit move among us He does And does Jesus our Messiah Hold forever those He loves He does Does our God intend to dwell again with us He does | Chorus 2 | Is anyone worthy, Is anyone whole Is anyone able to break the seat and open the scroll The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He's David's Root And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave From ev'ry people and tribe every Nation and tongue He has made us a kingdom and priests To God to reign with the Son Is He worthy, Is He worthy Of all blessing and honor and glory Is He worthy, Is He worthy Is He worthy of this, He is |
|----------|---|-----------------|---|

Is He worthy, Is He worthy
He is, He is

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation... God of mercy, Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Drawn together as one body by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

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.

BLESSING

May the risen One fill you with life, nurture your faith, deepen your love, and ☩ grant you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG **Living Hope**

Please join us by singing along not with your voice but in your heads and your hearts!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 How great the chasm that lay between us How high the mountain I could not climb In desperation I turned to heaven And spoke Your name into the night Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness Tore through the shadows of my soul The work is finished the end is written Jesus Christ my living hope</p> | <p>2 Who could imagine so great a mercy What heart could fathom such boundless grace The God of ages stepped down from glory To wear my sin and bear my shame The cross has spoken I am forgiven The King of kings calls me His own Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever Jesus Christ my living hope</p> |
|---|---|

Chorus Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

- 3** Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me (REPEAT)
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

If you're worshipping in-person, please join us for a brief time of fellowship following today's service outdoors in the parking lot. In the case of bad weather, the Fellowship Hall will remain available for masked and distanced fellowship.

If you're worshipping with us on Zoom, you are welcome to stick around for Virtual Coffee Hour. This time will not be structured as it has been in recent months. Simply stay for fellowship and conversation for as long as you'd like!

POSTLUDE

MUSIC CREDITS

The Order of Service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship which is commended for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Lead Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
Pianist, vocalist, worship team director: Mark Trease
Vocalist, choir director: Keith Williams
Lector: Gayle Merritt
Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Mike Edstrom, Erik Haugland
Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please see the included letter from Pastor Ali about ways to gather and grieve in the wake of the tragic killing of our Brooklyn Center neighbor, Daunte Wright. Cross of Glory will continue to be open to all congregation and community members. If you're interested in helping the church organize and distribute supplies for neighbors in need, please stop by or contact the church office. Pastor Ali is available for pastoral care and prayer - don't hesitate to reach out.
- Please see the included update on behalf of the Covid-19 Task Force regarding our current worship options.
- With in-person worship now being offered, please contact the church office if you'd no longer like to receive mailed or email bulletins. Please note: If you plan to attend in-person and would like a printed bulletin, please bring the copy mailed to you. All bulletin information will be projected on the screen; a limited supply of printed bulletins will be available at this time.
- Council will have its monthly this afternoon, Sunday, April 18th, via Zoom.
- If you're interested in joining with other Cross of Glory members, students at Progeny, and other Brooklyn Center neighbors for community gardening this spring & summer in the plots in our church's backyard, please contact Pastor Ali.
- Our next Table Talks (monthly Adult Sunday school) is scheduled for Sunday, April 25 following worship. Stay tuned for further details.
- Liturgy means "the work of the people." We're grateful for all the ways our shared work helps shape our weekly worship. If you're interested in serving as an usher, greeter, reader, musician, or tech support, please contact the church office.
- Please reach out to Pastor Ali with announcements or pastoral care concerns by email (atranvik@crossofglory.us) or phone (763-533-8602).

Congregational Support as of 2/28/2021

Annual Budget: \$230,000.00

Year to Date Budgeted: \$38,666.70

Year to Date Received: \$50,977.98

Difference: \$12,311.28