



WE ARE SENT

BOOK OF ACTS: CONTINUING WHAT JESUS STARTED

SUNDAY | MAY 2, 2021 | 9:30AM ONLINE | 10:00AM DRIVE IN
www.lcrracine.org
www.youtube.com/c/lcrracine

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God,

In this Easter Season, we remember our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, and the Church celebrates his glorious resurrection. In our celebration, we share in his victory over death as we hear his word and partake of his meal. Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

**We bless you, Risen Christ,
that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.**

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

ELW 389

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.... O God,

you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

JOHN 15:1-8

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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

SECOND READING

ACTS 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

SERMON REFLECTION

Pastor Kelly Nieman Anderson

REFLECTION HYMN

"We Know That Christ Is Raised"

ELW 449

OFFERING PRAYER

God of Love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we have given and those received. Teach us to continue to be generous, giving fully of ourselves, and sending us in service to a broken world, that we may truly be the body of Christ in this community and beyond.

Amen.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

Pause after each prayer for a brief time of reflection.

L: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

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.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Blessed People of God, this isn't my table. It's not your table. It's not our table. But it's Christ's table. And because it's Christ's table all of us are welcome here. At this table, you don't have to look a certain way. You don't have to worship a certain way, look a certain way, or love a certain way. You just have to come, exactly as you are, seeking the one who is seeking you. So come, all of you, not because you must, but because you may, and here find forgiveness, healing and wholeness for your journey.

And so, we remember that on the morning of Jesus' resurrection, the women went to his tomb and they were greeted by a great earthquake that rolled away the stone and an Angel of the Lord with the message that the tomb was empty. There, the women remembered Jesus' words, that: "the Son of man must be crucified and on the third day be raised again." And so, this morning, we remember the story of Jesus' resurrection and the story leading up to it. And remembering this story, we gather around this table, and we break bread and share wine, and we are made whole, and we give thanks that everything Jesus did was for love and for us.

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

Bless this bread and wine, along with all of us in our eating and drinking at this table, that our eyes may be opened, that we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, and in each other. With great joy this morning, I proclaim in Jesus' name that these are the gifts of God, for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

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.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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.

Please bring out your pre-sealed communion cups at this time...they are bread & grape juice.

Or you can bring out any bread and juice/wine you have at home at this time for our meal.

And we will now share in God's Word, Christ's promise, and the blessings and grace of this meal.

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

“Go Make Disciples”

CCLI# 659058

SENDING

Go in peace, as we share the Resurrection by:

Loving Jesus, Changing Lives, and Reaching Out to Serve. Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

We look forward to you and/or your family joining us next week for Worship:

6th Sunday after Easter

9:30am Online Worship

10:00am In Person Worship

www.lcrracine.org | www.youtube.com/c/lcrracine

www.facebook.com/resurrectionlutheranracine

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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.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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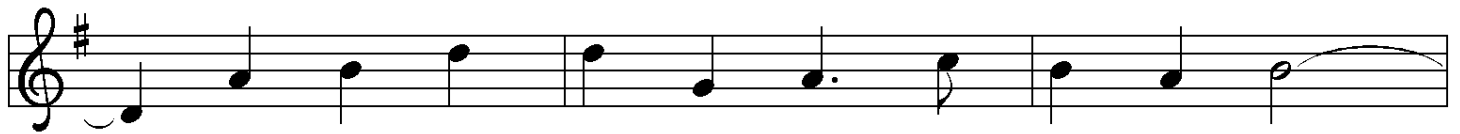
We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Text © John B. Geyer.

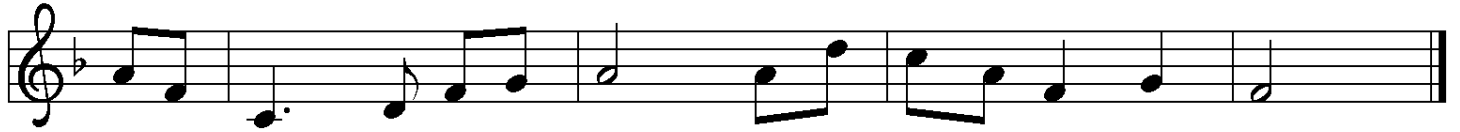
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I Received the Living God

Refrain



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



Refrain

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous
Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

Go Make Disciples

Chorus

Go make disciples
Baptising them teaching them
Go make disciples
For I am with you 'til the end of time
Go be the salt of the earth
Go be the light for the world
Go be a city on a hill
So all can see that you're serving Me

Ending

Go make disciples

CCLI Song # 659058

Handt Hanson

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news of Jesus wherever death holds its grip. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life and send us forward in hope to the day when by your mercy all things in your creation will be renewed and restored. Give us, and all world leaders courage to lead all nations in compassionate care and to assist us in the healing of all of creation. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Fill the nations with your peace. Draw together people and leaders of all nations and languages; reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings centered in peace and justice. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: be with those who are continuing to administer the COVID vaccines, those who are struggling, those who are dying – and those who grieve. We pray today for those in our congregation and beyond who need your healing spirit upon them; Jack, Robert, John, Carrie, Gene, Larry, Rayann, Scott, Pastor Kara, Betty, Joyce, Mark & Nancy, Bill, Don, Sandy, Earl & Hazel, Sandy, Jim, Kit, Mel, Jacki, Julie and Shirley.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Praise to you for your faithfulness revealed in the resurrection! Fill us with trust, that we join with all the saints who have gone before us in proclaiming: “your mercy endures forever!”

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

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.