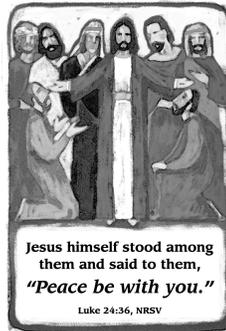


An Order of Worship That Can Be Used in the Home for **April 18, 2021**

~ **Third Sunday of Easter** ~



If multiple people are participating, one may serve as leader, reading the light faced type, the rest reading the bold faced type.

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE ~ LSB 470, vss. 1, 4, 5, 6 & 8 (to be read or sung)

“O Sons and Daughters of the King”

*O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav’nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*That night the apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said, “My peace be with you here.”
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples’ word.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*“My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be.”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 3:11–21

(Peter preaches salvation through Christ.)

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷ "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

Some thoughts to consider from this reading...

The "he" clinging to Peter and John was a middle aged man paralyzed from birth that everyone knew as a beggar stationed by the entrance to the temple precincts. At Peter's mention of the name of Jesus, God healed him. Understandably, a crowd forms!

Peter, seeing the crowd, speaks to them at length about the miracle, or what?

Peter says they are responsible for Jesus' rejection and death. But what is Peter saying in verse 18?

Verses 19-20 cite 3 benefits of repentance and faith: what are they?

"...times of refreshing..." – this is something in the here and now! What do you picture that being?

EPISTLE READING

1 John 3:1–7

(We are God's children now.)

3 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him keeps

on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

Some thoughts to consider from this reading...

Through Jesus' death and resurrection, what awesome status do we now have, according to verse 1? This is a present reality, not just a future hope! Here is your identity.

Our bodies are not yet as they will be: what will they be like at the end (verse 2)?

It is humanly impossible to not sin at all. Notice the wording of verse 4. What practical goal can we carry out?

For those times we do fail (and they are many), what hope do we have in Jesus (verse 5)?

What can you say to someone who says, "I can commit whatever sins I want, because God will forgive me?"

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:36–49

(Amidst doubts, the resurrected Christ affirms the fulfillment of God's Word.)

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, *"Peace to you!"* ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, *"Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."* ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, *"Have you anything here to eat?"* ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴ 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."*

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, *"Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."*

Some thoughts to consider from this reading...

This takes place the evening of that first Easter. Do you think the disciples were expecting to see Jesus alive?

What evidences does Jesus give them that it's really Him, alive bodily (verses 38-43)? Is this helpful for people today as well?

All of Scripture (the Old Testament for them) said all this would happen. What did Jesus do for them to help them understand (verse 45)? What lesson is there for us for when we get into the Word?

Jesus' sufferings and resurrection – more than historical facts: what comes out of them for us (verse 47)? This is also our message to others! Are we on our own sharing that message (verse 49)?

Let that be an encouragement!

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was

buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

Thanks for all that Jesus' death and resurrection bring to us: forgiveness, times of refreshing;
An end to this pandemic;
Successful provision of the vaccine to many;
God to accomplish His good purposes through this pandemic, leading many to trust in Him;
Protection and strength for our healthcare workers;
Help for the sick;
Help for those seeking employment;
God's wisdom and guidance for our leaders;
and any other needs of which you are aware – including names listed in the announcements, especially ...Brenda Thomas...Ava Lusco...Rosemarie Stratton...Pete Baker...Susan McIntyre...McIntyre Family...Donald...Bill Bowers...Dave & Lori Pfaff...Lois Crayton...Joann Ramsey...Will Gohlinghorst...Russell Jones...Margaret Greller...Dianna Fetter...August Nemecc...doctors, nurses, covid surge...Family & friends of *Josie* †...Family & friends of *Marlene* †.

THE 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.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.** (Psalm 103:1)

Leader: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
bless and preserve us.

People: **Amen.**

