

Repent and Be Forgiven

Third Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, and there are activity bags and a cry room for small children just beside the front door.

Service of Preparation

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Use this time in quiet preparation for worship by looking ahead at today's Bible readings and hymn texts, and in prayer.

OPENING PRAYER

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy word. Please open our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Through the preaching of your word teach us to repent of our sins, to believe in Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake.
Amen.

ANTHEM

Just As I Am

Follow the poetry at hymn #319: v.1-2, 5-6.


CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you both that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and also that we have each sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. Therefore we flee for refuge toward your infinite mercy, pleading for your grace on the basis of the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.


C: O most merciful God, you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. And by your Holy Spirit, increase in us a true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your word; to the end that—by your grace—we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN


Kyrie



O God the Fa - ther in heav - en, have mer-cy up-on us.



O God the Son, Re - deem-er of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O God the Ho-ly Ghost, true Com-fort-er, have mer-cy up-on us.

ABSOLUTION

P: Lift up your hearts to God! Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us. He has given his only-begotten Son to die for us, and on the basis of Jesus' work forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name he gives the power to become the children of God, and has promised them his Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

ANTHEM (8:15)

We Preach Christ Crucified

*We preach Christ crucified, he died for me.
God sacrificed himself for my eternity.
He paid the cost of my sin-filled life.
His resurrection is my victory.*

*The death of Christ on a cross of wood,
Saving souls from death, is not understood
Without faith in Christ and his saving word
Bringing life from what was dead.*

*What is a tool used for torture and death
Is an instrument of God's love and grace.
Jesus gave himself for me willingly,
Fully crushed the power of sin.*

HYMN (10:45)

Gloria

All glo - ry be to God on high, Who hath our race be -
friend-ed! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is
end - ed; God show - eth his good will to men, And
peace shall dwell on earth a-gain; O thank him for his good - ness!

Service of the Word

The readings for the Third Sunday of Easter remind us that Christ's work is complete — there is forgiveness for all who repent. It now is our privilege to share this truth with the world. That's good news for people wondering how they can start again.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray that we be true witnesses of the power of God: Almighty God, you have called your church to witness that in Christ you reconciled us to yourself. Give us the power of the Holy Spirit that we may preach repentance and the forgiveness of sins. We ask this according to the promise of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HISTORY READING

Acts 3:11–20

St. Peter took opportunity to be Christ's witness and call to people to repentance and forgiveness.

¹¹ While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. ¹² When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, 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? ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ 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 completely healed him, as you can all see.

¹⁷ "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰ and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you — even Jesus.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:36–49

Our risen Savior teaches there is forgiveness of sins for all who repent. We are to be witnesses that this is true.

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ 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.”

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ 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.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN

Thine Is the Glory | #73

When we fail to behave as children of light—as we most certainly do—we can turn again in repentance and receive again forgiveness.

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

¹ My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Service of Thanksgiving

OFFERING

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

HYMN

Rock of Ages | #286

PRAYER

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank you, Almighty God, that you have built your church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Cornerstone. Grant that we may be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

HYMN

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow | #592

CLOSING PRAYER

P: O Lord, we give you our heartfelt thanks that you have taught us what you want us to believe and to do. Help us, O God, by your Holy Spirit, on the basis of Jesus' work, to keep your word in pure hearts, so that by that means we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

Meditate on how Psalm 150 relates to today's theme at home throughout this week.

Preacher..... Pastor Bernt Tweit | **Liturgist** Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad
Organist (Sunday)..... Karen Merseth | **Pianist (Monday)**Emily Bredeson
School accompanist Abby Marozick | **Vocalists**Peggy Riley, Andrea Thomforde



King of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and School
6000 Duluth Street | 763-546-3131 | www.kingofgracelutheran.com
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Pastors Aaron Ferkenstad & Bernt Tweit | Principal Allen Labitzky