

April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter¹

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GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The Good News is proclaimed to the world!

All: We are witnesses of these things.

Pastor: Hope is alive, in the acts of kindness we share with one another.

All: We are witnesses of these things.

Pastor: Joy is palpable, in the celebration of the Risen Christ!

All: We are witnesses of these things.

HYMN

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

Bulletin, Past Page

CONFESSION

All: Holy One, we confess that we lose faith. We become comfortable with the things wrong in this world. We become content with systemic sin when it benefits us. We accept that there are things we cannot change without striving for justice. Forgive us. Call us back into right-living: to remember the commandments, to work for justice in loving-kindness, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Remind us that your way of life is not simply a ticket to heaven but a transformation of our very selves. Forgive us of our sins and love us into your way. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Pastor: Repentance and forgiveness of sins have been proclaimed in the name of Jesus throughout the world. Hear the Good News! Your sins are forgiven. Yes, yours too! You are loved, very much, by God, and God desires for you to live into the way modeled by Christ, to become last of all, servant of all, and to love your neighbor as you love yourself. Repent, and turn back to God, and know that you are forgiven, loved, and restored. Amen.

FIRST READING – Acts 3:12-19

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

¹ Rev. Mindi “Worship Resources for April 18th, 2021—Third Sunday of Easter:
[Worship Resources for April 18th, 2021—Third Sunday of Easter – Rev-o-lution \(rev-o-lution.org\)](http://WorshipResourcesforApril18th,2021—ThirdSundayofEaster-Rev-o-lution(rev-o-lution.org))

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,

This is the Word of the Lord. Let all the people say, "Thanks be to God!"

SECOND READING - 1 John 3:1-7

See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

⁷ Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This the Word of the Lord. Let all the people say, "Thanks be to God."

THIRD READING – Luke 24:36b-48

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.

This is the Good News of Christ, let all the people say, “Praise be to Christ.”

SERMON & PRAYER

Rev. Laura C. Bair

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: As we receive our morning offering, which allows our congregation to thrive, may we also dedicate ourselves to take actions that bring healing and transformation where there is grief, fear, death, and doubt.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION²

All: Forgiving Father, we faithfully give witness to your work in this world by sharing these gifts and offerings. You shared your Son, Jesus, for the salvation of the world. Thank you for providing us with an example of how to courageously put your call of discipleship into action. We pray that we may live each day according to your holy ways. In the name of the Great Teacher, Jesus, we pray. Amen.

² Bell, David. Reprinted with Permission from: [Offertory Prayers — DavidSBell.org](http://DavidSBell.org)

Up from the Grave He Arose

An angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. Matt. 28:2

Capo 1: (A) (D/A) (A) (E) (E⁷) (D/A) (A)

1. Low in the grave he lay— Je - sus, my Sav - ior,
 2. Vain - ly they watch his bed— Je - sus, my Sav - ior;
 3. Death can - not keep his prey— Je - sus, my Sav - ior;

(D) (A) (F#m) (E/B) (B⁷) (E)

wait - ing the com - ing day— Je - sus, my Lord.
 vain - ly they seal the dead— Je - sus, my Lord.
 he tore the bars a - way— Je - sus, my Lord.

REFRAIN

(A) *Faster*

Up from the grave he a - rose, He a - rose!

(D) (A)

with a might - y tri - umph o'er his foes. He a - rose!

BENEDICTION³

Pastor: Go now as God's chosen witnesses
to testify that Christ has been raised,
and that we are raised with him.
Do not look for him among the dead,
but be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

May God raise you from all that would entomb you.
May Christ Jesus call you by name and go ahead of you.
And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good.

All: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

³ Nettleton, Nathan. Commission and Benediction from: <http://www.laughingbird.net/>

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise 312

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. There the glo-rious tri-umph waits, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. See! the heaven its Lord re-ceive, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. See! he lifts his hands a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

To his throne a - bove the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ hath con-quired death and sin, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Though re - turn - ing to his throne, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!

Re - as - cends his na - tive heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Take the King of glo - ry in, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Still he calls the world his own, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Blessings on his church be - low, Al - le - lu - ia!