



Then
he
opened
their
minds
to
understand
the
Scriptures.

Luke 24:45

*First Lutheran Church
Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873*

*Sunday, April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter*

First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First
Third Sunday of Easter, April 18, 2021

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who are worshipping with us today! We hope that the service will be a joy and blessing to you.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who believe that Christ is present in this Sacrament are invited to share in His supper. Children who have not received Communion instruction should stand at the altar with their arms crossed upon their chest to receive a Baptismal blessing.

LBW - Green Hymnal **WOV** – Blue Hymnal *Please stand as able.

Prelude

Order of Service

Welcome and the Announcements

*Brief Order for Public Confession P. 56

*Opening Hymn: “Children of the Heavenly Father”

vv. 1-4 **LBW 474**

*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 57

*This Is the Feast P. 60

*Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon

First Reading

Acts 3:11-21

¹¹While {the lame man who had been healed} clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹²And 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? ¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

Psalm 4 (*responsively by whole verse*)

P. 216

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-7

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

*The Alleluia

P. 62

*Gospel

Luke 24:36-49

³⁶As {the disciples} were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See 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.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them. 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be

fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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.”

Sermon:

“WITNESSING TO CHRIST IN OUR TIME”

*Hymn of the Day: “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

vv. 1-2 **LBW 389**

*Nicene Creed

P. 64

*Prayers of the Church

P. 65

O Lord, open our eyes that we might see your power and glory. Encourage us to be helpers to the physically or spiritually blind, so all might come to see the goodness of your love. Help us all to see the love of God for us in Christ Jesus.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy God, you work miracles every day. Sometimes those miracles are profound and defy logic and other times they are simple answers to prayers expressed in faith. Give us better understanding of your ways so we would see the every-day-miracles you perform around us.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, pour out your Holy Spirit on the Church of Christ which is his precious bride. Give to your people the will to follow the Good Shepherd in word and deed, acting in kindness and trusting in his mercy in our lives and in the life of the church. Send us out into the world you love to make disciples of all nations.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, there are so many people around the world who are suffering from disease, hunger, poverty, or attacks from an enemy. Grant us strength and courage in the face of such trials. Give us hope in our hearts and let us pass that hope on for the stricken and dejected. [We pray especially for ...]

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Sharing of Peace

Offering

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

P. 66

*Offertory Prayer

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*Great Thanksgiving

P. 68

*Words of Institution (Prayer #33)

P. 69

*The Lord's Prayer

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Lamb of God

P. 72

Communion Distribution

*Thank the Lord

P. 72

*Post Communion Prayer

*Benediction and Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

vv. 3-4 **LBW 389**

*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

***Congregation: Thanks Be to God!**

* Postlude

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Coffee Servers: Louie Mielke

Lay Reader: Lenny Peterson

Acolyte: Edwin Heck

Ushers: Chris Boyer (head usher). Ashley Boyer, Roger Bauer

Offering Counters: Mary Loomis and Donna Koehnke

Attendance Last Saturday, 4/10:14

Last Sunday, 4/11:31

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are given in memory of Debra Nolf, by Bob & Lisa Coyle

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Jill Vodden 4/17

Marti Valasek 4/19

Eli Ash 4/20/13

Scott Schaben 4/21

Brayden Chastain 4/23/15 Rosalie Warren 4/23

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Herb & Dolores Plote 4/24/54

Burt & Pamela Andrews 4/24/99



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CAKE RECEPTION

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a cake reception to honor all of our volunteers. We appreciate each and everyone of you. There are so many things that are done without recognition and today we want to “Thank you” for all you have been doing.

FACE MASKS

Starting today, April 18th, seating will be as follows:

Reserve the FIRST pews on either side of the aisle for the Lay reader and acolyte, and their families.

If you wear a face mask throughout the service, please sit on the right side (Pulpit side) of the church.

If you are without a face mask during worship, sit on the left side (Podium side) of the church.

Everyone, please wear your mask upon entering and exiting the church.

Sermon Notes:

Today 4/18: Please join us in the fellowship hall after service for a cake reception, honoring all of our volunteers.

Monday 4/19: Food Truck Delivery 9:30am.

Tuesday 4/20: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; distr.12-2pm.

Thursday 4/22: Wittenberg Door Pastor's Fellowship here at 10am.; Confirmation Class, 4pm.

Saturday 4/24: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 4/25: Worship Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

Please keep in your daily prayers all people in need, including those mentioned here:

- Louie Mielke got his PET scan results back. He has cancer close to his esophagus, a biopsy will be scheduled soon.
- Jackie Conner, Jo Boehmer's niece, continues to undergo chemo for pancreatic cancer.
- Janet, Jo Boehmer's cousin, is on a ventilator. She is able to respond to commands – squeezing hands, etc.
- Pray for God's discernment as we walk through the Pastoral Call process and the new Pastor to have a clear path to us.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound: Ina Koehler, Nancy Bakanas and George Vodden.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- All affected by violent crimes, accidents, and natural disasters.
- May God bless America, our president, elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear, and receive God's guidance and protection.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.