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Second Sunday of Easter

Divine Service

April 7, 2024

Holy Communion is celebrated this Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church in the glad confidence that our Lord, as His Words say, gives not only bread and wine, but also His true Body and Blood for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. Our Lord invites to His table those who believe He is truly present, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive as He forgives us. Because Saint Paul reminds us that we can receive the Lord's Supper to our judgment, we are very careful to administer the Sacrament only to those who are properly prepared. When we receive Holy Communion, we publicly declare our agreement with the teachings of the church from which we receive it. *Therefore, if you are not yet a member of this congregation, a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and if you have not previously spoken to the Pastor about Holy Communion, please refrain from coming forward to receive Communion until you have first spoken with the Pastor.* If you cannot receive the Lord's Supper but desire a blessing, please join us at the Communion rail and cross your arms over your chest to tell the pastor of your intent.

Opening Hymn

O Sons and Daughters of the King
vs 1-3

LSB 470

Liturgy
Introit

p. 184

P: Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*
long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Alle- | luia.

C: **Sing aloud to | God our strength;***
shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!
In distress you called, and I de- | livered you;*
I answered you in the secret place of | thunder;
I am the | LORD your God,*
who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.*
and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy you.

All: **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P: Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*
 long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Alle- | luia.

Kyrie	p. 186
Gloria in Excelsis	p. 187
Collect	

P: Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's
 resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and
 conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus
 Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
 Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Old Testament Ezekiel 37:1-14 (ESV)

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.' "

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.' " So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.’ ”

Verse

**C: Alleluia. He is risen | from the dead,*
and behold, He is going before you to Galilee. Alle- |
luia.
Eight days later Jesus came and stood among | them and
said,*
"Peace be with you." Alle- | luia.**

Epistle

1 John 5:4-10 (ESV)

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

Alleluia

p. 190

Gospel

John 20:19-31 (ESV)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when

they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Nicene Creed		p. 191
Hymn of the Day	<i>O Sons and Daughters of the King</i>	LSB 470
	vs 4-7	
Sermon	<i>Blessed are They who Have Not Seen</i>	John 20:19-31
Offertory		p. 192
Offering		
Prayers		
Lord's Supper		p. 194
Distribution	<i>Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won</i>	LSB 490
	<i>Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread</i>	LSB 625
	<i>We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight</i>	LSB 720
Canticle	<i>Nunc Dimittis</i>	p.199
Prayer		p. 201
Benedicamus		p. 201
Benediction		p. 202
Hymn	<i>O Sons and Daughters of the King</i>	LSB 470
	vs 8-9	