

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4th, 2025 – 8:30 AM

WELCOME



The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

- † Preacher – The Reverend Diane Burkland
- † Officiant – Pr. Brian Griswold
- † Worship Leader – Earl Hem

CALL TO WORSHIP

CTW HYMN: Ah, Lord God

Ah, Lord God, Thou has made the heavens and the earth
By Thy great power. Ah Lord God, Thou has made the heavens
and the earth by Thine out-stretched arm.

Nothing is too difficult for Thee ___ nothing is too difficult
For Thee. Great and mighty God. Great and council
And mighty in deed ___ nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing
Nothing is too difficult for Thee

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WORSHIP

HYMN 1: Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my Savior
Lord, there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise:
the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, All that I am,
Never cease to worship you

(CHORUS)

CHORUS

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing.
Power and majesty praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar;
at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands;
Forever I'll love You - forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

(Repeat)

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HYMN 2: Everything is in Your Hands

Chorus:

Everything is in your hands
Everything is in your hands
Everything is in your hands oh God

My past and my present and things yet to come
My days are in your hands each and everyone
I know you can handle any challenge that I face
You promised you'd be there every step that I take

Chorus

There is nothing to big that you aren't bigger
Remind us again Lord that you are in control
We know you can handle any challenge that we face
You promised you'd be there every step that we take.

Chorus

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Prayer of the Day - Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOD'S HOLY WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-20

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 30

¹ I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

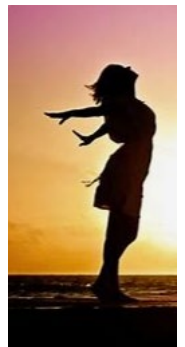
² **O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

³ You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴ **Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶ **While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.**



⁷You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸**I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰**Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper."**

¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

HOLY GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John 20:19-31; **Glory to You, O Lord!**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON – The Reverend Diane Burkland

"I Doubt It"

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness and grace, receive these gifts we offer. Grant that our whole lives may give you glory and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERING HYMN: Crown Him with Many Crowns

- 1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love--
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

✠ We recognize those joining us via FaceBook Live, and give voice to any greetings or prayer requests submitted for our worship.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Grace those from our families and community that we now name silently in our hearts, or out loud; with our prayers and your blessings. *(Please name silently or out loud).* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

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.

CLOSING HYMN: Lord, Reign in Me

Over all the earth You reign on high,
Every mountain stream, every sunset sky
But my one request, Lord my only aim,
Is that You'd reign in me again

Refrain

Over every thought, over every word,
May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord
'Cause You mean more to me than any earthly thing,
So won't You reign in me again.

Refrain

Refrain:

Lord reign in me, reign in Your power,
Over all my dreams, in my darkest hour
You are the Lord of all I am,
So won't You reign in me again

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Blessing: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **Amen.**

Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God.**

Notes:



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