



Who does
not know
the things
that have
happened?

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Grave Decoration Sunday
26th April, 2020

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

First of all welcome to St. John's Grave Decoration Service. Due to current Covid-19 guidelines our service is being held in the parking area of the Cemetery and the Old Stone Church. The service, the organ music, and Pastor John's message will be routed through the church's sound system and broadcast on your car radio on FM channel **101.5**. Please follow the direction of the persons assisting with parking. Once they have directed you to your parking space, please remain in your vehicle and await the beginning of the service. You can leave the vehicle running or turn it off and roll down the windows, just listen to you radio. Pastor John will lead the service from the edge of the cemetery. Please follow the service in the bulletin.

L Christ has risen from the dead.

C God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP NOTES ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISES AND CONCERNS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the

sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

L Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

OPENING HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

Beautiful Savior, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flowers of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be Thine!

GREETING

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their mercy and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One; you alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with Holy Spirit, In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you raised up this fallen world. Teach us whom you have rescued from endless death to have the fullness of eternal joy, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 2:14A, 36-41

⁴But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them:

³⁶Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” ³⁸Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” ⁴⁰And with many other words he

solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “[y]Be saved from this perverse generation!”⁴¹ So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 116

I love the LORD, because He hears

My voice *and* my supplications.

² Because He has inclined His ear to me,

Therefore I shall call *upon Him* as long as I live.

**³ The cords of death encompassed me
And the terrors of Sheol came upon me;
I found distress and sorrow.**

⁴ Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I beseech You, save my life!”

**⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
Yes, our God is compassionate.**

⁶ The LORD preserves the simple;
I was brought low, and He saved me.

**⁷ Return to your rest, O my soul,
For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.**

⁸ For You have rescued my soul from death,
My eyes from tears,
My feet from stumbling.

**⁹ I shall walk before the LORD
In the land of the living.**

¹⁰ I believed when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted.”

¹¹ I said in my alarm,
“All men are liars.”

**¹² What shall I render to the LORD
For all His benefits toward me?**

¹³ I shall lift up the cup of salvation
And call upon the name of the LORD.

**¹⁴ I shall pay my vows to the LORD,
Oh *may it be* in the presence of all His people.**

Precious in the sight of the LORD
Is the death of His godly ones.

**¹⁶ O LORD, surely I am Your servant,
I am Your servant, the son of Your handmaid,
You have loosed my bonds.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-25

¹⁷ If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay *on earth*; ¹⁸ knowing that you were not ^[a]redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ. ²⁰ For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared ^[b]in these last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a ^[c]sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from ^[d]the heart, ²³ for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For,

“ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS.
THE GRASS WITHERS,

AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,
²⁵ BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER.”
And this is the word which was ^[e]preached to you.

L The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

³ And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was ^[a]about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and *began* traveling with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him. ¹⁷ And He said to them, “What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ One *of them*, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, “Are You ^[b]the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?” ¹⁹ And He said to them, “What things?” And they said to Him, “The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, ²⁰ and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him. ²¹ But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened. ²² But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see.” ²⁵ And He said to them, “O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary for the ^[c]Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning ^[d]with Moses and ^[e]with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

²⁸ And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged Him, saying, “Stay with us, for it is *getting* toward evening, and the day ^[f]is now nearly over.” So He went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When He had reclined *at the table* with them, He took the bread and blessed *it*, and breaking *it*, He *began* giving *it* to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were

opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from ^[g]their sight. ³² They said to one another, “^[h]Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was ^[i]explaining the Scriptures to us?” ³³ And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, ³⁴ saying, “The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵ They *began* to relate ^[j]their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.

L The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

SERMON HYMN

“I Come to the Garden Alone”

I come to the garden alone While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear The song of God discloses
(Refrain)

And He walks with me And He talks with me
And He tells me I am his own And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known
He speaks and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me Within my heart is ringing
(Refrain)

I'd stay in the garden with Him, Though the night around me is falling.
But he bids me go; through the voice of woe. His voice to me is calling
(Refrain)

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin
Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he arose again.**

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

TEMPLE TALK Old Stone Church Historical Committee

SHARING THE PEACE

L The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING You will be given an opportunity to share God's blessings with your offering as you exit after the service (All loose and non-designated offerings received today will go to the maintenance of the Old Stone Church. Thank you!)

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me With your free Spirit.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with "...Lord, in your mercy,"

The congregation responds with "**Hear our 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

“The Old Stone Church in the Vale” (modified)

There’s a church in the val-ley by the twelve mile, No love-li-er place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my child-hood As the old sto-ne church in the vale.
How sweet on a clear Sab-bath morn-ing, To list to the clear ringing bell;
It’s tones so sweetly are call-ing,

O come to the church in the vale.

From the church in the valley by the twelve mile, When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my child-hood, Wing my way to the mansions of
light.

Chorus O, come, come, come, come, come, To the church by the twelve mile,
O come to the church in the dale. No spot is so dear to my child-hood, As the old
sto-ne church in the vale.

At this time we would typically gather around the cemetery for the Graveside Service Honoring the Deceased, but this morning we asked you remain in your vehicles until the service is completed.

GRAVESIDE SERVICE HONORING THE DECEASED

P Let us pray. Almighty God, by the death and burial of Jesus, you have destroyed death and sanctified the graves of all saints. Keep our brothers and sisters, whose bodies are here laid to rest, in the company of all saints and, at the last day, raise them up to share with all faithful people the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

PSALM 23 (read responsively)

L The LORD is my shepherd;

C I shall not want.

L He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

C he leadeth me beside the still waters.

L He restoreth my soul:

C he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

L Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

C for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

L Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

C thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

L Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

C and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so. Jesus loves me!
He will stay, Close beside me all the way;
He's prepared a home for me, And some day His face I'll see.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

BENEDICTION

L Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

As our service closes you may visit gravesites in the cemetery as your leisure. We ask that you are mindful of the social distancing guidelines and suggest the use of a mask if you are visiting the cemetery while others are present. Thank you for attending this morning and we look forward to and pray for the day that we may join in worship together and celebrate the end of this pandemic.

Easter 3

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter (Year A)



The Gospel for today recalls how two disciples were able to see the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread. Though Jesus appeared to many on the day of his resurrection, not everyone was able to see him and know his true identity. In the bread and wine of Holy Communion, we are promised a place where we will always be met by Christ, a place where his promises are continually proclaimed anew.