

11 April 2021

Litruagy: First Song of Isaiah

Pianist: Erin Clark

TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME:

Jesus appeared to His disciples after His resurrection. Terrified, hiding and huddling, behind closed doors...Jesus appeared. And Jesus gave them the Holy Spirit and the authority to forgive sins. Amazing! Who were these disciples that Jesus blessed this way...that He gave them this awesome thing? According to the world, they were a rag tag bunch of nobodies, but Christ saw them differently...all because of the Resurrection. Today we ask ourselves the question, "Who am I?" Who am I especially in light of Easter?



HYMN Jesus Christ is Risen Today! (#157 in the red hymnal)

*Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!*

*But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!*

 **SONG** **O Sifuni Mungu** by the Eagle Choir

INVOCATION

Pastor: Almighty God, before whose presence the angels veil their faces, with reverence and love we acknowledge Your glory and worship You – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, eternal Trinity.

Congregation: May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

 *Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity.*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: O holy and most merciful Father, we confess that from birth our sinful nature has made us unfit to stand before You. What is more, we have broken Your law repeatedly in our thoughts, words, and actions. So often we do the evil You forbid and fail to do the good You command. You know our hearts and our lives, Lord. We are guilty and deserve only to be condemned. But at Your gracious Word we come to You, and plead, "God have mercy on me, a sinner!"

C: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me

from my sin. For I know my transgressions and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

P: The Lord, our gracious Father, has forgiven all your sins through the life and death of His one and only Son, Jesus the Christ. With His resurrection from death He has given you the sure hope of everlasting life. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

So go now and leave the life of sin and produce fruit in keeping with repentance. Let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven!

 *Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see!*

1 JOHN 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

 **SONGS** **Be Still & The Lord is My Light** by the Eagle Choir

JOHN 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and

said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



HYMN I Know That My Redeemer Lives (#152 in the red hymnal)

*I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living Head!*

*He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save.
He lives all glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.*

*He lives, my kind, wise heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end.
He lives, and while He lives I'll sing; He lives my Prophet, Priest, and King.*

*He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.*

*He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: "I know that my Redeemer lives!"*

SERMON Who am I? Easter Changes the Answer.

(a sermon based on John 20:21-23)

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

 **HYMN The First Song of Isaiah** (blue hymnal p. 71)

Chorus: ***Surely it is God who saves me.
I will trust in Him and not be afraid,
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense
And He will be my Saviour.***

*Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
From the springs of salvation,
And on that day you shall say give thanks to the Lord
And call upon His name. **Chorus.***

*Make His deeds known among the nations.
See that they remember that His name is exalted.*

*Sing the praises of the Lord for He has done great things
And this is known in all the world. **Chorus.***

*Cry aloud inhabitants of Zion! Ring out your joy!
For the great One in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. **Chorus.***

THANK OFFERING

(Pans of Hope – As the Deer)

TIME OF PRAYER

 *I must tell Jesus all of my trials. I cannot bear these burdens alone.
In my distress He kindly will help me. He ever loves and cares for His own.
I must tell Jesus, I must tell Jesus. I cannot bear my burdens alone.
I must tell Jesus. I must tell Jesus. Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.*

PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours now and ever. Amen.

*(Our prayer team is always ready to go to the throne of the Father for you.
For prayer chain requests, email prayer@livinghopereunion.church.
For confidential prayers, call or text Maria Hasten 720-243-0228.)*

 *I must tell Jesus all of my troubles. He is a kind, compassionate friend.
If I but ask Him, He will deliver; Make of my troubles quickly an end.
I must tell Jesus, I must tell Jesus. I cannot bear my burdens alone.
I must tell Jesus. I must tell Jesus. Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.*

 **SONG** **Simeon's Blessing** by the Eagle Choir

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

 *Amen. Amen. Amen.*

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUILD BRIDGES, NOT BARRIERS. A seminar on reaching out in love to Mormons by Truth in Love Ministries. St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Fort Collins. 4610 Hogan Dr. April 17th, 9 am to Noon. Let them know you are coming so they can prepare: # 970-226-3481.

THANK YOU. To all who helped with Easter...with the food and fellowship, with the music, with invitations. With all of it. It was a wonderful Easter...especially in light of the last year.

EAGLE CHOIR. Thank you to the Eagle Choir and their director, Dawn Punke for singing for us and making our worship special this morning.

SHARING HOPE during PANDEMIC. Thanks be to God. We raised more than we needed...over \$2800. Thank you to all who donated.

Ways to get involved.

- Food Donation for our next food distribution on 24 April
- Pass out gift cards to the homeless. Pick up a few today.
- Pass out the information cards to those who might need help.

What's Going On

- Sharing Hope. New initiative called Sharing Hope during Pandemic. Help those impacted by the pandemic.
- Freedom for the Captives. A Survivors Podcast to encourage those recovering from or in the midst of domestic violence.

- Youth. Exploring the possibility of partnering with Lord of Life Lutheran Church in youth activities and the possibility of mini-youth rallies for the youth in our area.
- Steel Pan. Possibly planning a summer concert.
- Building Team. Looking at renderings from Lee Architects.
- Leadership Team. Budget Process.
- Catechism Students. Prepping for Confirmation Day.

Save the Date

- **Build Bridges Seminar** – 17 April.
- **LWMS Rally at COR** – 24 April.
- **Prayer Meeting** – 6 May.
- **Confirmation Day** – 16 May.



CLOSING SONG **Christ Arose** (p. 198 in the blue)

*Low in the grave He lay – Jesus my Saviour!
Waiting the coming day – Jesus, my Lord!*

Chorus ***Up from the grave He arose!
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign!
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!***

*Vainly they watch His bed – Jesus, my Saviour!
Vainly they seal the dead – Jesus, my Lord! **Chorus***

*Death cannot keep his prey – Jesus, my Saviour!
He tore the bars away – Jesus, my Lord! **Chorus***

POSTSERVICE Pans of Hope – Nothing But the Blood of Jesus