



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2021

**AS WE GATHER:** Our Easter sermon series examines 6 tough topics that are often thought about (if not asked) by those inside and outside of the church. *Why do bad things happen to good people? Is the Bible reliable? Is abortion wrong? What is the relationship between faith and science? How should I identify? How do I navigate politics?* There are no easy answers, but join us as we find that Scripture will help us navigate these questions with wisdom, grace, and humility.

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### FAITH STATEMENTS (8:00AM only)

### OPENING HYMN #465 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

- 1        Now all the vault of heav’n resounds  
          In praise of love that still abounds:  
          “Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
          Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
          Repeat their song of glory here:  
          “Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”  
          Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2        Eternal is the gift He brings,  
          Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
          “Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
          Now still He comes to give us life  
          And by His presence stills all strife.  
          Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
          Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3        O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
          Set heart and will on things above  
          That we conquer through Your triumph;  
          Grant grace sufficient for life’s day  
          That by our lives we truly say:  
          “Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
          Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4        Adoring praises now we bring  
          And with the heavn'ly blessed sing:  
          "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
          Be to the Father and our Lord,  
          To Spirit blest, most holy God,  
          All the glory, never ending!  
          Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

#### INVOCATION

Pastor:        In the name of the Father and of the Son and of  
                  the Holy Spirit.  
People:        Amen.

#### EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor:        Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
People:        He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor:        O LORD, You have searched me and known me!  
People:        You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
                  You discern my thoughts from afar.

Pastor:        For you formed my inward parts;  
People:        You knitted me together in my mother's womb.

Pastor:        I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully  
                  made.  
People:        Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it  
                  very well.

Pastor:        Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
People:        He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor:        Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
People:        Most merciful God, we confess that we are by  
                  nature sinful and unclean. 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.  
                  We justly deserve Your present and eternal  
                  punishment. 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.

## ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

## SALUTATION

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and all life. Graciously preserve and defend those who are defenseless. Cause us and all people to uphold life as precious and sacred to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 139:13-15

*<sup>13</sup>For you formed my inward parts;  
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup>I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
my soul knows it very well.  
<sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Heidi

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

## SECOND READING

Jeremiah 1:5

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand)



## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

**SERMON** "Asking for a Friend: Is Abortion Wrong?"  
Pastor Jeff Schubert

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM OF** Wyatt Gerard Umentum  
(10:30AM)

**HYMN OF THE DAY (Please stand)**

*“Lord of Life”*

Lord of life, whose hand has made us,  
Formed us each with tender care.  
You have crowned us with your image,  
Not intending such despair.  
Yet through sin the glory faded,  
Death and doom came in its place.  
But in spite of our condition,  
We’ve been rescued by your grace!

God so loved the world, he gave us  
Jesus Christ to bear our sin.  
On the cross his life he offered,  
That we might be his again.  
And the Holy Spirit calls us  
By the Gospel’s joyful ring,  
Making us his own dear children  
Us, eternal life to bring.

Lord of life, who rose in triumph,  
Conqu’ring death and giving hope,  
You have called us and equipped us,  
In a sinful world to cope.  
Teaching us to love each other,  
To befriend and help in strife;  
To forgive and seek to comfort,  
And preserve the gift of life.

Help us, Lord, to see as you do,  
Life is precious in each stage,  
From the unborn to the feeble,  
Life is precious in each age.  
Help us, Lord, to be your witness  
And to show the world we care,  
So that people may not perish  
But, instead, your life may share.

[Permission is given by Christian Life Resources]

**APOSTLES’ CREED (8AM only)**

**All:                    I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of  
                              heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who  
                              was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin  
                              Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,  
                              died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The  
                              third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended  
                              into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the**

**Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND VIDEO**

1) Formal Acknowledgment that Pastor Flick Received the Call to be Divine Redeemer's Next Senior Pastor - Dave Wangerin

2) We are very excited to announce that this year's Divine Redeemer Auction brought in (drum roll please) more than \$83,000. We do have a few more bills to pay but we expect to have a profit of over \$80,000 when it's all said and done. Special thank you to YOU parents - who support DR, our teachers, the auction committee, Janet Bahr and Seth Flick and everyone else who helped make this Auction so successful.

3) Lord's Supper change - Beginning May 9 (traditional side) & 23 (contemporary side) we will go back to processional communion.

4) Foster Care Awareness Video - The month of May is Foster Care Awareness month and so to better help everyone understand the difficulties of Foster Care and how important it is to support our Foster Care System, we have a short video for you to watch. We will also have the group "Everyone is God's Miracle" outside of both worship spaces in the month of May to answer any questions you may have about Fostering or Foster Care. At this time I would like to invite Kelly Vaughn to the front to share more about this ministry.

**(Reminder to place offering in acrylic box or go on line and use the secure PushPay Online Giving link.)**

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, we live in a world of darkness where many are plagued by shame, abuse, neglect, and hatred. Shine Your light into the dark corners of our hearts that we always walk in fellowship with You. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:** hear our prayer.  
**Pastor:** Lord, we live in a world of death where threats of war, terrorism, disease, and disasters constantly abound. But You are the God of life. In the midst of all this death, bring the hope and comfort of Christ's resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Lord, send healing and care to all who are sick, injured, and recovering. Strengthen them with Your healing hand and bring them the joy of fellowship we have in the communion of saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Lord, many grieve and mourn the death of loved ones. Comfort them with the hope of resurrection life, which is ours in Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Lord, every good and perfect gift comes from You. We thank You for the blessings You have poured out upon us. We rejoice with those who rejoice. Grant that our rejoicing draw us back to the Good News of Your light and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**People:** Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER (8:00AM only)**

**All:** 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.

#### **BENEDICTION**

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

**People:** Amen.

#### **EASTER ACCLAMATION**

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**CLOSING HYMN #895**

**“Now Thank We All Our God”**

Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in His grace  
And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

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Thank you to the Worship participants:

**Lay Readers:**

8:00AM: Nancy Niedziela

10:30AM: Brad Baker

**Acolytes:**

8:00AM:

10:30AM: Chloe Pingle & Cammy Pingle

**Sound:**

8:00AM: Todd Radke

10:30AM: Ruth Koepke

**Elders:**



8:00AM: Mike Johnson  
10:30AM: Mike Johnson