

# 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PASTOR ED PEASE

APRIL 19, 2026



*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.*

(\*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold print**)

## Welcome & Announcements

### \*Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn "Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table" #977 ACS

### \*Greeting

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

### \*Kyrie - p.138

## Prayer of the Day

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup> "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O LORD, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct

inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation -- p. 142**

\*The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

## Children's Message

### Message

Hymn "Day of Arising" #374

#### \*Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

#### \*Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick (*especially we pray for Bonnie, Barb, Carla, Barb, Diane, Bill, Ed, Pat, Jeni, Kenny, and Jayme*). Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal Light, we give thanks for (*Olavus Petri, Laurentius Petri and*) all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

**\*Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Offering**

**\*Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

**\*Words of Institution**

**\*Lord's Prayer** p. 145

**\*Invitation to Communion**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Communion (continuous)**

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats may remain seated.

Distribution Hymns: #491 – Come, Let Us Eat; #595 – Jesus Loves Me

**\*Prayer after Communion**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn** “Go, My Children, With My Blessing” #543

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Baptized believers sent into God’s world to share God’s love and grace.**

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**Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!**

**Pastor Ed Pease:**

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- A special welcome to any visitors! Please take the time this morning to fill out the visitor card located with the hymnals and either place it on the offering plate or give it to an usher.
- Women of the congregation - If you missed the women’s group meeting this past Wednesday, there is a form on the usher’s table for you to fill out. Please fill it out and turn it into the office mailbox. Thanks!
- Vacation Bible School is looking for monetary donations to help fund this year’s program. If you would like to give, you can write a check to the church and designate it for Vacation Bible School, or talk to Liz Wahlberg. Thank you!!
- The Women of the Western Iowa Synod board has 2 openings this year. We will need a new secretary and a board member. Please take a moment and decide if this is something you might be called to do. We meet about 4 times a year. Let the church office, or Gloria, know if you would like more information.

**This Week’s Events: April 19-26**

Today	9:00am	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
Tues.	7:00pm	<b>AA Meeting</b> (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)
Wed.	3:30pm	<b>KidZone</b>

Sun. 6:00pm **Confirmation**  
9:00am **Sundaes on a Sunday**

**Upcoming Events:**

Wed. Apr 29 Final KidZone

**Worship Assistants for April:**

Organist: Ruth Chartier  
Scripture Reader: Denny Bain  
Tech Assistant: Rebecca Brockhaus  
Greeters: Ann Hopp  
Greeters Next Week: Denny Bain

Altar Guild: Roger & Susan Christiansen  
Offertory Accountants: Steve & Lisa Rippke

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**Birthdays:** 19 - Bryan Alfredson, Wendy Ruhrer; 20 - Carsen Coulter; 21 - Brady Butters;  
23 - Hunter Koehn; 25 - Marty Riediger, Keely Sanchez

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**Prayers**

We pray for Kenny Stroman; Barb Kunkel; Carla Boggs; Barb Allner; Diane Riediger; Bill Nagel; Ed Kunkel; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.  
For those battling cancer: Jayme Webb –breast cancer; Jeni Aman.

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**God's Work. Our gifts. Thank you to all who support our ministry!**

**Our budget needs each week: \$3,175**

Electronic Giving	\$ 440.00
<u>General Offering</u>	<u>\$ 1,417.00</u>
Total	\$ 2,895.00

