ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH BARTLETT, TX ELW Holy Communion - Sunday, April 7, 2024 Second Sunday of Easter

Announcements Prelude

Thanksgiving for Baptism (ELW p. 97)

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Song - Thine Is the Glory - ELW Hymn #376

Thine Is the Glory



Text: Edmond Bodry, 1854–1932; u. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

Greeting (ELW p. 147)

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 (ELW p. 147)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. 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. Lord, have mercy. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 148)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day (ELW p. 150)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Song - Alleluia! Sing to Jesus - ELW Hymn #392

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



Test William C. Dis. 1837-1898, elt. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1911-1887

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

A reading from Acts.

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed

private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. 33 With

great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 133

Refrain: How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity. (Ps. 133:1)

¹How good and how pleas- ^I ant it is,

when kindred live togeth- I er in unity!

²It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up-¹ on the beard,

upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar [|] of his robe. R How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the ^I hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for- I evermore.

R How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

A reading from 1 John.

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of

life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal

life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be

complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all

unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone

does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 151)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked 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, which are not written in

this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come 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, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon (ELW p. 151) - Pastor Jeremy Ullrich Sermon (ELW p. 151) - Pastor Jeremy Ullrich Hymn of the Day - I Know That My Redeemer Lives! - ELW Hymn #619

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!



- 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
- 7 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.
- 6 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!
- I; 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same; what joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Test: Samuel Medley, 1738–1799, alt. Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Nicene Creed (ELW p. 152)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God. Light from Light. true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

Prayers of Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

Peace (ELW p. 152)

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Offering (ELW p. 152)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer (ELW p. 152)

Let us pray.

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.

Dialogue (ELW p. 152)

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.

Preface (ELW p. 153)

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 (ELW p. 153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution (ELW p. 153)

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 154)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray. 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. Invitation to Communion (ELW p. 154)

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Communion (ELW p. 154)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn - Around You, O Lord Jesus - ELW Hymn #468



Prayer after Communion (ELW p. 155) Let us pray.

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 (ELW p. 155)

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 Song - Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life - ELW Hymn #719

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



- 5 O Master, from the mountainside make haste to heal these hearts of pain; among these restless throngs abide; oh, tread the city's streets again;
- 6 Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod; till glorious from your heav'n above shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt. Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Socred Melodies, 1815

Dismissal (ELW p. 155)

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

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OFFICIATING & SERVING - April 7					
Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell			
Pastor Asst.	Wayne Zieschang				
Communion Asst.	Lynn Stroud				
Lector:	Kristi Dague				
Usher Captain:	Duane Kurtin				
Ushers:	Sharon Kurtin, Scott Janke, Collin Randig				
Greeters:	Walt & Rita Saverse				
Altar Care:	Donna Campbell & Daffney Pajestka				
Teller Captain:	Judy Gersbach				
Teller:	Duane & Sharon Kurtin				
OFFICIATING & SERVING - April 14					
Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell			
Lector:	Kristi Dague				
Usher Captain:	Duane Kurtin				
Ushers:	Sharon Kurtin, Scott Janke, Collin Rand	lig			
Greeters:	Walt & Rita Saverse				
Altar Care:	Donna Campbell & Daffney Pajestka				
Teller Captain:	Judy Gersbach				
Teller:	Duane & Sharon Kurtin				
_	OFFICIATING & SERVING - App				
Pastor:	Jeremy Ullrich	Organist: Debra Caldwell			
Pastor Asst.	Weldon Kurtz				
Communion Asst.	Harold Kurtz				
Lector:	Lynn Stroud				
Usher Captain:	Tim Steglich	ā			
Ushers:	Justin Young, Michael, Joey, and Travis	Saverse			
Greeters:	Harold & Joan Kurtz				
Altar Care:	Robert & Dorothy Marwitz				
Teller Captain:	Pam Fleming				
Teller:	Linda Chaffin				

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE						
	Worship A	ttendance C	Offering	YTD		
Mar 24	102	\$4	,178.00	\$38,957.75		
Mar 28	58	\$1	,576.50	\$40,534.25		
Mar 29	35	\$	216.00	\$40,750.25		
Mar 31 Sur	nrise 66	\$	554.06	\$41,304.31		
Mar 31 Eas	ster 114	\$4	,272.00	\$45,576.31		
IN OUR PRAYERS						
Garland Wen	ıtrcek	Stanley Glaser	Janie Barron	Lange Eldon Lange		
Celeste Gam	rod	Pansy Lange	Janelle Jar	nke Risa Steglich		
Ruth and Ray Janke		Gayle Bielss	Sharon Rar	ndig Shelby Pagel		
		Kim Ferguson	Garland Tow	vnsend		
Darrell Kurtz(Twin Brother of Harold Kurtz) Andrea Griffith(co-worker of Evelyn Steglich)						
Monica Blane(Pastor Daniel Blane's daughter) Erin Steglich's Friend's Dad-Mr. Hardy						
James Chapman(Dorothy Marwitz's Brother-in-law)						
Josh Ramirez & Sheena Woods(Sharon Randig's friends)						
Margie & Jeff Burton Family(Deborah Martin's friend)						
Jimmy Dubose-grandfather of Kendal & Jr Gersbach and Great-grandfather to Cayson & Barrett						
FUTURE HAPPENINGS						
Monday: Dominoes each Monday in TRC @ 2:00 pm						
Wednesday:						
Thursday: Piece Makers meet each Thursday in the TRC @ 1:00 pm						
ANNOUNCEMENTS						
<u>Piecemakers Request</u>						

The Piecemakers have asked for any sewing, crocheting, knitting, and supplies for sewing quilts. This would include sewing machines, scissors, rotary cutters, fabric, thread, pins and needles or anything that pertains to quilting.

Pastoral Visits

We are encouraging those hospitalized, nursing home residents (or, their family members), and the homebound members and friends who wish to schedule an in-person pastoral visit or phone call to contact Pastor Jeremy Ullrich @ 979-421-3303 or the church office @ 254-527-3341. **NOTE:** Pastor Ullrich will need to be listed as a "visitor of choice" in hospitals or nursing homes. This will need to be established by a family member.

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is at 9:15am in the TRC Youth Sunday School starts February 11 @9:30am.

Articles for the Newsletter

Please submit your articles for the monthly newsletter before the 19th of the month, as they are mailed out the following week. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

When you make a prayer request for a non-member, please provide the church office with contact information so that we can send them a card. Thank you.

Will-O-Bell Nursing Home Worship

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the residents of our local nursing home! Through communion and a 30-minute hymn sing-along, please show these residents they are not forgotten by joining us on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Granger and on the third Thursday of each month at 10AM in Bartlett. Please come and make a resident smile.

Live Stream Learning

St. John has purchased a camcorder to help with our live stream. We are looking for tech-inclined volunteers interested in testing out different settings. We will use an apprenticeship model for training, so you will have a mentor helping as long as you wish. For more information, contact the church office (254-527-3341).

Martha's Circle Bible Study

Martha's Circle Bible Study is the 4th Wednesday of every month @ 10am, for more information contact Janice Atchison (254-721-8477).

Flag Donations

3x5 U.S. Flags with grommets are appreciated for our church. In memory of loved ones, you may donate flags, or make cash donations, at the church office. For further information contact Walt Saverse @ 254-770-8381, or contact the church office @ 254-527-3341.

Sisters in Christ Bible Study

The Sisters in Christ Bible study (Saturday Bible Study) is every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10am They are studying a new series titled "Fierce" by Jennifer Cowart. The study covers lesser known ladies in the Bible and the ways they changed the world by living into God's calling.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets each Wednesday at 7:30am in the TRC.

Congregation

I want to thank everyone for their continued prayers, words of encouragement, cards and love sent to me. My family at St. John is amazing, as you continue to lift me up in prayer. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for making my days brighter and easier. God Bless You All, Celeste Gamrod.

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School every Sunday. Class will begin at 9:30am and end at 10:15am. Youth ages 3 through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. We will sing, hear a Bible story and work on crafts. There is a need for volunteers. Anyone who can help in any way, please text Sharon Randig at 512-713-4433.

Childcare for Pastor's Children

My family is looking for childcare help. Specifically, we seek trustworthy and caring individuals to sit with the kids (7/5/3) for two to three hours while they watch their age-appropriate shows in our home. Our biggest needs are during the week, especially for Wednesday nights in Lent (Feb 14 to March 27). \$20 per hour. Super friendly family dog. Please call or text your interest or potential leads at 979-421-3303. Thank you in advance for blessing my family! -Pastor Jeremy

Dominoes

Every Monday @ 2PM in the TRC- Domino games (42 and Straight)

Rose Garden

On April 14 after the worship service we will be celebrating Betty Wendler Rose Dedication with a light noon meal. All members are invited to attend.

Heart of Texas (HOT) Spring Gathering

The Spring Gathering will be held at Covenant Lutheran Church in Temple Texas on Saturday April 27, 2024 from 9 am to 1 pm. Registration forms are available in the TRC and are due April 1st. WELCA will cover the registration fees for those who attend. Please turn forms into the church office.