



Epiphany Lutheran Church
 2375 GA Hwy 20 SE, Conyers, GA 30013
 (770) 483-6222
 www.conyersedc.org

April 14, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Easter

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome all who believe in Jesus Christ to the Lord’s Supper as we partake in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. For those who would prefer, grape juice is available in the center ring of each serving tray. If you do not wish to receive communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing. God’s forgiveness and love is for everyone.

We are honored that you are with us today and we ask everyone to please sign the *Friendship Register* in each pew. Visitors are asked to also complete a *Visitors Card* from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Again, Welcome!

***Invites the congregation to stand.**

HOLY COMMUNION – *Setting 4*

Prelude: *”Arioso”*
 J. S. Bach setting for organ, David N. Johnson

Welcome and Announcements

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

[P] Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
 [C] **Amen.**

[P] Look, here is water!
 [C] **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

[P] Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

[C] **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

[P] At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

[C] **Amen.**

[P] Look, here is water!
 [C] **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

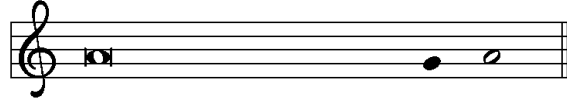
***Gathering Hymn:** *“Day of Arising”* ELW #374
As the hymn begins, the congregation turns toward the entrance to face the processional cross.

***Greeting**

[P] 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.**

***The Kyrie**

ELW, Page 147



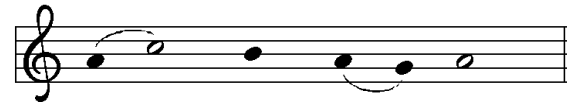
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



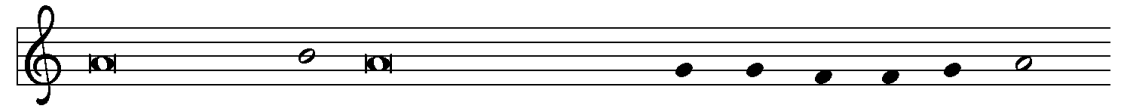
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

***Hymn of Praise**

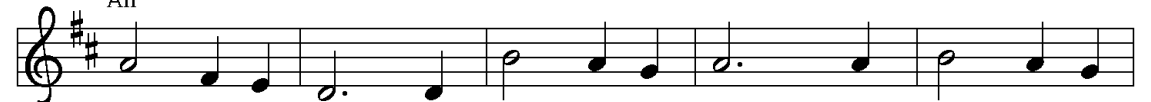
ELW Page 149

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***The Prayer of the Day**

[P] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Let us pray...

[C] **Amen**

Insert

Children's Message

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

Children's Church (*Children are invited to the Fellowship Hall for further worship/education.*)

The First Lesson: *Acts 3:12-19*

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: *4; refrain, Ps. 4:3*

Insert

(*Congregation sings verses in **bold** print only.*)

The Second Lesson: *1 John 3:1-7*

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation:**

ELW, Page 151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***The Gospel:** [P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 24th chapter.

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 24:36b-48

Insert

[P] The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

***Hymn of the Day:** “*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*” (verses 1-3) ELW #364

***The Apostle’s Creed**

ELW, Page 105

**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.**

***The Prayers**

After each portion of the prayers:

[A] God of grace,
[C] **hear our prayer.**

***The Peace** is shared by all.

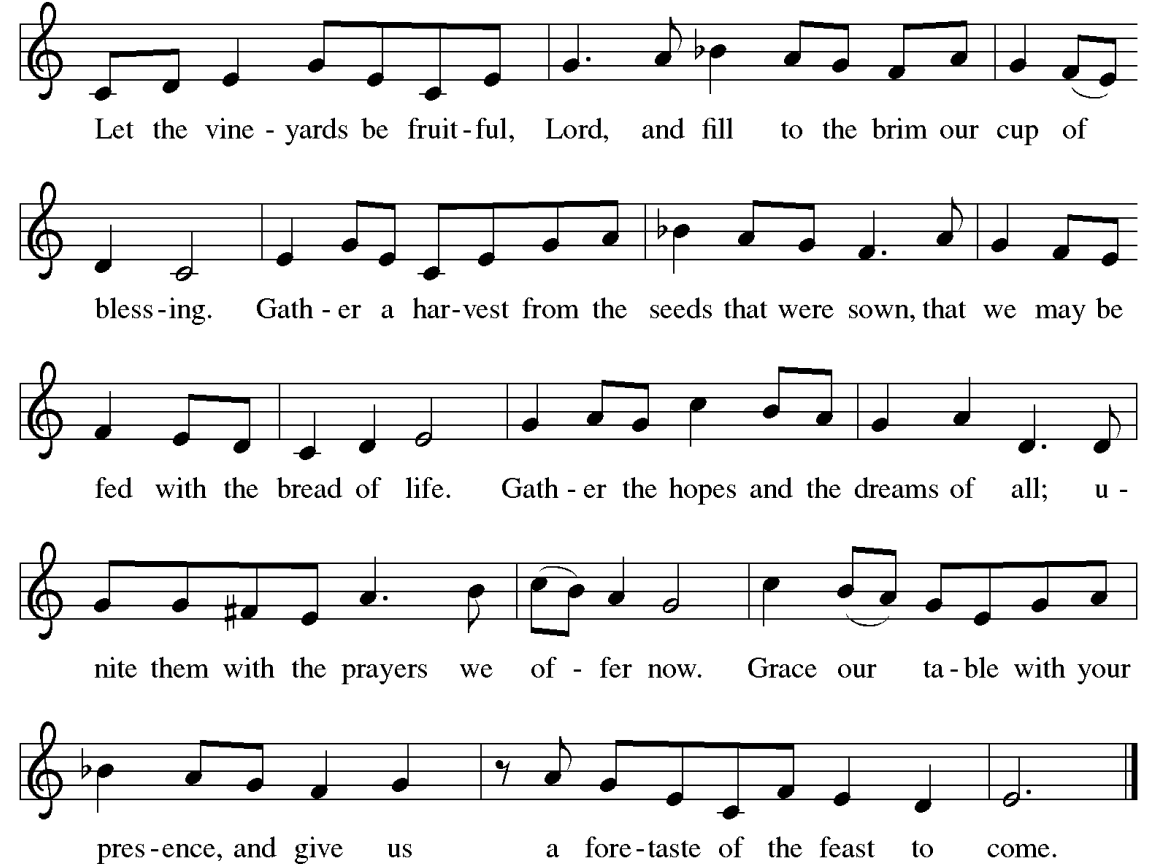
[P] The peace of the Lord be with you always.
[C] **And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

The Offering

Handbell Offertory: “*Puer Natus*” Played by Epiphany Handbell Choir

***The Offertory Hymn** “*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*” ELW #182



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***Offering Prayer**

[A] Let us pray together.

[C] **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

ELW, Page 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

[P] It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

[P] 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.

[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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Communion *(Please follow the instructions of the ushers in coming to receive communion.)*

"Lamb of God"

ELW, Page 154

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: “Come, You Faithful, Rise the Strain” ELW #363
“The Day of Resurrection!” ELW #361

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

[A] Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
[C] Amen.

***Benediction (Blessing)**

[P] God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.

God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

[C] Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done” ELW #366

As the cross is carried out during the singing of the hymn, the congregation turns to face the cross.

***Dismissal**

[All] Follow Christ, Live Faithfully, Serve All. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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