

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

200 West Anderson Lane - Austin, Texas 78752

Called by grace, led by faith, welcoming all to share God's love.

SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER



APRIL 27, 2025

✝ You are invited to make the sign of the cross

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Deacon Bill Krejci Presiding

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Margaret Manz

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (responses in bold type)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

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

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright + ELW 384

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE This Is the Feast + ELW page 149-150

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded
hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your
mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Please be seated)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING Acts 5:27-32

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

PSALM 118:14-29

¹⁴The Lord is my strength ¹ and my song,
and has become ¹ my salvation.
¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents ¹ of the righteous:
"The right hand of the ¹ Lord acts valiantly!
¹⁶The right hand of the Lord ¹ is exalted!
The right hand of the ¹ Lord acts valiantly!"
¹⁷I shall not ¹ die, but live,
and declare the works ¹ of the Lord.
¹⁸The Lord indeed pun- ¹ ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- ¹ ver to death.
¹⁹Open for me the ¹ gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks ¹ to the Lord.
²⁰"This is the gate ¹ of the Lord;
here the righ- ¹ teous may enter."
²¹I give thanks to you, for you have ¹ answered me
and you have become ¹ my salvation.
²²The stone that the build- ¹ ers rejected
has become the chief ¹ cornerstone.
²³By the Lord has ¹ this been done;
it is marvelous ¹ in our eyes.
²⁴This is the day that the ¹ Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be ¹ glad in it.
²⁵Hosanna! ¹ O Lord, save us!
We pray to you, Lord, pros- ¹ per our days!
²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name ¹ of the Lord;
we bless you from the house ¹ of the Lord.
²⁷The Lord is God and has giv- ¹ en us light.
Form a procession with branches up to the corners ¹ of the altar.
²⁸You are my God, and ¹ I will thank you;
you are my God, and I ¹ will exalt you.
²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for the ¹ Lord is good;
God's mercy en- ¹ dures forever.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4-8

...Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God. (Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia + ELW page 151

(Please be seated)

GOSPEL John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord...

...The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (Please stand following)

HYMN OF THE DAY We Walk by Faith + ELW 635

APOSTLES' CREED ELW page 105 (on insert)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great...

...in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

PEACE (Please be seated following)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF OFFERING Special Music + JoAnn Gerbig

OFFERTORY I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me + ELW 860

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along
with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life
into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen
body in the world. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Please stand)

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...

...and join their unending hymn (Holy, Holy, Holy + ELW page 153)

...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 (Please be seated following)

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God + ELW page 154

Touch that Soothes and Heals + ACS 939

The Day of Resurrection! + ELW 361

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send
us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your
risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Father, ✝ Son,
and Holy Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and
always. Amen. (Please stand for the sending song)

SENDING SONG The Peace of the Lord + ELW 646

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Margaret Manz

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

PSALM 118:14-29

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When 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.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So 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.”

²⁶ A 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.” ²⁷ Then he said to

Can I Get a Witness?

The texts for today explore what it means to be a witness: the power of seeing and experiencing the resurrection firsthand. For those of us who weren’t there in person to witness Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, a question persists: How do we give witness? How have we experienced Easter firsthand? What do we need to see, to touch, to hear in order to believe?

The witness given in our readings today is extraordinary. “Doubting” Thomas comes up with one of the most powerful, concise creeds in all of scripture: “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28). Peter and the apostles affirm their belief in Christ at great risk to themselves and their families. The Spirit is at work, giving ordinary, doubting people extraordinary boldness to declare the core beliefs of Christian faith. God works in surprising ways, through unexpected people, to share the good news of Easter. With the Spirit’s help, we can give witness too.



Gospel continued

Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But 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.

