

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020 – Online Worship Service

Congregation parts are printed in **bold**.

Please make sure you have a small bowl of water on hand and ready for our time of baptismal remembrance.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Ruth Bills, Musician

WELCOME AND GREETING

GATHERING HYMN

Rise, Shine You People!

ELW Red Hymnal 665
(verses 1 & 3)

- 1** ***Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.***
- 3** ***Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
of Jesus' glory.***

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

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EASTER AFFIRMATION

P: He is risen!

C: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Messiah, Jesus, your followers established churches in communities near and far. Take us outside of ourselves and teach us to give away what you have given to us. Show us how to witness to your presence in places near and far.

C: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 17:1-9

After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, 'This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you.' Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the market-places they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, 'These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus.' The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:9-11

P: Hear now the Holy Gospel according to the thirteenth chapter of Mark:

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

‘As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pr. John Strommen, Preacher

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Red Hymnal 658

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts*(verses 1 & 4)*

- 1** *O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all:
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts, we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.*
- 4** *O Jesus, ever with us stay! Make all our moments fair and bright!
Oh, chase the night of sin away! Shed o'er the world your holy light.*

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION

- P:** As we prepare to remember our baptism, we affirm that baptism is a daily event.
- C:** **In the waters of my baptism, I live as a member of God's family, repenting daily and giving thanks to God for God's blessings and promises to me. In these waters, the Holy Spirit daily drowns my sinful self and calls forth the new person that I am in Christ, created to love my neighbor. I affirm this ongoing work of the Holy Spirit. I affirm that I belong to Jesus.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- L:** Let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- 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.**

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

- P:** "You belong to Jesus"

BAPTISMAL BLESSING

- P:** By the power of the Holy Spirit, may the waters of your baptism surround you in grace and empower you to love your neighbor!

RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We will do the prayers like we normally do, where you can offer petitions. some of you have already sent prayers by email. I will read those first. Those who want to respond live may do so, and I'll read those also.

P: Let us now enter into a conversation with the living God by offering up what is on our hearts and minds. We begin by praying for those among us who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially for Trish, Kathy, Glenn, Peggy, Barb, and Dick.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

Individual petitions from the congregation, silent and spoken, personal and global, are invited. If spoken, end with the words: Lord, in your mercy,

P: Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy and in your grace.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINAL BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

C: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN
Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW Red Hymnal 671
(verses 1 & 2)

Refrain:

*Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light*

1. *Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me [Refrain]*
2. *As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me [Refrain]*

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Thank you to Jenni Lathrop for managing our Facebook Live comments and responses and to Paul Lathrop for providing the audio and video support for this worship service.