

# Christ United

Second Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024



## Welcome!

**(Stand)**

**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.**

**P:** Alleluia. Our hearts burn within us

**C:** **while you open to us the scriptures. Alleluia.**  
**(Luke 24:32)**

**A:** The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

**Opening Song (Stand)**

**Prayer of the Day:**

**P:** Shepherd of all, by laying down your life for your flock you reveal your love for all. Lead us from the place of death to the place of abundant life, that guided by your care for us, we may rightly offer our lives in love for you and our neighbors **C: Amen**

**A: The First Bible Reading: Acts 3:12–19 (Sit)**

**A:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**A: Psalm 4**

**A: The Second Bible Reading: 1 John 3:1–7**

**A:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**P: Holy Gospel: Luke 24:36b–48 (Stand)**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th Chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

*The Gospel lesson is read*

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Kids Time and the Sermon (Sit)**

## **Song of the Day (Stand)**

### **Apostles' Creed (Stand)**

**C:** 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 again 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**

- P:** Oh God, your Son remained with his disciples after his resurrection, teaching them to love all people as neighbors. As his disciples in this age, we offer our prayers on behalf of the universe in which we are privileged to live and our neighbors with whom we share it.
- A:** O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- Other intercessions may be offered by anyone at this time.*
- P:** Open our hearts to your power moving around us and between us and within us, until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, in communities transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken. **C: Amen.**

### **The Peace is shared at this time**

- P:** The peace of the Lord be always with you. **C: And also with you.**  
People may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

## Offering –

**April Noisy Offerings** to: Autism Alliance of Michigan **(Stand)**

**P:** Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life,

**C:** **you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**P:** Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**C:** **Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**(Sit) The Bread is broken**

**P:** All who are hungry and thirsty, come. The table is ready.

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

*Communion today is open to all. The Episcopal and Lutheran Churches believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine.*

*Communion is either wafer and individual cup, or celebrated as spiritual communion. You will receive a wafer from the pastor (gluten-free wafers are available upon request). You will then take a cup from the tray the assistant is holding (wine in the outer rings, grape juice in the center). Eat the wafer and drink from the cup. You will not be ushered but ask that you come forward when ready and return to your seat when you have received communion.*

### **(Stand)**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **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. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P:** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## **Closing Song (Stand)**

## **Announcements**

## **Faith Word for the Week**

## **Last week's word: Courage**

## **Dismissal**

**A:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!.**

**A:** And next week.

**C: Bring a friend!**

**P:** Presiding Minister

**A:** Assisting Minister

**C:** Congregation