

## 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.**

## ST. LUKE'S RULE OF LOVE (READ RESPONSIVELY)

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious; or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; It is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)*

Called by God in our baptism and filled with the presence of Christ through the Lord's Supper, we believe love should show itself through our individual lives in:

**Thought by before acting, our thoughts should reflect kindness, grace and acceptance.**

**Word by hearing, respecting, praying for you with kindness, love and care.**

**Deed by putting others before oneself, being obedient to our faith in God and by acting in a God caring way towards others.**

As members of the body of Christ and citizens of the kingdom of heaven, we will show this love in our life together at St. Luke's Lutheran church:

**In what we do by listening in kindness and acceptance. Seek common ground, learn and adjust. If necessary, we disagree with love and respect.**

**In responding to unloving and disrespectful behavior by respectfully listening and clarifying your reasoning. We will strive to find a mutual solution through love and kindness. If necessary we will part ways with grace.**

## BLESSING

(ELW p. 155)

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

**"COME, YOU FAITHFUL, RAISE THE STRAIN"**

ELW 363

## DISMISSAL

(ELW p. 155)

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

## ALTAR FLOWERS

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Marc Sweet  
and the peace that transcends all understanding.

Given by the Sweet Family

### CONTACT US:

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Keith Copeland;

[pastorkeith@stlukeselca.org](mailto:pastorkeith@stlukeselca.org)

(704) 201-6633

Financial Recording Specialist, Kathy West; [west@stlukeselca.org](mailto:west@stlukeselca.org)

Office Administrator – Ami-Luise Vucovich; [office@stlukeselca.org](mailto:office@stlukeselca.org)

Church Website - [www.stlukeselca.org](http://www.stlukeselca.org)

# Saint Luke's Lutheran Church

3200 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28209  
(704) 523-7981

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024  
10:00am



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### RITE OF BAPTISM

People of God, do you promise to support Margo and pray for her in her new life in Christ? Do you promise to support her family as they raise this child of God?

**Congregation: We do.**

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

(ELW p. 229)

...Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

(ELW p. 230)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

### BAPTISM

(ELW p. 230)

*Margo Amelia Wasil* is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Congregation: You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain *Margo Amelia* and stir up in *Cooper and Diamond* the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

*Margo Amelia*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## GATHERING SONG

**"I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT"**

ELW 815

**GREETING**

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.**

**(ELW p. 147)****PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection 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.**

**(ELW p. 150)****CHILDREN'S CHURCH****FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19**

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?" <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. <sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

**(NRSV NT p. 146)**

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

**SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

**(NRSV NT p. 291)**

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

**(ELW p. 151)****GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48**

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

**(NRSV NT p. 110)**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

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

**SERMON****HYMN OF THE DAY****"JESUS, STILL LEAD ON"****ELW 624****PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

....God of grace, **hear our prayer.**  
....through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE****OFFERING****ANTHEM****"SING PRAISE TO THE LORD"**

SETTING BY ROBERT A. HOBBY

**OFFERING RESPONSE****ELW 182**

*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. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

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.**

**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)****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.*

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE****(ELW p. 153)**

...be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER****(ELW p. 154)**

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)**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

**COMMUNION**

*All are welcome to God's table of Grace! There are gluten free wafers and grape juice available.*

**COMMUNION SONG****(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.*