

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org

215-389-1513

April 19, 2026
Third Sunday of Easter

Ministry Assistants Today

Lector: *Cathy Ufheil*

Intercessor: *Carol Jenkins*

Usher: *Mark Roberts*

Altar Guild: *Jeanette Woehr*

Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Organist: *Adam Haines*

Ministry Assistants April 26

Lector: *Eric Rega*

Intercessor: *Seamus Stimpson*

Usher: *Jim Ufheil*

Altar Guild: *Christine Pickup*

Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Organist: *Adam Haines*

Welcome to Gloria Dei!

It's hard to overstate the significance of this season – more than any other season, Easter is at the heart of the Christian faith. For this reason, Easter is celebrated for a full 50 days (it's intentionally longer than Lent). Today, we continue to celebrate that the grave could not contain Jesus. In any other story, Good Friday would have been a tragic ending. Jesus would have died a martyr – and though he may have been an ongoing source of inspiration – his life would be over. But in this story, Jesus rises from the dead, and that changes everything. Death is no longer the end of the story, for Jesus or for us. Rather, we see that God's love and healing cannot be contained. It may take a while yet, but we know that evil will ultimately be defeated, and death will ultimately be destroyed. Please join us throughout this Easter season as we celebrate this resurrection hope, and as we look to see what new things God is doing in this community.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**
(Congregation is invited to sit for the readings.)

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Cathy Ufheil

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.

O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

(Continued...)

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn # 204

Now the Green Blade Riseth

Hymnal 1982

Gospel Reading

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke (24:13-35)**
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon **Rev. Chris Micklewright**

The sermon is an opportunity to reflect on the readings of the day in light of the traditions of the church, the whole of Scripture, and the needs of our world today. You are welcome to disagree with Rev. Chris, and are invited to reach out to him for further discussion of anything related to the readings or sermon.

After the sermon, there will be a few moments for quiet reflection. Then the congregation will stand to reaffirm our faith using the Nicene Creed. Some elements may be strange or confusing – and you are invited to engage in conversation and reflection around the Creed. In the life of faith, we sometimes confess more than we fully understand, and God's grace is faithful to meet us wherever we are on the journey.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son. With the Father and the Son he
is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People *(the leader and the people pray responsively)*

Carol Jenkins

- Celebrant Fellow children of God – as we celebrate the new act of creation that began with Jesus’ resurrection from the dead, let us remember the parts of our world that are yet in need of God’s healing and redemption.
- Intercessor Give thanks to the LORD for God is good.
People God’s mercy endures forever.
- Intercessor Giving thanks for Jesus, who calls us to live in the power of his resurrection, we pray that the church may be a faithful reflection of God’s healing love – and we pray especially for Sarah, Sean, and Daniel, our Bishops; for Chris, our priest; for Rachel, our postulant, for our vestry and potential future vestry members; and for all the people of this congregation.
(Pause) The LORD is our strength and our song;
People God has become our salvation.
- Intercessor Remembering that it is better to rely on the LORD than to put any trust in rulers, we pray for those who hold power, locally, nationally, and internationally. May they seek justice and peace, and may we have the courage to do likewise.
(Pause) Open for us the gates of righteousness;
People May we enter in, offering thanks to the LORD.
- Intercessor: As we look at the news, we acknowledge the reality that troubles swarm around us like bees and blaze like a fire of thorns. Today, we pray for immigrants and others who feel afraid in our country, for those struggling with homelessness or addiction, and for the victims of warfare.
(Pause) May the works of the LORD touch every corner of the earth;
People That those in distress shall not die, but live.
- Intercessor When we are pressed so hard that we almost fall, the LORD promises to come to our help. Therefore, we remember the needs of this congregation, praying especially for: Sara, John, Erica, Elia, Eulogio, Sheila, Emily, Monica, Amy, William, Betty, Dina, Gia, Beth, Thomassina, Julie, Denise, Jason, Laurie, Peggy, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack.
(Long pause for additional names) I called to the LORD in my distress;
People The LORD answered by setting me free.

(continued...)

Intercessor Trusting that Jesus has opened the way through death to everlasting life, we remember all whose have tasted of death – and we hope for the resurrection.

(Long pause for additional names) Our eyes are ever looking to the Lord,

People For you are the God of our salvation.

Celebrant Loving God, we believe that you have acted on this day, and that your love will not rest until every wrong is made right. Help us with our unbelief. Give us eyes to see your marvelous works. And grant us courage and hope to work alongside you for the healing of this world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace, Announcements, & Offertory

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you. *(Please share the peace by greeting your siblings in Christ.)*

Pre-Offertory Hymn # 495

Hail Thou Once Despised Jesus


Hymnal 1982

Offertory Sentence

Offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord. Fulfill your vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people. *-Psalm 116:15-16*

Collecting an offering is a way for us to remember that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are to be responsible stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code found on the back of the bulletin. After the collection, the offering is brought forward as we stand to sing the following song of thanksgiving.

Flowingly, in 1 Unknown



Praise God from whom all Blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above all heavenly hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Holy Communion –Eucharistic Prayer C

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise. *(Then, facing the Altar, the Celebrant proceeds)*

Celebrant God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for beauty, creativity and love. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed. *(continued...)*

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Flowingly Paul Fejko

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of Po - wer and might, Heav'n and Earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est. Ble - ssed is he who comes,
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est, ho - sa - nna in the high - est.

Celebrant On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
People We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Celebrant God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal. Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

People (In a loud voice!) AMEN!

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All	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, For ever and ever. Amen.
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Fraction & Invitation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant This is the table not of the church but of our Lord Jesus. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Jesus who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

*All those interested in receiving communion should make their way forward to the rail, while the elements are prepared for distribution to the congregation. Episcopal theology recognizes baptism as the formal entry into the Christian community, and baptism is normally a prerequisite to receiving communion. However, we also recognize that God meets us wherever we are on our journey of faith. Moreover, Jesus regularly welcomed and ate with people from outside of his normal community. **Therefore, all are welcome at this table - including children!***

Kneel or stand at the rail, as you are comfortable. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available – just hold up one finger to receive either of these alternative elements. The priest will distribute wafers, which you receive in your outstretched hands. If you wish to receive the cup, you may drink or dip your wafer; it is also okay to receive the wafer only – we believe that Jesus is fully present in each of the elements of communion. If you prefer not to receive, you are still warmly invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing Rev. Chris Micklewright

Closing Hymn # 313

Let Thy Blood

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

*All are invited to listen to the postlude,
and then to join us for a time of fellowship in Riverside Hall.*

Gloria Dei Clergy and Staff

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Christine McBride, Parish Administrator
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Gloria Dei Vestry

*Gabrielle Barbour, Ann Brilliant, Angel Guido, Re Henning, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden),
Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Cathy Ufheil (Secretary), Jeanette Woehr*

Online Giving Available

It is possible to give to Gloria Dei on our website,
www.old-swedes.org/give, or using the QR code:

