THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - CONFIRMATION
Order of Worship – 9:00 AM
+ Service of Holy Communion +
Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB)

AS WE GATHER – God’s Word is always effective; we cannot truly hear it and remain as we were. What a revelation! Today’s Scripture Readings all reflect this truth. In Acts, Saul, once responsible for the stoning of Stephen, is changed into the apostle Paul, the human author of much of the New Testament. In the vision in Revelation, John’s sorrow is drowned out by the hosts of heaven as they praise the Lamb who is worthy to receive all our praise. And in the Gospel, Peter is forgiven for his weak faith on Holy Thursday and given the gracious invitation to follow his Lord. Now it is our turn to be changed—into people freed from sin and death to serve our living Lord.

PRESERVICE MUSIC “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” by Christopher Loemker

WELCOME [Please fill out prayer request cards.]

[Please rise and turn to face the processional cross as it is carried into the church.]

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Lift High the Cross LSB 837

Refrain
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim Till
all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
3 All new-born soldiers of the Crucified
4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,

(continued)
INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

P  in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C  Amen.
P  Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C  He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P  Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
C  to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!
P  To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
C  be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P  Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C  who made heaven and earth.
P  If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C  But, with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.
P  Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider
our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought,
word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His
people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace
for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
C  Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.
P  Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all
your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive
you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. C  Amen.

INTROIT

Ps. 145:4–7, 9; antiphon: Ps. 145:10

P  All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
C  and all your saints shall bless you!
P  One generation shall commend your works to another,
C  and shall declare your mighty acts.
P  On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
C  and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.
They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
The LORD is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.
All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the Highest

1 To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be got-ten, The Fa- ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a lone are ho-ly; You only are the Lord.

Good-will from God in heav en Pro claimed at Je sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav ior, You take our sins a way.
For ev er and for ev er, Be wor shiped and ad ored;

We praise and bless You, Fa ther; Your ho-ly name, we sing—
Have mer cy on us, Je sus; Re ceive our heart felt cry,
You with the Ho-ly Spir it A lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo ry, Lord God, our heav n ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa ther's glo ry. "A -men!" our glad re ply.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Let us pray.
All: O God, through the sacrifice of Your Son on the cross to the empty tomb, You revealed Christ risen and the life-changing mercy and love for us and all mankind. Grant to Your faithful people a daily recognition of His victory over sin, death, and the grave, that we might serve You in confident joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.
FIRST LESSON
(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)
A This is the Word of the Lord.  C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON
(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)
A This is the Word of the Lord.  C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

C Alle-lu-ia, alle-lu-ia, alle-lu-ia.
C These things are writ-ten that you may be-lieve that
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

HOLY GOSPEL
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.
(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE
[Prayer requests will be collected at this time.]

HYMN OF THE DAY  We Are Called to Stand Together  LSB 828

1 We are called to stand to-geth-er With the saints of
time past, With the pa-triarchs and proph-ets
side by side, Heard His teach-ing, felt His pow-er,
Gos-pel spread: Faith-ful her-alds took the mes-sage,

2 Those whom Je-sus called a-pos-tles Jour-neyed with Him
bra- tion ring; Mil-lions who con-fess our Sav-iors

3 Through the in-ter-ven-ing a-ges Round the world the
snade, ex-plain, Till the time when time is end-ed,
SERMON

“TOOLS IN GOD’S TOOLBOX”

Acts 9:1-22

I. God made Paul to be an instrument of His grace.

II. God uses Word and Sacrament, Law and Gospel, to make us His instruments.

NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made Man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING / CHORAL SELECTION

“Yes, My Jesus Loves Me”

Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower

1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tower; Thee will I
2 Thee will I love, my life, my Savior, Who art my

love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my
best and truest friend. Thee will I love and praise for-
RITE OF CONFIRMATION

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Blessed Lord, You appeared to the disciples, showing Yourself again as the one and only risen Redeemer. You forgave Peter his betrayal and appointed him to feed Your sheep. Forgive our sins, restore us to Your service, and bless all that we do that it be to Your glory. Risen Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P You turned Saul from an enemy of Your kingdom into Your servant and sent him as an apostle to the Gentiles. Turn our hearts from rebellion and resistance to Your Word and Spirit, and lead us to be bold witnesses of Your mercy in words and in deeds. Risen Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P You set apart nations and governments for the protection of people, for justice, and for the promotion of virtue. Raise up good and honest leaders here and everywhere, and guide them on the path of peace for the benefit of all. Risen Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P You deliver the sick from their illness, the wounded from their pain, the grieving from their sorrow, and the dying from their fear, [especially . . . ]. Bless all people according to their need with grace sufficient to carry them through their day of trouble, and sustain them in faith, according to Your gracious will. Risen Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P You bestow upon us the resources we need for this body and life and You equip us with eternal life. Grant that in our baptismal vocation we live for more than the moment and use the resources entrusted to us for Your eternal purpose. Risen Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P You show us mercy and grant us forgiveness though we deserve neither. Through Your Means of Grace You come to us in simple ways, yet with powerful grace through Jesus’ body and blood given and shed for us. As we join in fellowship at Your Table, help us through Your Spirit’s gift of faith that we recognize our risen Lord, and Him alone, for our forgiveness of sins and nourishment of faith. Risen Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

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

P Lift up your hearts. 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.
It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy

P

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P

C

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P

O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE
F The peace of the Lord be with you always.
F Let us share this peace with one another.
(C And also with you.
(People greet one another saying: “Peace be with you. And also with you.”)

[Remain standing]
ëAGNUS DEI

C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world away;
You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,

Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, Lord, we pray.

Reminder: gluten free wafer (by holding up an index finger to the elder), and non-alcoholic wine (the white grape juice in the center) are also available.

ëDISTRIBUTION HYMNS
Father Welcomes

Refrain

Fa-ther wel-comes all His chil-dren To His fam-i-ly
through His Son. Fa-ther giv-ing His sal-va-tion,

Life for-ev-er has been won.
God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It

1 God’s own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ! He, because I could not pay it,
in - to Christ! I have comfort even strong - er:
in - to Christ! Drop your ugly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:

2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ! I have comfort even stronger;
in - to Christ! Drop your ugly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:

3 Satan, hear this procla - ma - tion: I am baptized into Christ! I have comfort even stronger;
in - to Christ! Drop your ugly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:

4 Death, you cannot end my glad - ness: I am baptized into Christ! I have comfort even stronger;
in - to Christ! Drop your ugly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:

5 There is nothing worth com - par - ing To this life - long in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
in - to Christ! I have comfort even strong - er:
in - to Christ! Drop your ugly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:

Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth’s trea - sur - es man - y? I have one worth con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
Je - sus’ cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
To in - her - it par - a - dise? Though I lie in con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
Even there I’ll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -
The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

1 The gifts Christ freely gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From absolution flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The holy Word is read;

To be His Church, His bride, His chosen, saved and free!
New life He gives that makes Us His and His alone.
The pastor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
God's children listen, hear, Receive, and they are fed.

Saints blest with these rich gifts Are children who proclaim
Here He forgives our sins With water and His Word;
For-giveness that we need Is granted to us there;
Christ fills them with Himself, Blest words that give them life,

That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
The tri-une God Himself Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
The Lord of mercy sends Us forth in His blest care.
Re-storing and re-fresh-ing Them for this world's strife.

(continued)
5. The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.

6. All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The Triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live! Amen.

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NUNC DIMITTIS

SONG OF SIMEON

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. C Amen.
BENEDICTION
P Let us bless the Lord
C Thanks be to God.
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace. Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Thine Forever, God of Love

1 Thine forever, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne above;
2 Thine forever! Oh, how blest they who find in Thee their rest!
3 Thine forever, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earthly strife.
4 Thine forever! Shepherd, keep these Thy frail and trembling sheep;
5 Thine forever! Thou our guide, all our wants by Thee supplied,

Thine forever may we be here and in eternity!
Savior, guardian, heav'nly friend, O defend us to the end!
Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
Safe alone beneath Thy care, Let us all Thy goodness share.
All our sins by Thee forgiven; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

[Birthdays: Carol Petersen]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" by Jeffrey Blersch

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Roger C. Wohletz, Pastor .................. 720-283-8128 / email: pastorroger@christlutheran-denver.org
Renee Ortado, ECC Director/Preschool Teacher 303-828-6735 / email: renee@christlutheran-denver.org
Beth Buss, Music Director .................. 970-778-5696 / email: bethbuss4@gmail.com
Rob Hatton, Congregation Chairman .................. 303-906-9395 / email: roberthatton1@gmail.com

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:

Total General Offering Blessings – (04/01/19 through 04/30/19) .................. $ 41,906.76
General Fund ................................................. 21,494.00
E.C.C. Tuition .................................................. 18,610.99
Loose Plate, Sunday School, and Other Gifts ........................................... 1,801.77
Total Expenditures ........................................... 36,366.11
Surplus / (Deficit) .................. 5,540.65
Fiscal Year Cumulative Surplus / (Deficit) .................. (19,502.69)

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