



You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love**

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Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



April 16, 2023
Second Sunday of
Easter

Gathering

✘ INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

✘ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C **Amen.**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

P Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C **Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

P Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C **Amen.**

✘ GATHERING HYMN – Thine is the Glory (ELW #376)

✘ GREETING

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.**

✧ GLORY TO GOD– (ELW p. 204, Setting Ten)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

✧ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Word

✘ FIRST LESSON – Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✘ RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 16

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

✠ SECOND LESSON – 1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel

✘ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Be Not Afraid (ELW #388)

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The first system of musical notation consists of a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords in the right hand.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation continues the vocal and piano parts from the first system. It concludes with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment ends with a final chord in the right hand.

✘ GOSPEL – John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the twentieth chapter.

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

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

✠SERMON

✠ HYMN OF THE DAY - Touch That Soothes and Heals (ACS #939)

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✠ APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 105)

P With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

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 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.

✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and one another. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world.

After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward.

Please stand, as you are able.

✠OFFERING PRAYER

A Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Meal

✘ 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 our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✘ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 10, ELW p. 207)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

✠ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life...: Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us.... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones... O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

✠ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

✠ COMMUNION HYMN – In This Feast of Love (ACS #962)

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✠ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

✠ BLESSING

P The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✘ SENDING HYMN – We Walk by Faith (ELW #635)

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✘ DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
P Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Monthly Bible Study

Monthly Bible Study will meet on **Tuesday, April 18, at 10 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to join us. We will continue our study of the Ten Commandments. Bring a friend and your Bible. Contact Hattie at hattie.hammer@sbcglobal.net or call 972-637-3191 for more information or a ride.



Giving to Grand Prairie Food and Clothing Co-op

Thanks to ALL of you who contributed to the Lenten food drive by bringing dozens of cans of green peas! ORLC provided 60 pounds of green peas when the Co-op could not find them from their other sources.

Sheets (any size) and towels head up their current list. During the March monthly meeting, it became clear that the biggest need the Co-op has this spring is for volunteers to help sort and hang up donated clothing. Any amount of time donated is welcome! The Co-Op is open 9-11am, Tuesday through Friday. The address is 118 NE 4th Street, Grand Prairie, TX 75050. Phone is 972-264-8540.

Online Services

Sunday services will be live streamed on Facebook and posted to YouTube and our website the next day.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OurRedeemerLutheranGP/>

YouTube: <https://studio.youtube.com/channel/UC55fFOePGIBoSwOF8c8FZLQ>

Website: <https://www.ourredeemergp.org/recorded-services.html>

✠SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal
Music Director:	John Zacharias
Altar Care:	Nina Martinez
Assisting Minister:	Kris Davies
Lay Reader:	Mel Hammer
Usher:	Kris and Gene Davies
Videographer:	Cheri Oertel
Communion Cup Holder:	Cassi Bennett
Sunday School Teacher:	Katie Valencia

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