

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



JOHN 20:19-31

“DO NOT DOUBT BUT BELIEVE”

*Doubting Thomas encounters the risen Christ. Can doubt be part of faith?
Or is doubt even an integral part of a growing faith?*

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

APRIL 19, 2020

lutheranchapelchurch.org

(704)864-6491

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
APRIL 19, 2020
HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY
SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER**

**Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.
BOLD indicates congregational responses.*

GATHER

WELCOME

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

Psalm 118:14, 17, 19, 24

P: We gather together in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made;

C: we will rejoice and be glad in it!

P: The Lord is my strength and my song.

C: The Lord has become my salvation.

P: Open to me the gates of righteousness;

C: I will go through them and praise the Lord.

P: I shall not die, but live,

C: and declare the words of the Lord.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made;

C: we will rejoice and be glad in it!

*HYMN

“The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”

ELW #366

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o’er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor’s
 2 The pow’rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav’n’s high
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death’s sting free your

tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: 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. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

ACTS 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

^{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,

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

C: Thanks be to God.

“Center of My Life”

Paul Inwood

Congregational Refrain:

1. Keep me safe, O God, I take refuge in You. I say to the Lord, "You are my God. My happiness lies in You alone; my happiness lies in You alone."

2. I will bless the Lord Who gives me counsel, Who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight; since He is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even in safety shall my body rest.
For You will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let Your beloved know decay.

4. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence, at Your right hand, at Your right hand, happiness forever.

Refrain:

THE SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

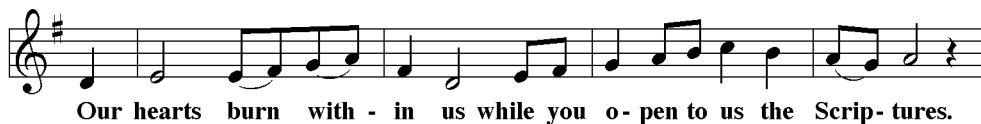
³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by 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.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:1, Luke 24:32



*GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

Response after the announcement:

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the 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.

MESSAGE

“Do Not Doubt but Believe”

Doubting Thomas

Blessing the Doubter

Journey of Faith

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: I can’t see and touch the wounds of Jesus, do I believe? Will my doubt lead to a deeper faith or end of faith?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: The risen Jesus blesses all who believe throughout the journey of faith now and forever..

On Discipleship: Ask the question. Pray the question. Wrestle with the question with other sisters and brothers in Christ. What is your take away for your walk with Christ?

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

ELW #363



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.
 with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal;
 who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
 comes to glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
 but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing
 Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
 your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.
 Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

WOV pg. 49

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate this on the prayer card and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and

sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body

and the life + everlasting. Amen.

P: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith:

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

P: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Open the doors we close, O God, when we fear those who worship you in different ways. Guide us to unity and harmony so that we may come to respect and cherish our commonalities. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Prayers conclude:

P: With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, 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.**

SENDING

***THE BLESSING**

WOV pg. 53

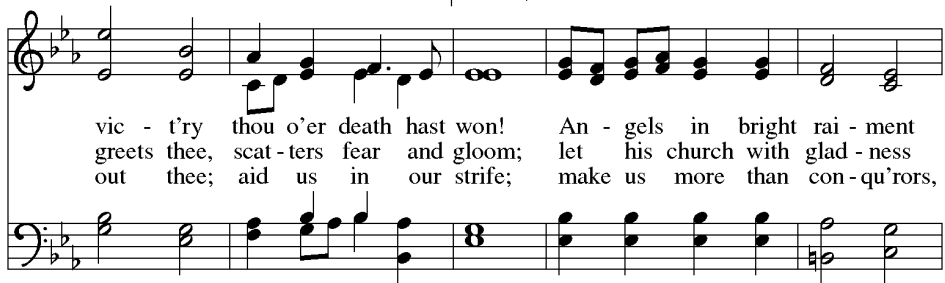
***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

"Thine Is the Glory"

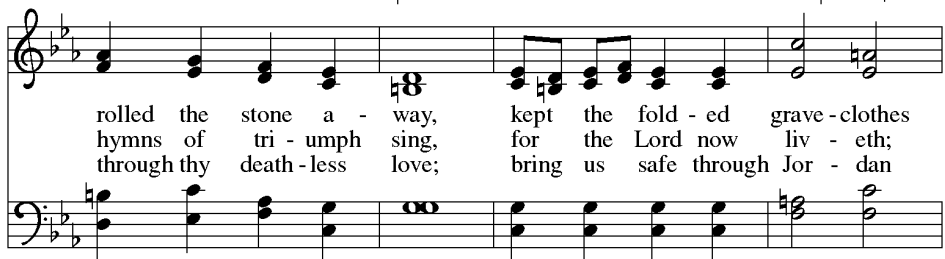
ELW #376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

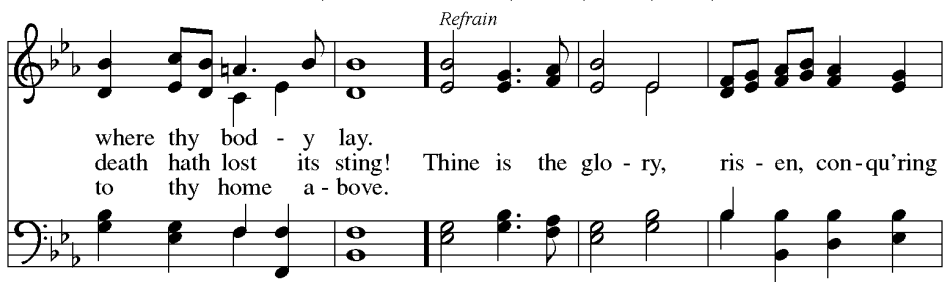


vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

***THE DISMISSAL - LUTHERAN CHAPEL CHILDREN AND POSTLUDE**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

+ + + + + + + + + + +

PARISH NEWS

EVENING PRAYERS: A Simple Form of Evening Prayer will be offered on-line into the fifty days of the Easter season on Wednesdays at 7PM. In contrast to the full Evening Prayer liturgy with canticles such as *Joyous Light of Glory* and the *Magnificat*, this simple form will focus on the recitation of God's Word for our lives, songs of praise, and a simple lesson from 1 Peter. A copy of the simple form of Morning Prayer, Noon Prayer, and Evening Prayer will be sent out by email upon request, and a bulletin will be posted for all who choose to prayer together week by week.

WORSHIP SERVICES: As the coronavirus shut down continues, Lutheran Chapel will stream worship services on Facebook Live at Lutheran Chapel Church in Gastonia, NC on Wednesdays at 7PM and Sunday at 10:30AM. The daily lessons are at *Our Daily Bread* (odb.org/subscribe) and the Sunday lessons from the Revised Common Lectionary are at dailyLectio.net. A pdf of the weekly bulletin is available on the church website and Facebook.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: An on-line Sunday School lesson will be held via Zoom Sunday mornings at 9:30. Please email Steve Laws at stephenclaws@gmail.com to sign up. Also, Sunday School books with the weekly Bible study may be picked up at the church office or mailed to you upon request.

YOUTH: Roots will meet **tonight from 5:00PM – 6:00PM** via Zoom for a combined Sunday School and Youth. Sprouts will meet **Wednesday evening, April 22 at 6:00pm** via Zoom. Amy Carpenter will send out Zoom link via email for each meeting. Questions contact Amy amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB: The April meeting on Esther will be held **online via Zoom** on Thursday, April 23rd at 6 pm. Amy will send out the meeting link via email. Depending on what device you plan to use, you may need to download the Zoom app. Please confirm your participation in the women's book club by contacting Amy at

amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org so she can email you the meeting link. Amy can also send you a video tutorial on how to use Zoom if needed.

2020 VBS: Because of our current circumstances and limited information as to when these circumstances will change, the Christian Ed and Family Ministries Committee has decided to postpone VBS to a later date. More information to come.

FACE MASKS: Thanks be to God for Kay Moretz and for her team of seven making face masks for our fellowship. When you go out to places that you can expect a crowd such as at grocery stores, doctor offices, (hopefully one day soon church and Sunday School!), you may want to wear this mask to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

TITHES & OFFERINGS: Some church members have asked how they can send tithes and offerings to church since we are not meeting in person. Options include: utilizing offering envelopes to mail (or a regular envelope) or giving on-line through our church website: lutheranchapelchurch.org, top right-hand corner “give” which is a link to Easy Tithe. Any questions or concerns call our Treasurer Ed Robinson.

CAM FOOD DRIVE: The CAM box has been placed under the drive through outside the office. If you are able, please continue to place non-perishable items in this box and it will be checked every couple days and delivered to Crisis Assistance Ministry. Some items in need are – pancake mix and syrup, cereal, canned fruits, meat, soup and vegetables (no green beans or corn), spaghetti and sauce, grits, oatmeal, rice, crackers and personal care items. We realize that shopping can be complicated at this time, however, if you are able to pick up (or order if you are having your groceries delivered) a few extra items to place in our donation box, it would be greatly appreciated as CAM struggles to meet the needs of those who do not have the money to grocery shop. Thank you so much!

CARE LINE & PRAYER CONCERNS: An effort to gather a group of volunteers for a “love and caring” phone tree to check in with our church family while we practice social distancing is underway. Please contact Debbie Laws, Katherine Sanders, or the church office if you are interested in serving as a caller. Finally, if there are any urgent prayer needs or concerns during this time, please call or text Pastor Michael at 704-787-6439.

DAILY PRAYER

EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (Psalm 1:2) A prayer list, daily lessons to read the Bible together each year, and a song of praise are below. The “*Our Daily Bread*” devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit odb.org/subscribe. Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Braylon Beam, B.T. Bradley, Donna Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Hunter Clark, Tonya Dowdy, Kathy Finch, Alfred Lineberger, **David Myers serving in Coast Guard in NYC**, Robert Park, Betty Petty, Doug Rhyne, Fran Rice, Barbara Robinson, and Bill Robinson.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Harry Angstadt, Ruth Benoy, Baby Ellis Brown, Andy Clapham, Josh Dockery serving in South Korea, Amelia Edwards, Jamison Franklin, Travis Hogue, Mary Jackson, Ernie Kincaid, Suzanne Ledford, Bill McCullen, Sam & Lara Rasanen, Martin Salois, Pastor Peter Setzer, Mary Ann Sheridan, Charlene Sorenson, Dana Williams, AC & Julie Woodring, and Lulu Zizak.

WEEK 17: APRIL 19, 2020 to APRIL 26, 2020

04/19 Morning Reading: Luke 15:1-10—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 6, 7, 8

04/20 Morning Reading: Luke 15:11-32—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 9, 10, 11

04/21 Morning Reading: Luke 16—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 12, 13

04/22 Morning Reading: Luke 17:1-19—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 14, 15

04/23 Morning Reading: Luke 17:20-37—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 16, 17, 18

04/24 Morning Reading: Luke 18:1-23—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 19, 20

04/25 Morning Reading: Luke 18:24-43—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 21, 22

04/26 Morning Reading: Luke 19:1-27—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 23, 24

Song Of Praise “*Thine Is the Glory*” ELW #376

Next Sunday, APRIL 26, 2020

10:30 Service of the Word: Luke 24:13-35 ~ “*The Road to Emmaus*”

Note: dailyLectio.net provides the complete Revised Common Lectionary for both Sunday and daily lessons.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK
SUNDAY, APRIL 19 - SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020

| | | |
|----------------|----------|---|
| Sun-19 | 9:30 am | Sunday School via Zoom |
| | 10:30 am | Worship Service ~ Streamed on Facebook Live |
| | 5:00 pm | Roots via Zoom - combined Sunday School & Youth Group |
| Wed-22 | 6:00 pm | Sprouts via Zoom |
| | 7:00 pm | Simple Evening Prayer ~ Streamed on Facebook Live |
| Thur-23 | 6:00 pm | Women's Book Club via Zoom |

