



## The Third Sunday of Easter

### **Resurrection Hymn. "Christ Is Arisen!"**

LSB #459

*Text: German, 12th-15<sup>th</sup> cent; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909-67*

*Tune: "CHRIST IST ERSTANDEN"*

1. Christ is arisen  
From the grave's dark prison.  
So let our joy rise full and free;  
Christ our comfort true will be.  
Alleluia!
2. Were Christ not arisen,  
Then death were still our prison.  
Now, with Him to life restored,  
We praise the Father of our Lord.  
Alleluia!
3. Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Now let our joy rise full and free;  
Christ our comfort true will be.  
Alleluia!

*Concordia Publishing House 1969*

*Text: Is. 26:19; 1 Cor. 15:17-20*

*Public domain*

*Tune: Latin c. 1100*

### **DIVINE SERVICE Setting One**

LSB pages 151ff

#### **Invocation.**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Response: Amen.**

#### **Confession and Absolution.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**Response: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

#### **Response:**

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Response: Amen.**

#### **Introit/Psalm.**

*Psalm 133; Psalm 133:1 (ESV)*

<sup>1</sup> Behold, how good and pleasant it is  
when brothers dwell in unity!

<sup>2</sup> **It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down on the beard,**  
on the beard of Aaron,

running down on the collar of his robes!

<sup>3</sup> **It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion!**

For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,  
life forevermore.

**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.**

Behold, how good and pleasant it is  
when brothers dwell in unity!

**Kyrie.**

Verse: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

Verse: For the peace from above  
and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

Verse: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

Verse: For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord have mercy.**

Verse: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Response: Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise.**

Verse: Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to His people on earth.

**Response:**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father:**

**We worship You, we give You thanks,  
we praise You for Your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the World;  
have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the  
Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Response: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Response: Amen.**

**Readings from Holy Scripture.**

**Acts 2:14, 36-41 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ... <sup>36</sup> Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" <sup>38</sup> And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

<sup>40</sup> And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." <sup>41</sup> So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Verse: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual.**

*Adapted from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

**Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.**

**1 Peter 1:17-25 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. <sup>20</sup> He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; <sup>24</sup> for

“All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Verse: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. (Romans 6:9 ESV)**

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Verse: The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Response: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Luke 24:13-35 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.

<sup>16</sup> But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> 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 happened. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, <sup>29</sup> but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” <sup>33</sup> And they rose that same

hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, <sup>34</sup> saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Verse: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day.**

**“Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow”**

**LSB #476**

*Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923*

*Tune: “JEFFERSON”*

1. Who are you who walk in sorrow  
Down Emmaus’ barren road,  
Hearts distraught and hope defeated,  
Bent beneath grief’s crushing load?  
Nameless mourners, we will join you,  
We who also mourn our dead;  
We have stood by graves unyielding,  
Eaten death’s bare, bitter bread.
2. Who is this who joins our journey,  
Walking with us stride by stride?  
Unknown Stranger, can You fathom  
Depths of grief for one who died?  
Then the wonder! When we told You  
How our dreams to dust have turned,  
Then You opened wide the Scriptures  
Till our hearts within us burned.
3. Who are You? Our hearts are opened  
In the breaking of the bread—  
Christ the victim, now the victor  
Living, risen from the dead!  
Great companion on our journey,

Still surprise us with Your grace!  
Make each day a new Emmaus;  
On our hearts Your image trace!

4. Who are we who travel with You  
On our way through life to death?  
Women, men, the young, the aging,  
Wakened by the Spirit’s breath!  
At the font You claim and name us,  
Born of water and the Word;  
At the table still You feed us,  
Host us as our risen Lord!
5. “Alleluia! Alleluia!”  
Is the Easter hymn we sing!  
Take our life, our joy, our worship  
As the gift of love we bring.  
You have formed us all one people  
Called from ev’ry land and race.  
Make the Church Your servant body,  
Sent to share Your healing grace!

*Concordia Publishing House 2006*

*Text: Luke 24:13-35*

*Text: © 2000 National Association of Pastoral Musicians*

*Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven 1835*

*Tune: Public domain*

**Sermon.**

**“The Word of the Lord Remains Forever”**

**1 Peter 1:24-25**

<sup>24</sup> “All flesh is like grass  
and all its glory like the flower of grass.  
The grass withers,  
and the flower falls,  
<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever.”  
And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

## He is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!**

The rains of March and April have many of us cutting grass. The lush lands of Kentucky are verdant—or in other words, our grass is green and growing.

The land of Israel is not as verdant; in fact, the land is a wilderness. Yet, the rains of March bring streams in the desert and a splash of green. But their grass is fading.

Past the green grasses and wildflowers, the two disciples walked. The road from Jerusalem to Emmaus was very likely going down. And as they walked, they were talking about the events of the past. They spoke of their disappointment.

**Luke 24:15** “While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup>But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.”

They were not casual bystanders. Jesus the Christ was crucified. They would have known Jesus well. And Jesus, their hope, was now gone.

An ancient Christian story says Cleopas was the brother of Joseph and the brother-in-law of the Virgin Mary. “Mary of Cleopas,” who stood by the cross with Jesus’ mother, was the wife of this Emmaus disciple. Simeon, their son, a cousin to Jesus, would later become bishop in the Jerusalem Church.

Cleopas lived in Emmaus, some threescore furlongs, sixty stadia, or about seven and a half miles outside Jerusalem. Many think the other disciple walking with Jesus was Cleopas’ son Simeon. These two walked together after the wretched week. They had crucified the Lord.

The stranger gently came alongside the two men. He asked about their topic as they walked and talked. They stopped, and stood, and looked, so sad. They spoke of their disappointment.

The seven and a half miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus looked out over the countryside. From November through March the rains from gray skies would turn the desert green. Streams in the desert would make the wilderness

bloom. Then from April through October, blue skies and dry winds would turn the landscape brown again. The Psalmist describes the sadness:

**Ps 103:15** As for man, his days are like grass;  
 he flourishes like a flower of the field;  
<sup>16</sup>for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
 and its place knows it no more.

And then there comes the refreshing joy:

**Psalm 103:17** But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,  
 and his righteousness to children's children,  
<sup>18</sup>to those who keep his covenant  
 and remember to do his commandments.

Cleopas and the other disciple knew the Scriptures; yet, their eyes could not recognize the risen Lord. Their hopes crushed, they could not look up.

**Luke 24:18** Cleopas, answered [Jesus], “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>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 happened. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”

Centuries before the coming of the Christ, Isaiah could see the salvation of all people. Yet, so close to the Savior, these disciples could not see. Isaiah gives voice to their blindness:

Isaiah 40:6 A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the Lord blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

Luke 24:25 [Jesus] said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

We hear the Scriptures today, and our cold hearts of stone are melted in the flame of the Gospel. Faith, kindled by the Holy Spirit, is drawn to the Lord who looks like He is going away. But, the disciples did bid Him stay, and, He stayed! He was made known in the breaking of the bread. His real presence calmed their fears and restored their faith. Such is Holy Communion today.

The grass is cut today and burned tomorrow. But, He is here to stay. Though He vanished from the Emmaus home, He is Risen! He is risen indeed! His Resurrection fills our hearts with hope. He is poured out on the cross, poured upon us in Baptism, and poured in with and under the cup. He is Risen! **He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Peter says of Him:

<sup>1</sup> Peter 1:20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

<sup>24</sup> "All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever."

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

He is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

Psalm 116 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

<sup>2</sup> **Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

<sup>3</sup> The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!"**

<sup>5</sup> Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

<sup>6</sup> **The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

<sup>7</sup> Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

<sup>8</sup> **For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup> I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

### **Apostles' Creed**

**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.

**Prayer.**

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Collect for the Word.**

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer.**

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.

**Offering.**—Send your offering to God by supporting your house of worship

**Offertory**

What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?  
 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving.  
 And will call on the name of the Lord.  
 I will take the cup of salvation  
 And will call on the name of the Lord.  
 I will pay my vows to the Lord now  
 In the presence of all His people,  
 In the courts of the Lord's house,  
 In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**Benedicamus.**

Verse: Let us bless the Lord

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**Benediction.**

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 peace.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn. "Abide, O Dearest Jesus"**

*Text: Josua Steggmann, 1588-1632; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923*

*Tune: "CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN"*

**LSB #919**

*The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*

*Text: Luke 24:29; John 1:4-5, 14, 17; 12:46; 2 Thess. 3:3*

*Public domain*

*Tune: Melchoir Vulpius, c. 1570-1615*

1. Abide, O dearest Jesus,  
Among us with Your grace  
That Satan may not harm us  
Nor we to sin give place.
2. Abide, O dear Redeemer,  
Among us with Your Word,  
And thus now and hereafter  
True peace and joy afford.
3. Abide with heav'nly brightness  
Among us, precious Light;  
Your truth direct and keep us  
From error's gloomy night.
4. Abide with richest blessings  
Among us, bounteous Lord;  
Let us in grace and wisdom  
Grow daily through Your Word.
5. Abide with Your protection  
Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us  
And overcome at length.
6. Abide, O faithful Savior,  
Among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us  
To reach our home above.

**Divine Savior Lutheran Church**

**1025 N. Buckman Street**

**Shepherdsville, KY 40165**

**(502) 543-2905**

[www.divinesaviorshepherdsville.org](http://www.divinesaviorshepherdsville.org)

[divinesaviorshepherdsville@gmail.com](mailto:divinesaviorshepherdsville@gmail.com)