

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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GOD FULFILLED
WHAT HE HAD
FORETOLD THROUGH
ALL THE PROPHETS,
THAT HIS MESSIAH
WOULD SUFFER.

Acts 3:18, NRSV



10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 14, 2024
Sermon: "More Amazing Than a Miracle"



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- A Family to Whom You Belong -
Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 14, 2024

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Praise Team Leader: Doris Hill

Usher: Tim Draube

Missionaries: Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf and the Siouxland Hispanic Ministry

Reader: Jami Langholdt

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER "Amazing" is a commonly used word in the English that has a rich history. It came into common usage in the 14th century as a variant of the older root word "amasod," which meant stupefied or confounded or overwhelmed with sudden surprise or wonder. The word "amazing" shows up several times in hymns that we sing—from describing the action of God in the birth of Jesus as "love amazing" (LSB 375:1) to bringing to our hearts and minds that in His suffering to pay the price of our sins, our Lord showed "amazing pity" (LSB 437:2). Two other hymns refer to the "amazing grace" of God (LSB 744:1; 558:2), and in another hymn, the author of the text rejoices that God "has done amazing things to me" (LSB 934:2). The season of Easter is a time for us to be truly amazed and filled with the praise of our amazing Lord!

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP 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. Amen.

Worship Service

(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Hand of Fellowship

The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences *Psalm 118:24; Romans 6:9; adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8*

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

C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C: death no longer has dominion over Him.

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

C: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

P: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

C: He has put all things under His feet.

Opening Song **“Holy is the Lord God Almighty”**

We stand and lift up our hands for the joy of the Lord is our strength
We bow down and worship Him now - How great, how awesome is He
And together we sing

Chorus: Holy is the Lord God Almighty - the Earth is filled with His glory
Holy is the Lord God Almighty - the Earth is filled with His glory
The Earth is filled with His glory

We stand and lift up our hands for the joy of the Lord is our strength
We bow down and worship Him now - How great, how awesome is He
And together we sing. everyone sing (chorus)

Yeah, it's rising up all around it's the anthem of the Lord's renowned
It's rising up all around it's the anthem of the Lord's renowned
And together we sing. everyone sing (chorus)

The Earth is filled with His glory.

(Words & music by Chris Tomlin & Louie Giglio, 2003 worshiptogether.com songs/ sixsteps music. Admin. By EMI CMG Publishing, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

Apostles' Creed

My Faith Journey — Caitlyn Haller

First Lesson Acts 3:11–21 (Peter preaches in the heart of Jerusalem.)

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

¹⁶And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent

therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets long ago.”

Second Lesson

1 John 3:1–7 (We are God’s children now.)

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that He appeared to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous.

(Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

Holy Gospel Luke 24:36–49

(The disciples are witnesses of the risen Lord.)

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Confession and Absolution

P: Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful, and we have not always lived as Your thankful and joyful people. We have indeed turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us all that is past, blot out our sins, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us steadfastness among all the changes of this world and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P: God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. May He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a victorious life on earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. As well-loved Easter people, rejoice and be glad! You are free indeed!

C: Amen.

Children's Message

The Song of Instruction "How Beautiful"

How beautiful that hands that served the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.
How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead.
How beautiful the tender eyes that choose to forgive and never despise.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

And as he laid down His life we offer this sacrifice that we will live just as He died;
Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King.
How beautiful the hands that serve the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.
How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

(Words & music by Twila Paris, 1990 Ariose Music, EMI Christian Music Pub., CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

The Word "More Amazing Than a Miracle"

WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

*Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.*

Psalm 24:1-2 The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for He founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.

Offertory "How Great is Our God"

Verse 1

The splendor of the King, Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

Chorus:

How great is our God! Sing with me, How great is our God!
And all will see How great, how great is our God!

Verse 2

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The God head, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. (chorus)

Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!
Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!

(Chorus 3 times)

(Words & music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash, 2004 worship together, Six Steps Music, used by permission, CCLI # 11440148 and 20162974)

The Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Going Out Song “Shout to the Lord”

My Jesus my Savior Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath all that I am never cease to worship You
Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty praise to the King mountains bow down
And the seas will roar at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You (repeat)

Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

(Words & music by Darlene Zschech, 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsongs Australia, Integrity Incorporated, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

