



*(During this time of extraordinary circumstances, this abridged Liturgy of the Word is designed to be used in the home in conjunction with its corresponding online video podcast.)*

## Prelude

## Invocation and Welcome

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
By his great mercy we have been born anew  
to a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1st Peter 1:3)

May the Risen Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

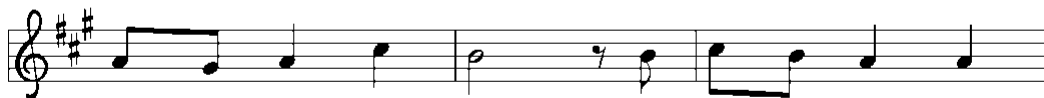
## Opening Hymn

## "We Walk by Faith"

ELW # 635



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.  
Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed 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, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so 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. <sup>8</sup>Although 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, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Holy Gospel

**John 20:19-29**

*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.*

The good news of Jesus Christ according to St. John:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When 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." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So 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."

<sup>26</sup>A 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." <sup>27</sup>Then 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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Though sung in Latin, here is the English translation)*

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
 The love of Christ has gathered us together.  
 Let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
 Let us revere and love the living God.  
 And from a sincere heart let us love one another.  
 Amen.

## Homily

*(Please join in this prayer offered at the beginning of today's Homily)*

Breathe on us, O Risen Christ,  
**that we may receive your spirit.**  
 Breathe on us, O Risen Christ,  
**that we may receive your peace.**  
 Breathe on us, O Risen Christ,  
**that we may be filled with newness of life. Amen.**

*(And join in this prayer at the close of the Homily)*

**Breathe upon me,  
 O Breath of God.**  
**Breathe into me,  
 O Breath of God.**  
**Breathe through me,  
 O Breath of God. Amen.**

## Apostles' Creed

With the whole Church in heaven and on earth, we confess our faith:

**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

Rejoicing in the resurrection, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation:

God of Promise, we pray for your Church, for this congregation, and for all our faith communities... that the presence of our Risen Lord raise up in us the gift of faith; an active, living, and extraordinary faith, that we may increasingly become the Body of Christ for the sake of the world which you so love. (Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**)

Teach us, O Lord, as we journey through these unprecedented days, to embody this extraordinary faith through the sharing of our resources, through the reaching out to others in life-giving ways, and through the giving away of ourselves in order to bless and to release the power of blessing. (Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**)

Holy God, we pray for that same power which raised Jesus from the dead to be near and to touch the lives of those who struggle, including *Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Claudine Michalek, Arlene Schirmer, Kim Friesenhahn, Kenny Knippa, Frances Franz, Russell Brown, Bill Brewer, Charlie Boehme, Alwin Schaefer, the Family of Harold Spivey*, and all who we name in our hearts... that your Holy Spirit would strengthen their bodies and spirits with the gifts of healing and wholeness and peace. (Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**)

O God, our strength, we continue to pray for our community, our nation, and our world. Protect the most vulnerable among us. Grant wisdom and safety to those whose daily work puts them at greater risk. Bring peace to those who grieve. And enable us all to face these days with compassion, generosity, and sacrificial love. (Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**)

With alleluias in our hearts and on our lips, we commend to your care, O Lord, all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Prayer List is updated monthly (or as needed).*

*For prayer requests, please contact the church office (210) 223-2611 or [info@StJohnsSA.org](mailto:info@StJohnsSA.org)*

## Lord's Prayer

Remember us, Lord, in your Kingdom, and help 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.**

## Benediction

Go, and take Christ with you into your everyday life;  
As he once sent the first disciples, he now sends you.

May the Risen Christ become visible and recognized:  
in your spirit of faith, in your courage, in your goodness,  
and in your love that reflects Christ's own serving love.

And may God bless you for this mission:  
the Father, and the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

### "Thine the Amen"

ELW # 826



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise  
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be  
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest  
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise  
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread  
thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee  
thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be  
thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways  
thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup  
gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry  
then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war  
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least  
then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly ccl - c - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.  
thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
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## Dismissal

Let us go forth in the peace of Christ.  
**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude



### *Saint Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

*Breathe in me O Holy Spirit,  
that my thoughts may all be holy.*

*Act in me O Holy Spirit,  
that my work, too, may be holy.*

*Draw my heart O Holy Spirit,  
that I love but what is holy.*

*Strengthen me O Holy Spirit,  
to defend all that is holy. Amen.*