



STORIES OF LIVES CHANGED IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday, April 11

## PRELUDE

“O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”

arr. Jean Francois Dandrieu

*Organ*

## WELCOME and RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

## OPENING HYMN “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

## OPENING LITURGY

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

**C: Amen.**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,

**C: we lie and do not practice the truth.**

P: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

**C: and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

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

**C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: If we say we have not sinned,

**C: we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.**

P: Almighty and everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy, You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word and our sinful condition.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: 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 neighbors 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.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## **HYMN of PRAISE “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”**

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 1:1-11 [ESV]**

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HOLY GOSPEL Luke 24:13-27 [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.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### AFFIRMATION of FAITH *from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossian 1:15-20*

P: Let us now confess our faith in our risen Lord, from the words of Holy Scripture, the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

C: **Christ died for our sins, was buried, and was raised to life on the third day, according to the Scriptures, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Amen.**

**SERMON HYMN “On Emmaus’ Journey”**

**SERMON “His Power, My Purpose”**

**OFFERING**

**RESPONSE “I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”**

**PRAYERS of the CHURCH**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**THE PREFACE**

**SANCTUS**

**PRAYER of PREPARATION**

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on us children of men and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive Him who comes to us in His body and blood.

**C: Amen.**

**WORDS of INSTITUTION**

**THE PEACE**

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

**C: And also with you.**

**AGNUS DEI**

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**  
“Variations on Middlebury”

arr. Charles Callahan

*Organ*

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

**BENEDICTION**

P: May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be all glory, and praise, and might, and majesty, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

**CLOSING RESPONSE “Oh, Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”**

**POSTLUDE**

“The Strife is O’er”

arr. George Miles

*Organ*



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