



STORIES OF LIVES CHANGED IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday, April 25

PRELUDE

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

arr. Jeffrey Blersch

Organ

WELCOME and RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

OPENING HYMN “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

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 “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 9:10-19 [ESV]

¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL John 16:25-33 [ESV]

²⁵“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

²⁹His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

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.**

HYMN of PRAISE “We Praise You, O God”

SERMON “HIS LIGHT, MY VISION”

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE “I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: Always and everywhere praise and thanks are due to You, almighty God, through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, by whose perfect obedience and all-sufficient sacrifice we are bold to stand in Your presence, now and in the day of judgment. Therefore, with those who bear Your name on earth and those who praise Your name on high, we join in the everlasting hymn:

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

“Two Variations on HYFRYDOL”

arr. Albert Travis

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 Rejoicing”

George Frederick Händel (1685-1759)

Organ



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