

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

**MORNING PRAYER**

Service for the Third Sunday of Easter – April 14, 2024

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Lord Jesus, open to us the scriptures; make our hearts burn within us while you speak. *See Luke 24.32*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that 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 neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Song: *He Is Lord*

**MORNING PRAYER**

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed: **O come, let us worship.**

**Christ our Passover**

*1 Corinthians 5.7–8; Romans 6.9–11; 1 Corinthians 15.20–22*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*

**therefore let us keep the feast,**

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*

**but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia!**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*

**death no longer has dominion over him.**

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*

**but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*

**and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia!**

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*

**the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

For since by a man came death, \*

**by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.**

For as in Adam all die, \*

**so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Acts 3:12-21.

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

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

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets.

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*

**you set me free when I am hard-pressed;**

**have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

“You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory; \*

**how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”**

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*

**when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.**

Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*

**speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

Offer the appointed sacrifices \*

**and put your trust in the Lord.**

Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” \*

**Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

You have put gladness in my heart, \*

**more than when grain and wine and oil increase.**

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*

**for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

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 for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the first letter of John 3:1-7.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision* (CP #505)

Canticle 19a: **The Song of Zechariah** – *Luke 1:68-79*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*

**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, \*

**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, \*

**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*

**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

free to worship him without fear, \*

**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

to give his people knowledge of salvation \*

**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*

**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

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 for ever. Amen.**

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (24:36-48). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, “Hear us, Lord of glory!”

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That by his power wars and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, [***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***] that they may be comforted and strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us.

**We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.**

**We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.**

**We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.**

**We thank you also for those disappointments and failures**

**that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.**

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

**Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.**

Collect

*O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread.*

*Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song: *Beautiful Things*

Dismissal

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**