

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva
English-Speaking Congregation
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Pastor: Rev. Andrew Willis
Organist & Interim Worship Leader: Regine Kummer

Third Sunday of Easter + 18 April 2021

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine*

Welcome

Prelude

Regine Kummer

Opening Words

Over and over again in the Gospels, Jesus says, "Peace be with you,"
as if the disciples would never get over being afraid.

The risen Christ speaks, eats, shows his hands and feet,
but they keep on questioning, waiting, trying to decide the way forward.

We meet, even in this strange way, to celebrate the presence of Christ,
who opens our minds to understand,

and to remember that we are called children of God,
who rejoices in us, offering us life, proclaiming to us and to our world, "Peace."

Hymn

Joy dawned again on Easter Day

Latin 5th century, translated by John Mason Neale altered

German carol



1. Joy dawned a - gain on Eas - ter Day, the sun shone out with bright ar - ray;
2. O Je - sus, Sav - ior, Gen - tle One, come take our hearts to be your own,
3. O Sov - ereign One, with us a - bide in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide;
4. All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to you, once dead, but now a - live!



for when the A - pos - tles hid in fear, the Ris - en Christ to them ap - peared.
that we may give you all our days, the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.
from ev - ery wea - pon death can wield, your own re - deemed for - ev - er shield.
To God the Fa - ther e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it now we raise!

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Baptism

God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob,
God of our spiritual ancestors from many times and places,
we thank you for those who have come before us in baptism,
to whose lineage we are joined,
through whom you have witnessed so that we might understand,
by whom you have demonstrated your love
so that we might never forget we are your children.

Risen Christ,
wash over us with your grace,
just as the waters of the Jordan washed over you,
so that even if we be bleary eyed and wet,
we see anew your body in our midst, your hands and feet,
and rejoice in your continuing presence with us.

Spirit of compassion and power,
*anoint us with your gifts,
so that we keep turning to you,
becoming more and more like Christ,
remembering, even in the midst of our uncertainties,
to whom we belong
and from whom we draw life.*

Blessed Trinity, we give you honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

Litany

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie eleison

Russian Orthodox

Gos - po - di po - mi - - - - luj.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie eleison

Russian Orthodox

Gos - po - di po - mi - - - - luj.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie eleison

Russian Orthodox

Gos - po - di po - mi - - - - luj.

For Christians gathering all over the world, offering their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie eleison

Russian Orthodox

Gos - po - di po - mi - - - - luj.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

Russian Orthodox



Hymn of Praise

Slava voveki Tsaryu nuebyessnomu!

Traditional Russian English Julia Garbuzova

1. Sla - va vo - ve - ki Tsa - ryu nye - byess - no - mu! Sla - va, sla - va!
1. Glo - ry to the God of cre - a - tion. Glo - ri - a, glo - ria, glo - ri - a!
2. Glo - ry to the Lord, Je - sus Christ, our Sav - ior for - ev - er, glo - ri - a!
3. Glo - ry to the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it, now and for - ev - er, glo - ri - a!
4. Glo - ry to the Trin - i - ty, most ho - ly, praise to the Tri - une God, glo - ri - a!

2. Slava Eesusu Christu I Spaseetyelyu!
Slava, slava!

3. Slava voveki Sviatomu Dukhu!
Slava, slava!

4. Slava voveki Triyedyinomu Bogu!
Slava, slava!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

First Reading

Acts 3:12-19

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.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?
How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?
But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.
When you are disturbed, do not sin;
ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many who say, “O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!”

You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.
I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

Epistle Reading

I 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.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

Serbian Orthodox

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia in a Serbian Orthodox style. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music is simple and homophonic, typical of Orthodox chant settings.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 24.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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 the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia

Serbian Orthodox

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Sermon

Andy Willis

Hymn

The strife is o'er

Symphonia Sirenum, Cologne. English Francis Pott

Giovanni P. da Palestrina: Italy

At the beginning and at the end

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

1. The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
2. The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their le - gions
3. He broke the age - bound chains of hell; the bars from heaven's high
4. Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting free your

- tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 has dis - persed. let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst.
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell.
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you.

Apostles' Creed

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 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.*

Prayers of Intercession

The Passing of the Peace

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

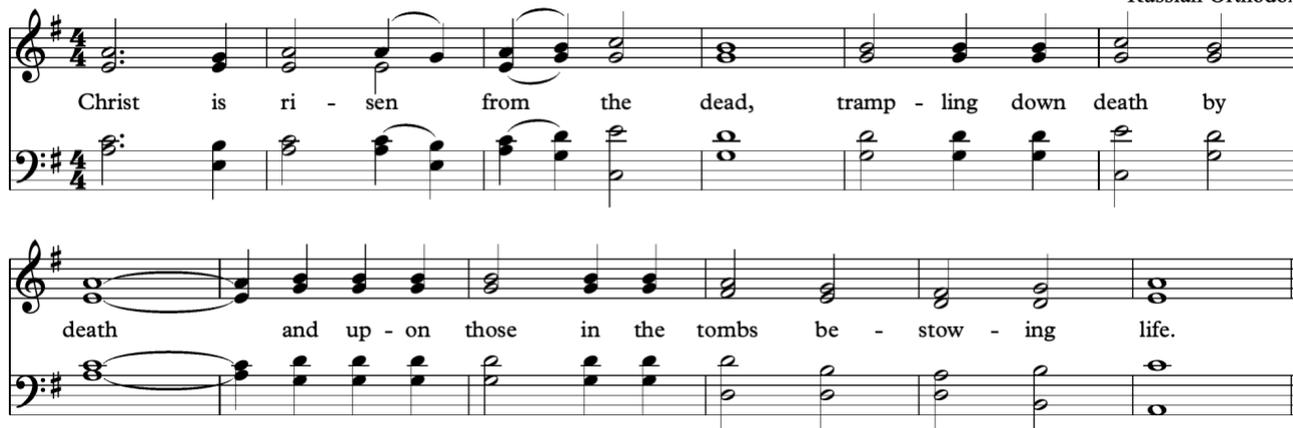
Gathering of Gifts

*Now all the vault of heaven resounds
 Germany: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623
 Mark Brown, trombone*

Antiphon

Christ is risen from the dead

Russian Orthodox



Christ is ri - sen from the dead, tramp - ling down death by
death and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

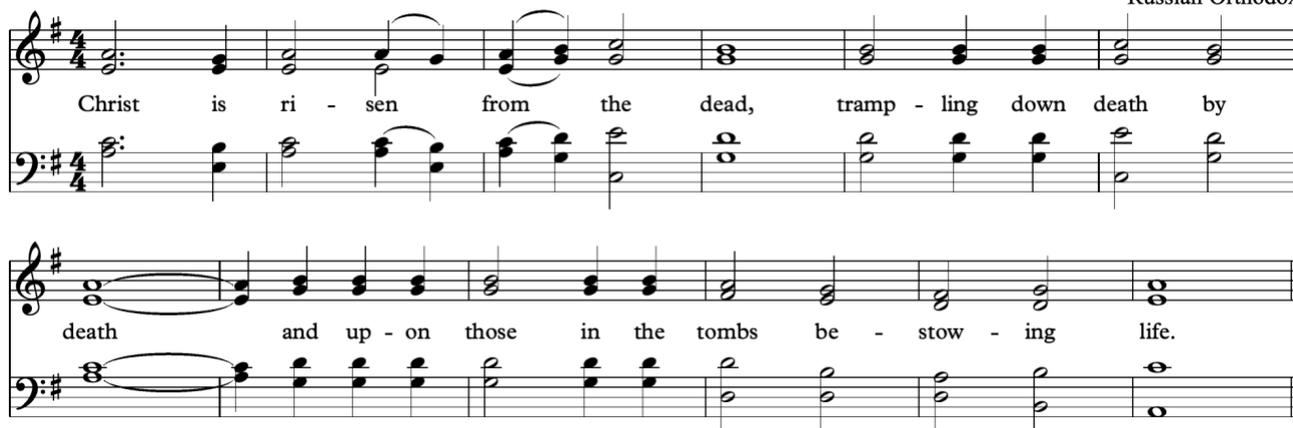
Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the answers in the night,
for the grace that feels like being heard,
for the space to heal from distress,
*we praise you, Christ, risen,
Christ, bestowing life.*

Antiphon

Christ is risen from the dead

Russian Orthodox



Christ is ri - sen from the dead, tramp - ling down death by
death and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

For the light of your face shining on us,
for the trust that sustains us in doing right,
for the truth that overcomes vain words
and sets us free from shame and bitterness,
*we praise you, Christ, risen,
Christ, bestowing life.*

Antiphon

Christ is risen from the dead

Russian Orthodox

Christ is ri - sen from the dead, tramp - ling down death by
death and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

For the gladness in our hearts,
more than when grain and wine abound,
for the peace of a renewed conscience
so we can lie down and sleep,
for the love that casts out fear,
*we praise you, Christ, risen,
Christ, bestowing life.*

Antiphon

Christ is risen from the dead

Russian Orthodox

Christ is ri - sen from the dead, tramp - ling down death by
death and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.*

Sending Prayer

Benediction

Announcements

Hymn

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing

Deutsch, Michael Weisse. English, Cyril A. Alington

Melchoir Vulpius

1. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the
 2. The Lord of life is risen this day; bring flowers of
 3. Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
 4. Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -

tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring;
 song to strew his way; let all the world re - joice and say:
 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 day with one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

* * *

Thank you to those assisting with leadership in today’s worship service:

Reader: Marina Dölker

Prayers: Caroline van der Veen

Liturgist: Terry MacArthur

Videography: Ray Woodcock

Flowers: German-Speaking Congregation

Musicians: Rena Igarashi, Regine Kummer, Koko Taylor

This Week’s Schedule: *

Thursday, 22 April	12h00	Centering Prayer
Sunday, 25 April	11h00	Worship on the Fourth Sunday of Easter
	12h15	Coffee hour
	13h15	Congregation Council meeting
<i>Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9h00–17h00; Fridays, noon–16h00</i>		

**(all activities take place online, unless otherwise noted)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Small Group Study - Opportunity to Join

Since the start of Lent, members of the congregation have been meeting for weekly online gatherings to discuss *We Make the Road by Walking*, by Brian McLaren. The book is an invitation to renewed engagement with the Christian faith. Groups will continue meeting through the Easter season—now would be a great time to join a group if you haven't already. Please contact Andy Willis with any questions or to sign up: pastor@genevalutheran.ch

Sign Up to Read Lessons or Lead Prayers in Worship

Would you be willing to read scripture lessons or lead the prayers of intercession for an upcoming live-streamed worship service? These portions of the service are typically led by members recording

themselves from home, and we are currently looking for volunteers for the months of April and May. You can sign up [using this form](#). Feel free to contact the church office with any questions.

Online Coffee Hour

An online coffee hour is being held regularly after worship—it's a great opportunity to connect with one another, and all are welcome to participate. *If you have not yet joined one of the online coffee hours and would like to be added to the list* for future Sundays, please send an email to office@genevalutheran.ch and we will gladly add you to the list.

Online Centering Prayer – Thursdays at 12h00

A group meets every Thursday at 12h00 for Centering Prayer via Zoom. Here's the link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86798266012>

Centering Prayer is silent prayer for around 20 minutes, often done in a group setting. More details about Centering Prayer are [here](#).

Thank You for Your Generosity

Generous contributions from members and friends have enabled our community to continue worshipping, serving, and sharing the good news of God's love near and far over the past year. Your support remains essential to our ministry together. Please continue to give as you are able this season—details are on our website:

<https://genevalutheran.church/giving/>