

**April 14, 2024**  
**3rd Sunday of Easter**



Leading Worship Today:

**Pastor:** Brian Entz

**Lay Leader:** Mike Quady

**Accompanist:** Ralph Johansen

*Please read along with all **Bold** text  
All are invited to stand when there is an \**

**Larger Print Hymns:** Please see an usher if you would like a copy of larger print hymns.

**Children's Bulletins:** Please see an usher if you are interested in a children's bulletin.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*All shall be Amen and Alleluia.  
We shall rest and we shall see,  
We shall see and we shall know.  
We shall know and we shall love.  
We shall love and we shall praise.  
Behold our end which is no end.  
-Saint Augustine*

GATHERING

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

I put all my hope in the LORD.

**God leaned down to me;  
and listened to my cry for help.**

The Holy One lifted me out of the pit of death,  
out of the mud and filth,  
and set my feet on solid rock.

**God steadied my legs.**

The Holy One put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise for our God.

**Many people will learn of this and be amazed;  
they will trust the LORD.**

Come, let us worship our God!

\*OPENING HYMN

**#251 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia**

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Holy One our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.**

**Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.**

*As water is poured into the font remember your baptism and that in these waters you are named as one of God's beloved and joined to Christ forever.*

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith.

Beloved people of God, through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Alleluia, Amen.**

### \*RESPONSE

*The Gloria Patri #581*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen. Amen.**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: Therefore, since we have been made righteous through Christ's faithfulness, we have peace with God. Let us also share peace with one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

*The people may exchange with their immediate neighbors, by words or gesture, signs of peace and reconciliation.*

### WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Testify to us, O God, by the voice of your Spirit. Put your law in our hearts, write your word in our minds, and show your will in our lives; through our Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 John 3:1-7 (NRSV)

1See 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. 2Beloved, 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. 3And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. 7Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:36b-48 (NRSV)

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 37They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39Look 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.” 40And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” 42They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43and he took it and ate in their presence.

44Then 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.” 45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things.”

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

**#452 Open the Eyes of My Heart**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 6:1-8 (NRSV)

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. 2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. 3 And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” 4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. 5 And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!” 6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

The Rev. Brian Entz

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### OFFERTORY

*“Let us present ourselves to God as those  
who have been delivered from death to life”.  
To give online, please scan the QR code.*



### \*DOXOLOGY

#### **#606 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

#### **from The Theological Declaration of Barmen**

**“Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.”** (1 Cor. 1:30.)

**As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures.**

**We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords—areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of all compassion, hear now our prayers for the world you created and love.

We pray for your Church throughout the world, for the Presbyterian Church USA, for the churches of Buffalo, and for this congregation. Continue your sanctifying work in us, by the power of your Spirit, and lead us to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ to those in need.

We pray for our country and its leaders; may they govern with justice, wisdom, humility, and peace.

We pray for the world; especially for Ukraine, Israel/Palestine, and all areas in the midst of war, disaster, and distress. Bring lasting peace to all peoples and all communities.

We pray for your good creation; for all areas experiencing extremes of nature. Bring rain, warmth, cold, sun, shade, and clean air to all places in need of their nourishment.

We pray for those who are in need of your healing mercies and loving care. We pray especially for...

We pray for those who hunger and thirst, for those with no place to call home, for those with no community of support and companionship. Meet their needs O God of provision, and where possible enable us to give of our bounty for their sake.

We pray for those in grief, may they find comfort in the promise that in Jesus death has lost its sting.  
We pray especially for...

We pray for those suffering from stress, anxiety, and loneliness; may they find relief in the loving presence of your Spirit.

We pray for all those who are spiritually hungry, for those who feel far from you, for those who seek your presence. Make yourself known to them, that they may know you as they are known by you.

We pray for all people and situations that have gone unnamed; those held close in the quiet of our hearts and those known only to you...

We pray that you would deepen our faith and strengthen our commitment to you and the reign of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Holy One our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people and use us where possible to be the answer to people's prayers. We ask all of this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**People: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### SENDING

\*CLOSING HYMN

**#539 We Will Go Out with Joy**

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Loving all People, Living our Faith, and Following Jesus*

## WORSHIP NOTES

The Call to Worship is taken from Psalm 40. (CEB)

All other liturgy comes/is adapted from the Book of Common Worship (2018) or is written in house.

## MUSIC LICENSES

**#251 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia** | TEXT: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1966; trans. Howard S. Olson, 1969 | MUSIC: Tanzanian melody | Text © 1977 Howard S. Olson (admin. Augsburg Fortress) | The good news of the Resurrection is retold in this lively hymn from Tanzania, blending 20th-century words with a traditional melody. In African call-and-response practice, the stanzas would ordinarily be sung by a soloist or small group and the refrain by the whole congregation.

**#452 Open the Eyes of My Heart** | TEXT: Paul Baloche, 1997 | MUSIC: Paul Baloche, 1997 | Text © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com) Music © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com) | The initial petition of this song is based on the language of Ephesians 1:18, while the second part draws on the account of Isaiah's vision in Isaiah 6:1–5. That event, in turn, is the basis of the threefold Sanctus that has become a traditional element in Christian worship.

**#539 We Will Go Out with Joy** | TEXT: Andrew Donaldson and Hilary Seraph Donaldson, 2003 | MUSIC: Andrew Donaldson and Hilary Seraph Donaldson, 2003 | Text © 2003 Andrew Donaldson and Hilary Seraph Donaldson Music © 2003 Andrew Donaldson and Hilary Seraph Donaldson | Drawing on the phrasing of Isaiah 55:12, this joyful sending hymn was created by a musical Canadian father and daughter, beginning with the tune that emerged from a four-hand piano improvisation. The completed hymn later served as the recessional music for her wedding.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### EVENTS

**Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers:** The Session is calling a congregational meeting to elect officers after worship on Sunday April 28th. At this time we will hear the report of the nominating committee.

**More Than We Can Imagine:** It's time to start thinking about Synod School! This annual gathering will take place on the campus of Buena Vista University in Storm Lake Iowa from July 21-26. Synod School is an all ages camp/conference with worship, classes, and activities for all ages and interests. There are some scholarships available through the Synod and the Session has made \$100 scholarships available for BPC folks. Please talk to Pastor Brian for more information. If you have questions about what Synod School is like you may contact Mike and Kathy Quady. Registration is now open. For more information and to register, please use this link:

<https://lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school/>

**??? Mystery Dinner on Sat, April 20:** The Fellowship Committee is back at it, hosting another Mystery Dinner at 6:00 pm on Saturday, April 20 in the Fellowship Hall. Last year's Mystery Dinner was a howling success and you won't want to miss this year's version. What is a Mystery Dinner? Well, if we told you, it wouldn't be a mystery, right? What we will tell you is that you will have plenty of food, fun and fellowship at this 4-course dinner. Because this dinner involves quite a bit of preparation and people, **you must sign up in advance.** The deadline for signing up is Wednesday, April 17. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex at church, or you can call Christy in the church office at 682-2773. Walk-ins will not be accepted at the dinner. A suggested donation of \$10 per person will help defray the costs of the dinner.

**SPOT:** Psalm 98 says, "Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things." Psalm 96 says "Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord all the earth." Notice in Psalm 96 it says Sing to the Lord ALL the earth", not just those that think they have a good voice. SPOT will discuss the spiritual benefits of singing together in worship. Come listen and sing some hymns and enjoy the benefits of singing together. This session will be led by Ralph Johansen and Mike Agre on **April 23rd at 7pm.**

### OTHER

**Classes, Coffee, & Conversations:** Join us after worship to hear from **Pastor Brian**. Next week, come participate in **Bible Trivia**.

**Quilt Bingo:** Sunday, April 14 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm with the doors opening at noon to preview the handmade quilts. Play 22 games of regular BINGO and 3 Specialty games. This will be located at Little Mountain Elementary School at 9350 Fallon Avenue in Monticello. Please see the flier in the narthex if you are interested.

**Didier Seminar:** House of Hope welcomes you to attend their 2024 Didier Seminar, *Recovering Lost Voices*, featuring two biblical scholars Stephen J. Patterson and Elizabeth Schrader Polczer who are helping to recover lost voices from early Christianity. The event is April 19-21 at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. There is no fee to attend, but please register at [bit.ly/HOHDidierSeminar](https://bit.ly/HOHDidierSeminar)



### How can we pray for you?

Along with the blue prayer request cards found in the pews you can also submit prayer requests on the BPC website. Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to be taken directly to the prayer request form. All prayer

requests go directly to Pastor Brian.

### BPC Prayer List:

- Pam Klemz
- Zoe Ellwoods
- Jerry Aldrich
- Linda & Tyler, Patty (in hospice), friends of Bonnie Morek
- Kaiser, Al DeBellis' great-grandson born with a rare syndrome called BOS
- Kitty Johansen
- Donna, a friend of Lana Kopplin, who has cancer
- The Gritman Family, following Amy's death
- Jill, the niece of Al DeBellis, who has terminal illness
- Kelly, daughter of Al DeBellis, who has breast cancer
- Gary, Chuck Klaassen's brother-in-law, was in a serious car crash
- Jonathon, a friend of Barb & Larry Janski
- Shannon, Virginia's former daughter-in-law
- Al DeBellis
- Daniel Elliot
- Erva Hance
- Barb and Tom Stone
- Jan Brown, early morning Women of Faith
- Dennis Dietz, Virginia's friend
- Rochelle Tandrian, Angela's daughter
- Jimm and Jodie Underwood, Lanny & Shirley's son-in-law and daughter
- Brittany Daniels
- John and Charlotte Collins
- Janice Sorby
- Mark Lawlor

For all people and places recovering from disasters both natural and human caused.

For peace in Ukraine, Israel/Palestine, Congo, and around the world.

For our neighbor congregations in Buffalo and for the congregations of our presbytery.

## Upcoming This Week

### *Today*

- 9:30a Worship
- 10:30a Classes, Coffee & Conversations- Pastor Brian
- 4:00p Westend Youth Group

### *Monday*

- 4:30p Deacons Meeting
- 6:30p Girl Scouts
- 7:00p AA

### *Tuesday*

- 9:00a Crafty Ladies
- 9:00a Men's Breakfast at Forget Me Not Cafe
- 6:30p Session

### *Wednesday*

- 7:00p Adult Choir

### *Thursday*

- 7:30a People of Faith
- 10:30a Women of Faith
- 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group

### *Friday*

### *Saturday*

- 6:00p Mystery Dinner

### *Sunday*

- 8:30a 150th Planning Meeting
- 9:30a Worship
- 10:30a Classes, Coffee & Conversations- Bible Trivia

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### Buffalo Presbyterian Church

507 County Road 134, Buffalo, Minnesota 55313

[www.BuffaloPresbyterian.org](http://www.BuffaloPresbyterian.org)

(763) 682-2773

Brian Entz, Pastor  
 Mike Agre, Choir Director  
 Ralph Johansen, Organist  
 Mike Quady, Clerk of Session  
 Christy Wood, Administrative Assistant

Brian@BuffaloPresbyterian.org  
 MikeA@BuffaloPresbyterian.org  
 REJohansen@hotmail.com  
[Quady12@gmail.com](mailto:Quady12@gmail.com)  
[office@buffalopresbyterian.org](mailto:office@buffalopresbyterian.org)



# 251 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re - joice and  
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst un - til its  
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for  
 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has a -  
 5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free. Al - le - lu -

praise him, al - le - lu - ia. For our re - deem - er  
 strength by God was dis - persed. He who gives life did  
 Je - sus who is not here. See for your - selves the  
 ris - en this world to save. Je - sus' re - deem - ing  
 ia, to him prais - es be. Je - sus is liv - ing!

burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
 death un - der - go, and in its con - quest his might did show.  
 tomb is all bare. On - ly the grave clothes are ly - ing there."  
 la - bors are done. E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."  
 Let us all sing; he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

The good news of the Resurrection is retold in this lively hymn from Tanzania, blending 20th-century words with a traditional melody. In African call-and-response practice, the stanzas would ordinarily be sung by a soloist or small group and the refrain by the whole congregation.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

*Refrain*

Let us sing praise to him with end-less joy. Death's fear-ful

sting he has come to de-stroy. Our sin for-giv-ing,

al-le-lu-ia! Je-sus is liv-ing, al-le-lu-ia!

# 452 Open the Eyes of My Heart

D A/C#

O-pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O-pen the eyes of my heart;

G/B G D

I want to see you; I want to see you;

1 2  
Dsus D A Bm

to see you high and lift - ed up,

G A

shin-ing in the light of your glo - ry. Pour out your

Bm Em7 D/E A

pow - er and love as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly."

D A/C#

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.

Bm G Em/D D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, I want to see you.

The initial petition of this song is based on the language of Ephesians 1:18, while the second part draws on the account of Isaiah's vision in Isaiah 6:1-5. That event, in turn, is the basis of the threefold *Sanctus* that has become a traditional element in Christian worship.

# We Will Go Out with Joy 539

C  
*Leader*

- 1 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.  
 2 Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.  
 3 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.

C  
*All*

We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.  
 Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.  
 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia! We will go out with joy.

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

Drawing on the phrasing of Isaiah 55:12, this joyful sending hymn was created by a musical Canadian father and daughter, beginning with the tune that emerged from a four-hand piano improvisation. The completed hymn later served as the recessional music for her wedding.