

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**Celebrating our Partnership with the Meru Diocese, Mulala Parish of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania**

### **INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY**

*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

### **GATHERING**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.  
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 513 “Listen! God is Calling (Neno lake Mungu)” Led by Sandy Ringwall in Swahili.**

*Please be seated while the children come forward.*

**Children’s Time – “A Prayer for Children” – Sandy Ringwall**

**A “Creative” Call to Praise and Worship**

***Adapted from Psalm 145 and traditional Kiswahili Invocation***

Hear the words of Christ, who says to us, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me."

**Let us worship in the Name of God † the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Amen.**

We exalt you, God our ruler—forever blessing your name.  
**We bless you every day—forever blessing your name.**  
**Great is our God—highly to be praised, great beyond our widest reach.**

Age to age—your people proclaim your works, your chosen recount your mighty deeds. We look back over time and ponder the splendor and glory of your wonderful acts.

**Your wonderful acts reveal your awe-some power. We tell of your great deeds! We remember your ample goodness. We joyfully sing of you making things right!**

Turning the world right-side up, we join together in singing:

**Gracious and merciful is the Lord. Slow to anger. Full of love. The Lord is good in every way, merciful to every creature.**

Let us pray. Loving God, you are faithful in your promises and tender in your compassion. Listen to our hymn of joy, and continue to satisfy the needs of every living thing, that all your creatures may bless your name, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, both now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Apostolic Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **The Word**

### **First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup> "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

**Gospel Acclamation Liturgy: ELW # 364 “Christ has Arisen! Alleluia!” Verse 5. (See words below.)**

Christ has arisen to set us free.

Alleluia, to him praises be.

Jesus is living! Let us all sing;

He reigns triumphant, heavenly king.

*Refrain*

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia!

Jesus is living, alleluia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanwa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: Tanzanian traditional.

Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admi. Augsburg Fortress

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**Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 13<sup>th</sup> verse. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came 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 are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over 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 took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed 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 they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

### **Thanksgiving & Blessing for Global Partnership**

Let us give thanks for the covenant and partnership between Adoration Lutheran Church and the Greater Milwaukee Synod and the Mulala Parish in the Diocese of Meru of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania.

### **Masai Creed (Based on the Apostles' Creed)**

**We believe in the one High God, who out of love, created the beautiful world and everything good in it. God created humankind and wants God's creatures to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the Earth.**

**We have known this High God in darkness, and now we know Him in the light. God promised in the book of His word, the Bible, that He would save the world and all the nations and tribes.**

**We believe that God made good this promise by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and humans, showing the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died.**

**He lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, He rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.**

**We believe that all our sins are forgiven through Christ. All who have faith in Him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love and share the bread together in love, to announce the Good News to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for Him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.**

### **Special Partnership Offering**

*Special offerings supporting ministry in the Mulala Parish will be taken in the Green Offering Buckets.*

**Offering Hymn: WOV # 748 “Bind us Together, Lord”** (*See words below.*)

**Refrain:** Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together  
with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us Together, Lord,  
Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together in love.

**(1)** There is only one God. There is only one King.  
There is only one Body. That is why we can sing: **Refrain**

**(2)** You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.  
You are God’s chosen desire, You are the glorious new wine. **Refrain**

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946 Music: Bob Gillman, b. 1946  
© 1977 Thankyou Music, admin (in western Hemisphere) Integrity’s Hosanna! Music

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Pastor:** Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

**We give you thanks, O God, for the ways our partnership helps us see the world more broadly.**

#### **We pray for global peace and harmony among nations.**

Holy God, out of your great love for the world, your Word became flesh to live among us and to reconcile us to you and to one another. Rekindle among us the gift of your Spirit so that we seek to live in unity with all people, breaking down the walls that divide, ending the hostility among us, and proclaiming peace to those who are near and to those who are far away. **Amen.**

#### **We pray for the ways water impacts our common life.**

God, creator of all living things, you fashioned a world in which lands and waterways, plants and animals, together meet the needs of all that you made. We pray that such vitality may flourish around the globe. Bless those who work the soil and who manage animals. Protect farmlands and ranches from drought and flood. Free children from forced labor in the fields. Prevent profiteering to ensure safe and accessible drinking water for all that has life and breath. **Amen.**

#### **We pray for mutual ministries supporting education.**

O God, source of all goodness: we give you thanks for the gift of reason and the opportunity for education. Bless our schools, that they may be places of learning and safety where teachers challenge the minds and nurture the hearts of students. Provide access to learning and growth for all. **Amen.**

#### **We pray for mutual ministries supporting health care.**

Almighty and merciful God, you are the only source of health and healing; you alone can bring calmness and peace. Grant access to health care with dignity, safety, and compassion. Bless the work of those who care for patients, especially those with terminal illness. Bring strength and healing to all for whom we name before you now. Give them health and strength and peace. **Amen.**

#### **We pray for our partners in faith.**

Gracious God, we thank you and ask your blessing on all the people who have shaped, nurtured, and grown the relationship we share with Mulala parish, that our relationships would continue to be strengthened by your Spirit. **Amen.**

**Pastor:** Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words. The assembly is seated.*

**Offering** – Collection of our offerings.

**Music during the Offering: Please Sing the following Offertory Hymn continuously until the completion of this collection!**

**Offertory Hymn Liturgy: This Far By Faith # 286 "I Am Thanking Jesus" (Asante Sana, Yesu)**

English I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing  
Swahili A-san-te sa-na Ye-su, a-san-te sa-na Ye-su, a-san-te sa-na  
Ojibwa Tan-di tan-ga Ye-sus, tan-di tan-ga Ye-sus, tan-di tan-ga

Je - sus from my heart. I am thank - ing Je - sus,  
Ye - su mo - yo - ni. A - san - te sa - na Ye - su, a -  
Ye - sus mo - mu - ti - ma. Tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus,

I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank - ing Je - sus from my heart.  
san - te sa - na Ye - su, a - san - te sa - na Ye - su mo - yo - ni.  
tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus, tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus mo - mu - ti - ma.

Text: Namibian and Tanzanian traditional

Music: TANIH TANGA YESU, African traditional

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*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus, Amen.

## THE MEAL

### Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food:  
You created a world in which all might be satisfied by  
your abundance.  
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,  
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.  
You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food  
for the world.

### Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### Invocation of the Spirit

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us  
and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to  
share with us the everlasting feast.  
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:  
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this  
bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.  
Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and  
forever. **Amen**

### Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus  
taught us.

#### *Lord's Prayer in Swahili*

*Baba yetu uliye mbinguni,  
jina lako litukuzwe, ufalme wako uje,  
mapenzi yako yatimizwe hapa duniani kama huko  
mbinguni. Utupe leo riziki yetu,  
utusamehe makosa yetu,  
kama sisi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.  
Usititie majaribuni, lakini utuokoe na yule mwovu.  
Kwa kuwa ufalme ni wako,*

*na nguvo, na utukufu hata milele. Amen.*

*Join us in praying together:*

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

*Please be seated.*

### **Invitation to Communion**

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord. Come.

**Hymn During Communion: ELW # 471 “Let Us Break Bread Together” (Sing continuously)**

### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands. The presiding minister may say a table blessing; the assembly responds Amen.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray, together.

Holy One,  
**through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.  
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.  
In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

### **SENDING BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Song: ELW # 866 “We Are Marching in the Light of God”**

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Postlude

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#### Today's Lay Leaders

**Lector:** George Becker

**Ushers:** Tania & Craig Beyler

**Communion Assistant:** Judy Goodwin

**Altar Guild:** Deanna Posig

**Altar Guild for Wednesday Evenings:**  
Joann Voegeli and Joyce Weinert

**Music & Worship Coordinator:** Barb  
Regent

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