



*Living Praise  
Celebration*  
Online  
Sunday, May 3, 2020

[stlukeaa.org](http://stlukeaa.org)

**OPENING HYMN: Eternal Father, Strong to Save LSB 717**



E - ter - nal Fath - er, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the rest - less wave, Who  
O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard And hushed their rag - ing at Thy word Who  
O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood Up - on the cha - os dark and rude, And  
O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, Our peo - ple shield in dan - ger's hour From



bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep Its own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: Oh  
walked up - on the foam - ing deep, And calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: Oh,  
bid its ang - ry tu - mult cease, And give, for wild con - fu - sion peace: Oh  
rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro - tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus



hear us when we cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
hear us when we cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
hear us when we cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
ev - er - more shall rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

**WELCOME AND EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## **Call to worship and Invocation from Matthew 8:23-27**

“Then he (Jesus) got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat.

But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, ‘Lord, save us! We’re going to drown!’

He replied, ‘You of little faith, why are you so afraid?’ Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, ‘What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!’”

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

## **Reading: Acts 27:27-44**

On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. They took soundings and found that the water was a hundred and twenty feet deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was ninety feet deep. Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.” So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.

Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. “For the last fourteen days,” he said, “you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food—you haven’t eaten anything. Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head.” After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves. Altogether there were 276 of us on board. When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could. Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.

The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. But the centurion wanted to spare Paul’s life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.

## **SERMON**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: Lord God, as the storm of the pandemic rages, at times we believe we are helpless;

**All: We have forgotten you are with us in the storm.**

Pastor: Our faith seems so small compared to the enormous danger;

**All: We were too complacent before the storm about the strength of our faith.**

Pastor: Our trust in your power to calm the storm wavers,

**All: But we believe that you never do. Lord, hear our confession and forgive us for our fear, our complacency, and our lack of trust.**

*-We pause to remember and repent of our sin-*

Pastor: How shall we respond?

**All: "We have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ." Amen! (Romans 5:1)**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

### **LORDS PRAYER**

**All: 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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

## CLOSING SONG

### **"Death Was Arrested**

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin  
Lost without hope with no place to begin  
Your love made a way to let mercy come in  
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains  
My orphan heart was given a name  
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance  
When death was arrested and my life began

Chorus

Oh Your grace so free washes over me  
You have made me new now life begins with You  
It's Your endless love pouring down on us  
You have made us new now life begins with You

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more  
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore  
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend  
When death was arrested and my life began

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross  
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost  
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand  
That's when death was arrested and my life began

Oh we're free free forever we're free  
Come join the song of all the redeemed  
Yes we're free free forever amen  
When death was arrested and my life began

CCLI Song # 7046448 Adam Kersh | Brandon Coker | Heath Balltzglier | Paul Taylor Smith