



2nd Week of Easter Sunday April 24th 2022 Our Savior's Lutheran, ELCA



Holy Humor Sunday

The Sunday after Easter has been known as “Holy Humor Sunday” by some Christians. The Devil thought he had done away with God’s Son, but Jesus rose from the dead, thereby conquering sin, evil, and eternal death. The joke is on the Devil. Therefore, we Christians can celebrate our new life in Christ with laughing, singing, and merry-making!

“If you’re not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don’t want to go there”
(Martin Luther)

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Invocation

Call to Worship

L: We worship the God who created the heavens and the earth.

C: When he finished creating God smiled and said, “It is good!”

L: We worship a God who likes to laugh

C: May we hear his holy laughter today.

L: The Lord has done great things for us.

C: Our hearts are filled with joy and our mouths with laughter.

L: The bible says there is a time to weep and a time to laugh.

C: We have come together today to have a good time and to laugh in the name of the Lord.

L: We come to worship the God of joy and gladness!

C: We smile and we laugh because we belong to the Lord!

Song- “Christ Joyful” by Colin Gibson (tune- The Churches One Foundation)

**We lack the gift of laughter; faith sits all pale and glum,
hope dozes on a rafter, and love is stricken dumb.
Come, Christ, into our drabness, tell us that matchless jest
of life and resurrection, your sweetest and your best.**

**We know the trick of tumbling, red nose and redder face;
by virtues of our bumbling ours is the jester’s case.
Come, Christ, come down immortal, teach us that matchless jest
of life and resurrection your sweetest and your best.**

Laughter Is the Sound of Hope and Joy!

**You joined our sad profession, made good our foolishness,
brought clowning into fashion, put on our joker's dress.
Come, Christ, come holy laughter, to share that matchless jest
of life and resurrection your sweetest and your best.**

**Upon a foolish cross, Lord, you hung to make us mirth;
but there you conquered loss, Lord, old death became new birth.
Come, everlasting joy; Christ, confirm that matchless jest
of life and resurrection your sweetest and your best.**

Prayer of Confession

L: God of joy, we know that you have blessed us richly, yet so often,
we are down in the dumps over silly little disappointments.

You have given us Jesus Christ, and raised him from the dead, and
promised us eternal life. But we act like we don't know it! Forgive
us, God! Keep us mindful that you always have the last laugh, and
that your promise is for joy in every circumstance, and life forever.
(a gift of holy silence)

L: Christ is raised from the dead! Love wins!

C: Hallelujah!

L: Christ lives and reigns for us!

C: Hallelujah! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Psalm 30

Luke 24: 13-35

Sermon

Song- "Give to us Laughter" by Walter Farquharson
(tune- Be Thou My Vision)

**Give to us laughter, O source of our life. Laughter can banish
so much of our strife! Laughter and love give us wholeness
and health. Laughter and love are the coin of true wealth.**

**Give to us laughter as sign of deep joy; let us in laughing
find Christian employ, joining with stars and with bright
northern lights, laughing and praising, and sharing delights.**

**Even in sorrow and hours of grief, laughter with tears
brings us healing relief! God, give us laughter, and God,
give us peace, joy of your promise among us increase.**

Laughter Is the Sound of Hope and Joy!

An Affirmation of Faith for Holy Humor Sunday

L: We believe in God, who made us in the image of God.

C: We live, we love, we laugh, because we are like God.

L: We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.

C: He had the last laugh on the devil when he rose from the dead.

L: We believe in the Holy Spirit, coequal and coeternal with the Father and the Son.

C: Our counselor, our guide, our motivator- He is our JOY!

L: Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too seriously, when we don't claim the happiness that is rightfully ours as your children, when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world.

C: Restore to us the joy of our salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Offering Invitation

Prayer

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Meal

Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer:

L: Foolish, foolish God, your belly laugh echoes through the world, we have responded to your invitation to join in the Banquet. Here we have eaten, we have drunk, we have tasted your goodness. May the joy we find in this meal together lift our hearts, may we carry your laughter to the world around us, may we live out that foolishness called love wherever we go.

C: Amen.

Song- "Sing a Happy Alleluia" by Shirley Erena Murray

(tune- Open Now the Gates of Beauty)

**Sing a happy alleluia, sing it out with heart and style-
we're the echo of God's laughter, we're the image of God's smile.**

Refrain:

Alleluia, all creation,
Alleluia, everyone!

**We're the proof of God's good humor, we're the twinkle in God's
eyes, made to shine, reflect the glory, given light and space to fly.**

Laughter Is the Sound of Hope and Joy!

Refrain:

Alleluia, all creation,
Alleluia, everyone!

**Sarah laughed at God's good timing, Mary sang and David danced,
Jesus smiled and hugged the children- so in life for us enhanced.**

Refrain:

Alleluia, all creation,
Alleluia, everyone!

**Everyday sing alleluia! We are loved, though so absurd,
human, foolish, chosen people, God still takes us at our word!**

Refrain:

Alleluia, all creation,
Alleluia, everyone!

Closing Prayer:

L: Lord, grant me a joyful heart and a holy sense of humor. Please give me the gift of faith, to be renewed and shared with others each day. Teach me to live this moment only, looking neither to the past with regret, nor to the future with apprehension. Let love be my guide, and my life a prayer.

C: Amen.

L: Go in laughter; go in grace. Keep the Lord in your heart and a smile on your face.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude



Laughter Is the Sound of Hope and Joy!