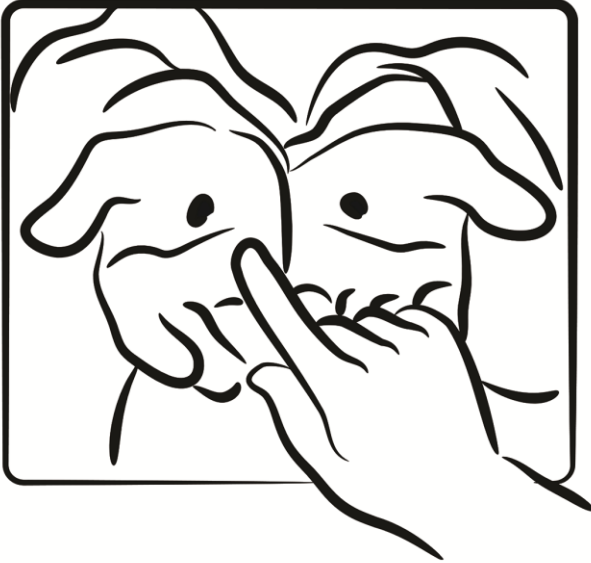


Second Sunday of Easter

April 3, 2016



Christ Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod)
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The Mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to help all people know Jesus as their Savior and grow in relationship with Him.

Second Sunday of Easter

April 3, 2016

HYMN "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen" LSB 474

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

C: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

P: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands.

C: He has put all things under His feet.

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk,

C: that by it we may grow up to salvation, having tasted that the Lord is good.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.

C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

C: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!

P: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works!

C: Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

P: Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually!

C: Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,

P: He remembers His covenant forever, the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations,

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Let All Things Now Living” Tune: LSB 643

**Let all things now living
A song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us,
Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us,
His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**His law He enforces,
The stars in their courses,
The sun in his orbit, obediently shine.**

The hills and the mountains,
The rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine.
We too should be voicing
Our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living
Unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest hosanna and praise!

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Tune: the ash grove. Welsh. Public domain.

SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, give to us Your Holy Spirit that we may see with eyes of faith and confess with joy our Lord and our God. Bless our words of witness that all the world may know Your Son, Jesus Christ, and have life in His name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12–20

¹² Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³ None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴ And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. ¹⁷ But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸ they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison

doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰ “Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Revelation 1:4–18

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. Amen. ⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” ⁹ I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹ saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.” ¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around His chest. ¹⁴ The hairs of His head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵ His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ In His right hand He held seven stars, from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full strength. ¹⁷ When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. But He laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Romans 6:9; John 20:29b

C: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe." ²⁶ Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" *LSB 487*

SERMON

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: That believing we may see, and seeing we may believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of the Father, and that we may trust in Him without fear, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: That we may proclaim without fear Jesus Christ crucified and risen, and that with words and deeds of witness others may come to hear of Jesus Christ and believe in Him, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: That those absent from the Lord's house may be restored to hear with us the good news of His Word and receive with us His very body and blood at His Table, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: That the preaching and teaching of all pastors and missionaries may be faithful, that God may raise up many for service to His kingdom, and that God may bless those serving in our Synod, our District and here in this place, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: That the nations of the world may live in peace, that the people of the world may enjoy good government and freedom to worship the Lord without fear, and that God may bless our President, Congress, Governor, and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: That those wounded in body or spirit may be healed, the suffering find relief, the grieving be comforted, and the dying be at peace in Christ, especially . . . , and all those whom we name before the Lord now in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: That the erring may be restored to the truth, the weary refreshed at the Lord's Table, and that all who commune may receive Christ's gifts with faith and live out their lives before Him in holy fear and good works, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Remembering before the Lord those who died and now rest from their labors, let us rejoice in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: All these things for which we have prayed and all other things for which we have need, let us pray the Lord to grant us according to His mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

If you are a confirmed member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation and would like to come forward with your family and friends during the distribution, please place your hands over your heart and you will receive a blessing.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right, our duty, and our delight to give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty God, but chiefly do we praise You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who bore our sins on the cross, died our death, and rose to bestow upon us His life. With the witnesses of His resurrection, we see Him with eyes of faith and trust in Him to bring us through death to everlasting life; therefore with angels, archangels, and all the saints in light, we join in praising Your name and singing their unending hymn:

SANCTUS "He's Risen, He's Risen" LSB 480

**He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death's prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.**

**O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.**

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, everlasting Father, all good things come from You, and Your love did not waver even when we rejected Your goodness and exchanged Your truth for lies that imprisoned us to sin and its death. You sent forth Your promise through the voice of the prophets and in the fullness of days You delivered up Your own Son. He kept the law and gave His righteousness to us, and He fulfilled the ancient promise by paying for our sin with His own suffering and

death. Now He has risen, never to die again, and lives to bestow upon us the fullness of His gifts and grace in Word and Sacrament.
C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P: As often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

P: Remembering His holy life and His selfless sacrifice even to death on the cross and rejoicing in His promise to come again, we gather in His name at His own bidding to receive the gift of Himself in bread, which is His body, and in the wine, which is His blood, according to His own Word and testament. Guard us in this grace, that what we receive with our lips, we may keep with holy hearts and holy lives, until the day when He comes to finish His new creation and bring us and all believers to be with Him forevermore.

In Him, with Him, and through Him, all honor and glory are Yours, almighty Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" *LSB 469*

**"Christ the Lord is ris'n today!"
Saints on earth and angels say;**

Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN “The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns” *LSB 532*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Lord, give to us the vision of faith, that we may see not only with our eyes and fail to behold Your gift and blessing, but behold You through eyes of faith that trust in Your Word. Keep us from pride that would reject what we do not understand, and shape us in childlike faith to believe in You and do Your bidding without hesitation or fear; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN “Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious” *LSB 548*

Acknowledgments

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READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1–22 Revelation 5:(1–7) 8–14 John 21:1–14 (15–19)

THIS WEEK— (April 3rd – 10th)

Sunday: Worship/HC, 9:00am; Christian Ed, 10:30am

Monday: Bible Study, 1:00pm; Council, 6:30pm

Tuesday: Evangelism, 5:00pm; Ladies Guild, 6:30pm

Wednesday: Bible Study, 8:30am; Confirmation (1st yr) 5:00pm;
Confirmation (2nd yr) 6:00pm

Thursday: Worship/HC, 6:30pm; Bible Class, 7:30pm

Sunday: Worship/HC, 9:00am; Christian Ed, 10:30am

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (Week ending 03/27/16)

General Fund: \$5850.48; Blessings: \$28.10; Seasonal: \$1801.00;

Memorial: \$85.00; Miscellaneous: \$8.00 Total Attendance: 396

(Maundy Thursday: 76; Good Friday: 119; Easter Sunday: 201)

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS AND VISITORS: We are glad you are here! We invite you to join us for fellowship and Bible study following the service. Bathrooms are located upstairs on each end of the fellowship/Bible study area.

COUNCIL MEETING is at 6:30pm on Monday, April 4th.

VOTER'S ASSEMBLY MEETING will be Tuesday, May 10th at 6:30pm.

IF YOU PROVIDED Easter flowers to beautify God's House, you may take your plant(s) home. Please find your name on a pink sticky note at the top of the planter foil. Thank you for the beauty.

GENESIS FUND: We have been using the Genesis Fund for those in need from our church. If you wish to make a donation to help replenish this fund, please put your envelope marked "Genesis Fund" into the offering.

APRIL LADIES GUILD MEETING is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5th at 6:30pm in the upper fellowship room. Our program speaker, Doris Holdorf, will present the Shepherd's view of Psalm 23.

APRIL HUMAN CARE DONATIONS will go to WAUSAU COMMUNITY WARMING CENTER. Items needed include: bleach, toilet bowl cleaner, and Lysol all-purpose cleaner.

"LIFE QUOTES" from Lutherans For Life

"On Easter Sunday, Christ became the firstfruits of the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20). Because He lives ... you and I shall live and never die (John 11:25-26). This joyous message is for all ages because all who believe in Jesus have life in His name (John 20:31)." — *Ryan C. MacPherson, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato Minnesota* (www.lutheransforlife.org)