



believe.

john 20:19-31

The Second Sunday after Easter

First Lutheran Church

April 27, 2025

INTRODUCTION

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

O FILII ET FILIAE

Matthew H. Corl

Theme and Two Variants on O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

(Please stand)

MORNING PRAYER

OPENING DIALOGUE AND DOXOLOGY



Leader: O Lord, o - pen my lips,

and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,

and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATORY



PSALM 95:1-7



Give glory to God, our light and our life.



P: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(Please be seated)

L: A reading from Acts, the fifth chapter.

²⁷ When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us."

²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

REVELATION 1:4-8

L: A reading from Revelation, the first chapter.

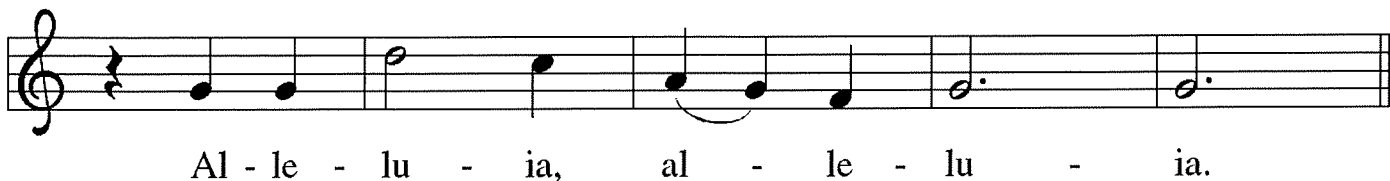
⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The cantor will sing the verse.

C: Repeat, Alleluia

GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the nineteenth chapter.



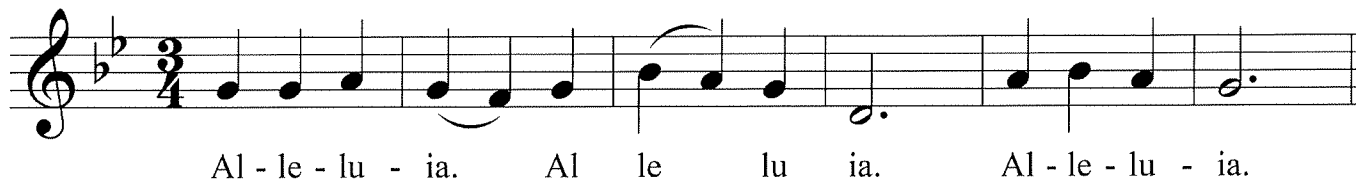
¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt 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 come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.



HYMN OF THE DAY



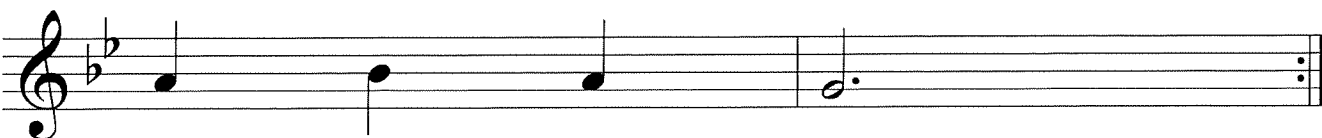
ALL	1	O	sons	and	daugh -	ters,	let	us	sing
Women	2	That	Eas -	ter	morn,	at	break	of	day,
Men	3	An	an -	gel	clad	in	white	they	see,
Cantor	4	That	night	the a -	pos -	tles	met	in	fear;



with	heav'n -	ly	hosts	to	Christ	our	king:
the	faith -	ful	wom -	en	went	their	way
who	sits	and	speaks	un -	to	the	three,
a -	mong	them	came	their	mas -	ter	dear,



to -	day	the	grave	has	lost	its	sting!
to	seek	the	tomb	where	Je -	sus	lay.
"Your	Lord	will	go	to	Gal -	i -	lee."
and	said,	"My	peace	be	with	you	here."



Al - le - lu - ia!



ALL 5 When Thom - as first the ti - dings heard,
Cantor 6 "My pier - ced side, O Thom - as, see,
Men 7 No lon - ger Thom - as then de - nied;
Women 8 How blest are they who have not seen,
ALL 9 On this most ho - ly day of days,



that they had seen the ris - en Lord,
and look up - on my hands, my feet;
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
and yet whose faith has con - stant been,
be laud and ju - bi - lee and praise:



he doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word.
not faith - less, but be - liv - ing be."
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
for they e - ter - nal life shall win.
to God your hearts and voic - es raise.



Al - le - lu - ia!



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

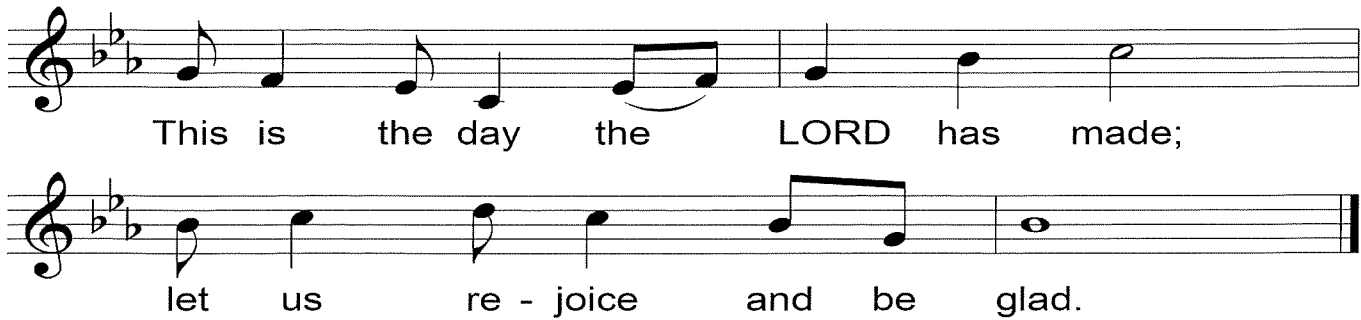
(Please be seated)

SERMON

BETH MARGRAF

(Please stand)

EASTER CANTICLE



Text: Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, *The Revised Grail Psalms*
Music: Michel Guimont © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Cantor will sing the verses.

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith
as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

(Please be seated)

OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

O FILII ET FILIAE

David Lasky

Variations on O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

(Please stand)

OFFERING SONG

This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall
riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.
wake the dead in num - - ber.
pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934

Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Risen One,
you have gathered us around
your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.

Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live
as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

(Please kneel)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition concludes:

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are
always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

(Please stand)

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

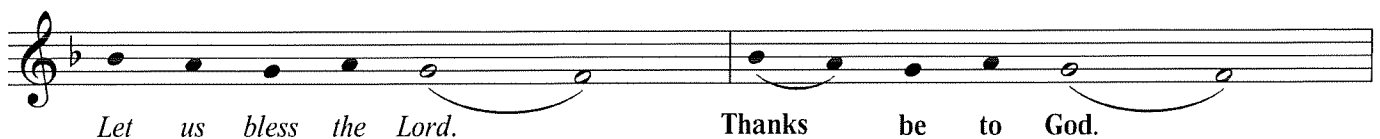
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

C: Oh God,
your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.
We are grateful for the goodness you have shown us through
the years,
and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future.
Bless our community of faith, bless our healing,
bless the changes that are before us,
bless our call process and the pastoral leaders
who will shepherd us through this time of transition.
We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us
as we align with your will, and servant or servants
you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time.
Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry
and our future.
In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord, Amen.

BLESSING



P: The triune God,
Who was, who is, and who is to come,

Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.



SENDING SONG

Thine Is the Glory



- 1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
- 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

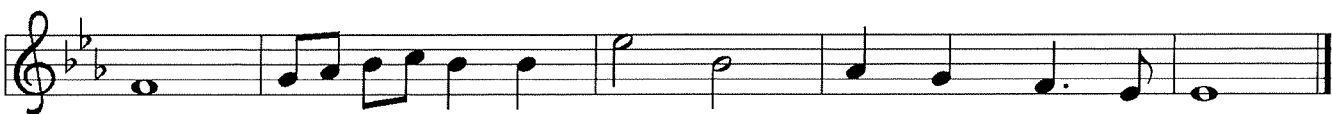


rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace.

P: In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

O FILII ET FILIAE

Gordon Young

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Events in Review

Sunday April 27

10:00AM Church Service

Monday April 28

10:00AM Bible Study Cancelled

5:00PM Bells of Praise

Saturday May 3

7:00PM Heidelberg Com. Choir

Next Week

Sunday May 4

10:00AM Church Service

Monday May 5

10:00AM Bible Study @ Willows

5:00PM Bells of Praise

Tuesday May 6

Election Day

Wednesday May 7

7:00PM Worship & Music Meeting

Lawn Mower for the Week

(beginning on Thursdays)



Jim Ruess

Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Dietz Room wall. Fellowship time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



Graduates

If you know someone who is graduating this spring, please let us know. We would like to gather Information regarding their school accomplishments and plans for the future.

Please get in touch with the office

419 447-1323 or

firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Or Diane Greene @ 419 934-1081

canacab@sbcglobal.net

Due to Pastor Mark's vacation there will not be a bible study at the Willows on April 28.



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers were given today in loving memory of

Harry Beregsasi

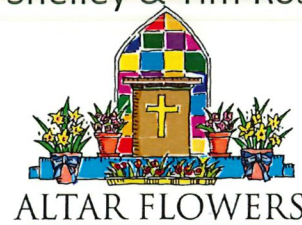
and

in honor of

Zachary's 17th Birthday

By

Shelley & Tim Ross



Contact Us



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Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring (740) 360-2306
theskipster55@gmail.com

Emergency Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring (740) 360-2306
theskipster55@gmail.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: Mike & Bonnie Oberlander

Cantor: Jacob Reuter

Facebook Camera: Zac Shawberry

Host: Beth Margraf

Reader: Beth Margraf

Worship Assistant: Jonathan Nominee

Director of Music: Curtis L. King

Presiding Lay Person: Beth Margraf

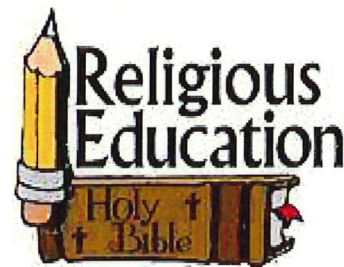
Catechism Classes

Rick Greene and Mike Porter will be hosting Catechism Classes. If anyone is interested

Please contact either one at

Rick Greene: canacab@sbcglobal.net or 419 937-7378

Mike Porter: Michael.r.porter12@gmail.com



Our Mission Statement

"God is among us!"

"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need."

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