

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025; 9 a.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)

Temple Talk

Jim Boulter, Caretakers of Creation

Prelude

Linda Ranney

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!

In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

(water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving)

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;

waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

ELW #391; *This Joyful Eastertide*

- 1 This joyful Eastertide,
 away with sin and sorrow!
 My love, the Crucified,
 has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain

- Had Christ, who once was slain,
not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain.
But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.
- 2 My flesh in hope shall rest
 and for a season slumber
 till trump from east to west
 shall wake the dead in number. *Refrain*

- 3 Death's flood has lost its chill
 since Jesus crossed the river.
 Lover of souls, from ill
 my passing soul deliver. *Refrain*

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.

Canticle of Praise

ELW #392; *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* vs. 1, 4

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
 his the scepter, his the throne;
 Alleluia! his the triumph,
 his the victory alone.
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
 thunder like a mighty flood:
 "Jesus out of ev'ry nation
 has redeemed us by his blood."
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal,
 Lord omnipotent we own;
 Alleluia! born of Mary,
 earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.
 As within the veil you entered,
 robed in flesh, our great high priest,
 here on earth both priest and victim
 in the eucharistic feast.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. 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. Amen.**

Reading: Psalm 150 (*read responsively*)

¹ Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple;
praise God in the mighty firmament.

² **Praise God for mighty acts;
praise God for exceeding greatness.**

³ Praise God with trumpet sound;
praise God with lyre and harp.

⁴ **Praise God with tambourine and dance;
praise God with strings and pipe.**

⁵ Praise God with resounding cymbals;
praise God with loud clanging cymbals.

⁶ **Let everything that has breath
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!**

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*

ELW #386; *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing* vs. 1, 4

- 1 O sons and daughters, let us sing
 with heav'nly hosts to Christ our king:
 today the grave has lost its sting!
 Alleluia!
- 4 That night the apostles met in fear;
 among them came their master dear,
 and said, "My peace be with you here."
 Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *(please sit)*

Rev. Lori Ruge-Jones

Hymn of the Day *(please stand)*

ELW #635; *We Walk by Faith* vs. 1-4

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
 with gracious words draw near,
 O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
 "My peace be with you here."
- 2 We may not touch your hands and side,
 nor follow where you trod;
 but in your promise we rejoice,
 and cry, "My Lord and God!"
- 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
 and may our faith abound
 to call on you when you are near
 and seek where you are found:
- 4 For you, O resurrected Lord,
 are found in means divine:
 beneath the water and the word,
 beneath the bread and wine.

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Prayers of the People

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

Petition:

Hear us, O God,
your mercy is great.

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. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Offering

Linda Ranney and Mark Lundin

Offertory (*please stand*)

ELW #207; *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

Thankful hearts and voices raise;
tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice
and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises

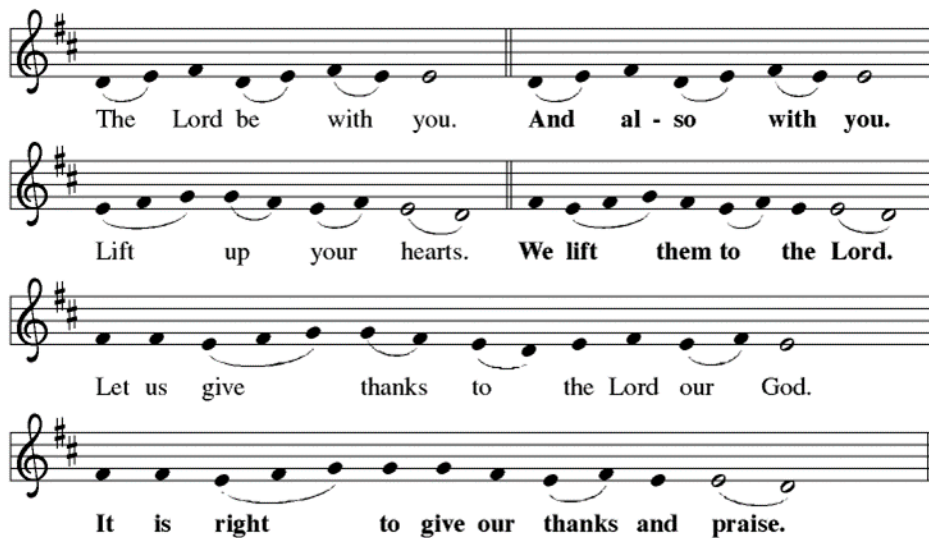
and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. 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.**

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #191; *Holy Holy*

Holy, holy, holy are you,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

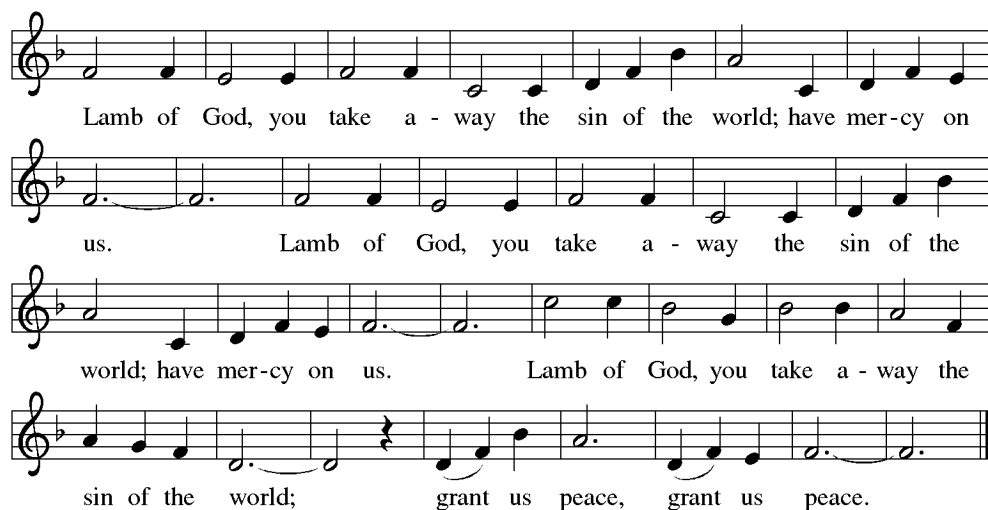
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Lamb of God

ELW #195; *Lamb of God*



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace." The notation includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The final measure of the fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

Communion Hymn

ELW #462; *Now We Join in Celebration*

- 1 Now we join in celebration
at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber,
clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence,
putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us,
with his very life to feed us.

- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gather,
fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing
are for us the sure possessing
of your loving deed on Calv'ry,
of your living self, our vict'ry,
pledge of your unfailing presence,
foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.
- 3 Lord, we share in this communion
as one fam'ly of God's children,
reconciled through you, our brother,
one in you with God our Father.
Give us grace to live for others,
serving all, both friends and strangers,
seeking justice, love, and mercy
till you come in final glory.

Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer *(please stand)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Living One, **in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

Benediction

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.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ELW #385; *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing* vs. 1, 2, 4

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
death's mighty stone is rolled away;
let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sending

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Altar Flowers

In Memory of my wife, Mary on our Wedding Anniversary (April 27) by Mick Lovvik

Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Rev. Lori Ruge-Jones
Assistant	Pastor Christine Emerson
Lector	Kathy Freitag
Acolytes	Matthew Kording, Vincent Dahl
Ushers	Lynn Yolitz, Gary Kersten

Greeters	Julie Kersten, Bryan Sedlander
Communion Servers	Deb Freeland, Cora Klawiter, Cheryl Mattison, Tim Lincoln
Media & Streaming	Lydia Elko
Screen Operator	Brett Isaacson
Musicians	Linda Ranney, accompanist; Mark Lundin, Director of Music

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