

"Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

FROM FEAR TO FAITH



HOPE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

On the Border of Land O'Lakes, WI and Watersmeet, MI
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Church Office: (906) 544-2259

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Pastor Albert: 715-323-8874

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Divine Service: Sunday 9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Bible Study: 8:15 AM

Wednesday Children's Ministry Classes: 4:00 PM

PRAYER UPON ENTERING

Almighty God, we have celebrated with joy the festival of our Redeemer's resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of His resurrection in all that we say and do; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Like Jesus' first disciples, we also gather behind the locked doors of fear and doubt. Jesus comes into our midst today and says, "*Peace be with you!*" He shows us the marks of the nails, He offers us the pardon and peace of sins forgiven, and He makes us bold again to live as His resurrection people.

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

We are glad that you have joined us today as we continue to rejoice in the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. If you are without a church home, we invite you to prayerfully consider Hope. Worship with us again soon.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

HYMN "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" # 465

THE INVOCATION

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

C: Amen

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: We are in the presence of the risen Christ,

C: so we gather with joyful reverence.

P: Jesus said, "*Because I live, you shall live also.*"

C: I live now by faith in Jesus Christ, and I will live with Him forever.

P: Thanks be to our God.

C: He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: I know that my Redeemer lives.

C: And I will stand with Him on the last day.

P: He has promised that as He rose from the dead,

C: He will raise me to life eternal.

P: Death no longer has dominion over Him.

C: Nor does it have dominion over those who are united to Jesus Christ.

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION & WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (All)

O Father, You have brought Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, back from the dead. We confess that it was for us that He suffered and died on the cross. We are not worthy to receive Your grace and goodness, for we have failed in our discipleship. We are so often reluctant to trust Your promises, reject Your presence and refuse to believe in Christ's victory over the power of sin and death. Cleanse us, O Father, and raise us up with Jesus in newness of life. We ask it in the name of Your resurrected Son, our Savior. Amen.

P: Our gracious Father in heaven comes to us this day and says, "*I do forgive you. Go in peace and let My Son's resurrection make you perfect in every good work to do My will.*" Amen.

THE INTROIT

(On the insert)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

(On the insert)

HYMN "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" # 469

FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-35

The believers share with those in need.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

I John 1:1-2:2

Walking in the light of Christ.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

Jesus appears to His disciples that first Easter evening.

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

After the reading ...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE EASTER CREED

(All)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, who sent His Son as my Savior to rise from the dead on Easter morning.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, died on Good Friday, and rose again on Easter morning to free me from the curse of sin, the sting of death, and the power of the devil.

HYMN	"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"	# 490
SERMON	<i>"From Fear to Faith"</i>	John 20:19-31

P: O great and majestic God, we bow before You in gratitude and praise. Words alone cannot capture our feelings of wonder, of hope, and thankfulness that the news of the resurrection of Jesus calls forth from us.

C: We cannot pretend to understand all that it signifies, and we confess that, like the earliest disciples, we are as much stunned by the announcement of the resurrection as we are believing. Yet give us faith to know that its news of life that defeats death and love that conquers the power of evil is exactly the news we have longed to hear.

P: Grant that we may live therefore, as new people, resurrection people, the bearers of Your Word and ambassadors of Your kingdom.

C: May we learn again to walk with eager steps, as those who have been healed, who have heard the shouts of victory, who look to the day when every worldly care dissolves and every selfish concern is crowded out by Your presence.

P: We confess that our lives do not always reflect the assurance and joy that You have given us through Jesus' resurrection.

C: For our many moments of doubt, forgive us, O Lord. As You gave Your peace to Your disciples, so may that same peace abide with us.

P: Special intercessions . . .

P: Holy, holy, holy, Lord our God,
C: for heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.
P: Heaven and earth now praise Your name.
C: Blessed is He who comes to us.
P: Sing hosanna heaven and earth for Christ is risen!
C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P: Lord of heaven and earth, we thank and praise You for having mercy on us, Your creation, sending Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our world, to take our flesh, to bear our sin, and to be our Savior. With hearts that are truly sorry for our sin, yet filled with joy because of Your promises, we receive the gifts of His death and resurrection – forgiveness of sins and salvation to life everlasting. Continue to give us Your grace so that we may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to do in this Sacrament. We pray that Your Spirit would live in us so that our lives will give bold witness of His death and resurrection until the day our Lord Jesus comes once again to take us to our heavenly home, Hear us as we pray in His name and as He taught us . . .

P: The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.
C: Amen.

Hymn - "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord" # 634

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (All)

We praise You, O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Your mercy You have given us a new birth and a living hope by raising our Savior from the dead; and You have given us the promise of a heavenly inheritance which can never fade away. And now we pray that, through the Word we have heard this day, and through Your Son's body and blood which we have received, we may be strengthened in Your service, that our daily living may show our thanks to You for this great gift. In the name of our risen Savior we pray. Amen.

TABLE PRAYER (All)

Come, Lord Jesus, our Guest to be, and bless these gifts bestowed by Thee. Bless our loved ones everywhere, and keep them in Thy loving care. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

PARTING HYMN "We Will Glorify"

We will glorify the King of Kings, We will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of Lords; who is the Great *I AM*.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty, we will bow before His throne;
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth, He is Lord of all who live;
He is Lord above the universe, all praise to Him we give.

Hallelujah to the King of kings, Hallelujah to the Lamb;
Hallelujah to the Lord of lords, who is the great *I AM*.

Serving in God's House Today

Our Pastor: Rev. Gary Albert **Altar Guild:** Bonnie Deutsch
Acolyte: Otto Bramstadt **Reader:** Bill Krugler
Elder on Duty: Bill Krugler **Organist:** Nancy Vogt
Greeter: Gary Chapman
Bulletin Sponsors: Gene & Joan Hojan

April Newsletters are in your mailboxes this morning.

Church Council will meet next Sunday morning, April 14th, following Fellowship. All council members are urged to attend. **Elders will meet** Sunday, April 21st, following Fellowship.

Spring Wooden Flowers Class, led by Mary Noordyk, will be held here at Hope on Saturday, April 20th from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. The cost is \$30 - all supplies will be provided including a vase, unless you want to bring your own. Please RSVP or direct questions to Kay Yanke at kayyanke@yahoo.com or (920)410-8120, or Mary Noordyk at (906)235-8554, by **April 13th**.

Birthday wishes go out this week to Dave Neumann (Monday, April 8), Melody Krugler (Friday, April 12) and Dave Steffen (Saturday, April 13). May God bless you all in the coming year!

Prayer List – Please keep the following in your prayers: Ken Boksa, Carol Granberg, Donna Johnson, MacKenzie Moore, Lisa Smith, Jean Trispel, Christine & Scott Beattie, Sallee & Gary Gehrt, Jeff Bartlett, Tom Behling, Mike Bruning, David Gunderson, Karl Hoessel, Rick Hojan, Rick Lapp, Mark Rapacz, Roger Sauter, Paul Schultz, Dave Steffen, Bob Vogt & Morris Wise. Our homebound members: Florence Ninko, Jill James, & Augusta Santy Specht. Please keep our congregation in your prayers as we seek God's guidance to provide for our pastoral needs now and in the future. For our mission partners: the Bakers in Mongolia, the Olivers in Taiwan, the Lehmanns in Puerto Rico, the Cundiffs & Bombaros in Latvia.

A Measure of Our Love

Attendance at Good Friday/Easter Sunday Services: 49/68
Offerings \$460/\$1,529 Loose Plate: \$65/\$131
Faith/Hope/Love Campaign: \$1,000/\$350