

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We must  
**OBEY**  
**GOD**  
rather than  
- MEN -

Acts 5:29 EHV



Witness Marches Victorious  
Over Restraint

*Second Sunday of Easter*

*April 24, 2022*

## Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

## Service Notes For This Sunday



The good news of the risen Christ is bigger than a single day. The Easter gospel will continue to march across centuries and continents. However, there will always be forces that try to slow that march. Those forces could be self-inflicted fears and doubts (as we see in the Gospel). They could be various types of persecutions (as we see in the First and Second Reading). Whatever the case, the good news of Easter will not be restrained. For it is not some myth or fable, not a hoax or conspiracy. The reality of Easter rests on the testimony of eyewitnesses.

Therefore, the gospel cannot be boxed in any more than Christ could be put back in a tomb. Many may try and restrain the good news of Christ. But the march of the Church's witness will never slow down.

## Acknowledgements

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# The Service: Setting Two

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## Welcome

## Hymn

447 Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed

*The final refrain will be sung twice. Following that, the Song Leaders will sing the final lines.*

*Stand*

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

**Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

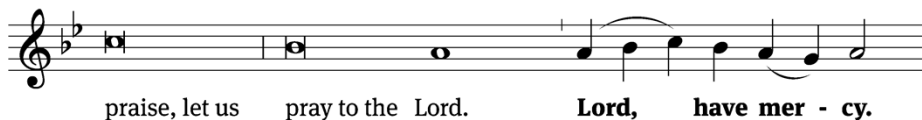
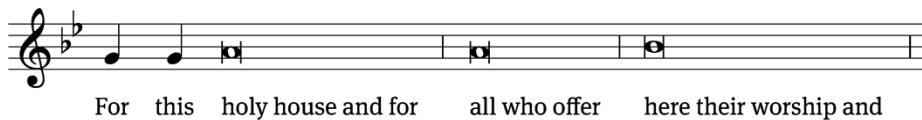
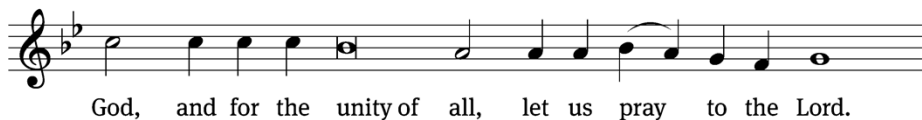
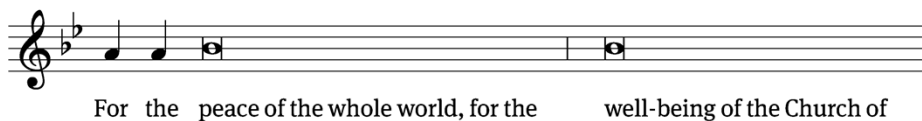
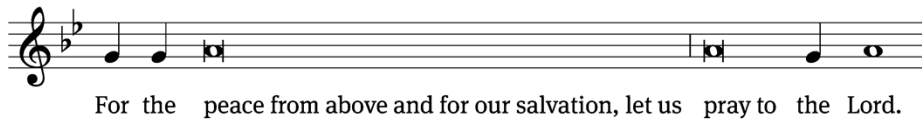
**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

# Lord, Have Mercy



# Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.



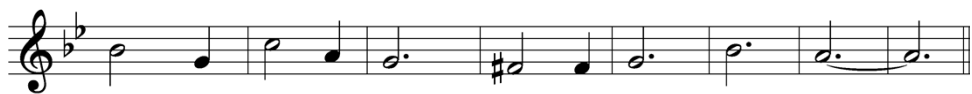
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

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# The Word

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Acts 5:12,17-32

*The disciples served as witnesses of Christ's resurrection, but some wanted to restrain the spread of the gospel.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

150B Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Refrain*



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

*Tone*



**Praise God in his sanctu- / ary;  
praise him in his mighty / heavens.  
Praise him for his acts of / power;  
praise him for his surpassing / greatness. Refrain**

Praise him with the sounding of the / trumpet,  
 praise him with the / harp and lyre,  
 praise him with timbrel and / dancing,  
 praise him with the / strings and pipe,  
 praise him with the clash of / cymbals,  
 praise him with resounding / cymbals. *Refrain*

Let everything that has breath / praise the LORD.

Praise / the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain*

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## Second Reading

*Revelation 1:4-18*

*The risen Savior promises to be with his churches as they share the light of the gospel in the midst of a persecution.*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 20:29*



*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Tone*



Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have be - lieved.

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## Gospel

John 20:19-31

*As we read the eyewitness account of the risen Christ, the Spirit enables us who are not eyewitnesses to also believe.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Children's Message

### Hymn of the Day

*468 These Things Did Thomas Count as Real  
Please join beginning with the second verse.*

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**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, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Be seated*

## Connect Card

*Please take a moment now to fill out a Connect Card.*

## Prayer of the Church

Almighty and merciful God, we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

**When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; when we sin, be our salvation.**

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will—false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan’s lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel’s free course.

**Never leave us or forsake us.**

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, “He is risen!” As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom.

**Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.**

Heavenly Father, keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

**Enrich us with everything we need for a life of thankful and selfless living.**

*Special prayers and intercessions*

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.**

## **Offering**

*Moved by God’s love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don’t feel obligated to take part in the offering. We’re just happy you’re here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website’s giving page.*



## **Musical Offering**

*Christ has Arisen, Alleluia*

## **Hymn**

*442 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia*

*Stand*

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and  $\mathbb{T}$  give you peace.

**Amen.**

### **Hymn**

*511 Crown Him with Many Crowns*



# Take Home Questions

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1. The joy of Easter is something that hits close to home for us. Because Jesus lives, we will too! Yet, that joy doesn't stop in our hearts. It goes out to others through our witness. How did the disciples demonstrate this truth in Acts 5. What opportunities exist in your life right now to share your Easter joy with others?
2. In Acts 5 the disciples demonstrate an extreme boldness in their witnessing. In what ways does John's vision of Jesus in Revelation 1 backup and support that boldness? How does this vision give us that same boldness in our witnessing?
3. We're often quick to criticize the disciples and Thomas as they struggled with fear and doubt. However, in what ways are we just like them, wrestling with fear and doubt? How does Jesus calm our doubts, just as he did for them?
4. Jesus was talking about us when he said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." We haven't physically seen the risen Lord, but that doesn't mean our faith is completely blind. In what ways is our faith based on what has been seen? For what reasons is that so comforting?

# News & Announcements

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## **This Sunday's Bible Study:**

Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?  
The Giver of Prosperity

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM  
For the google meet link, contact a pastor.



## **Pastors at Retreat**

*April 27-29*

If you recall, a couple of months ago, we had a special offering to raise money to send our pastors on the Begun in Grace Retreat in San Antonio, TX. The retreat that takes place this week is for pastors, who graduated from seminary in 2017, 2018, and 2019, and their wives. This is not just a time for the pastors to relax and recharge. They will attend presentations aimed at the challenges and opportunities specific to their season of ministry. The wives will attend session just for them, and everyone will connect with old classmates and friends.

## **St. Paul's Serving at New Food Pantry**

*May 2-6*

St. Paul's will be the first group serving the community at SWEPS new location. The local food pantry is relocating to 2331 West Grand Avenue across the street from Wheelers car dealership. Our congregation will serve the week of May 2-6. Volunteers are needed 12-4 PM on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and 4-7 PM on Tuesday. To volunteers, please contact Judy Anderson at 715-423-5922 or [5JAnderson@charter.net](mailto:5JAnderson@charter.net).

## **The Giver of Prosperity?**

*April 24 | 9:15 AM*

Does God promise believers special physical and material blessing? If I have enough faith, if I pray hard enough and believe enough, won't God reward me? We will explore what the Bible says about these ideas at this Sunday's bible study. All adults and teens are invited. The study meets in the cafeteria from 9:15-10:15 AM.

## **Monday Night Services Return**

*April 25 | 6:30 PM*

This week, we will resume worship services on Monday nights. These services are repeats for the Sunday service and are intended for those who were unable to attend on Sunday for whatever reason. So if you had to work, were out of town, or weren't feeling well, please take advantage of our 6:30 pm service on Mondays.

## **NLHS 5K on Saturday**

*April 30*

Join Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) on Saturday, April 30, for their annual 5K Run/Walk. Registration for adults (12 and up) is \$25, for children, \$20. Go to [nlhs.org](http://nlhs.org), to register.

## Handbell Festival Concert This Sunday

April 24 | 2:00 PM

This weekend, our church's handbell choir and our school's junior handbell choir are attending a regional Handbell Festival at Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) in Kronenwetter. A concert of the combined choirs will be held this Sunday at 2:00.

## Conflict, Anger & Forgiveness

May 15 | 2:00 PM

The Trinity Sisters of Trinity Lutheran in Marshfield are hosting a Daughters of Christ Tea. The keynote speaker will be Stacie Nagorski, a licensed professional counselor at Christian Family Solutions. Although this is a mother-daughter event, all women are invited regardless of marital status or whether you have children. Children are invited, and there will be a kid-friendly craft, plus photos, music, and dessert. Please RSVP by Monday, May 2 to [jaureguiz@charter.net](mailto:jaureguiz@charter.net) or call/text 715-384-5657.

## Walk for Life

May 14 | 9:00 AM

First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center of Wisconsin Rapids is holding 6K Fun Run/Walk at South Wood County Park on Saturday, May 14. Funds raised will be used to support First Choice's Hands On Parenting Education program, otherwise known as HOPE. The run/walk route circles Lake Wazeecha. Registration and online fundraising can be completed by going to [www.firstchoiceprc.org/walkforlife](http://www.firstchoiceprc.org/walkforlife). Same day registration is also available.

## Get the early-bird discount

May 1

Meet missionaries and learn about the people and places they serve with the Gospel at the annual Lutheran Women's Missionary Society's (LWMS) national convention bring held June 23-26 in Rochester, NY. Mission work in all parts of the world is changing. Hear about some of these changes through feature presentations, shorter "Moments with Our Missionaries," workshops, and mission displays. There's so much to do while you are in the area. Tour Niagara Falls or explore the local attractions. Get details on the speakers, the schedule and where to stay at [lwms.org](http://lwms.org). There is an early-bird discount if you register by May 1.

### Special Prayers This Week:

- For Rick Nash and Barb Matthew, who are brother & sister and are both now fighting cancer
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**Sunday**  
 8:00 AM Worship  
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria  
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing  
 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)  
 10:30 AM Worship  
 2:00 PM Coed Volleyball in the gym  
 2:00 pm Handbell Festival Concert at NLHS

**Monday** 6:30 AM Worship

**Tuesday**  
 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop  
 9:45 AM Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center  
 6:30 PM Stephen Ministers in the Resource Center

**Wednesday**  
 8:55 AM School Chapel Service  
 6:30 PM Bible Book Group in the Resource Center

**Thursday** 7:00 AM Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop

**Sunday**  
 8:00 AM Worship  
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria  
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing  
 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)  
 10:30 AM Worship

## Attendance & Offering Report

Last Week's Attendance: 322  
 Good Friday Attendance: 370  
 Holy Thursday Attendance: 173  
 Anticipated offerings YTD: \$ 634,200  
 Actual offerings YTD: \$ 627,569  
 YTD giving to the Organ Fund: \$ 116,309

## Upcoming Events

April 27-29 ~ Pastors' Retreat  
 April 30 ~ NLHS 5K Run/Walk  
 May 2-6 ~ St. Paul's serving at Food Pantry  
 May 8 ~ Mother's Day



# MLC DAY

MAY 4, 2022

ONE GENERATION WILL COMMEND YOUR WORKS TO ANOTHER. PSALM 145:4

Join thousands of friends of Martin Luther College (MLC) across the globe: pray for their work of service to the world, share messages of encouragement online, and give to support that work. Post your photos, videos, and stories to MLC's Facebook & Instagram pages using #MLCDAY22 or send them to MLC online. Learn more about MLC Day at [mlcday.com](http://mlcday.com).



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