

Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



Christ is Risen, indeed!
Alleluia!

Second Easter of Sunday

April 27, 2025



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*

Pastor:

NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*

ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton*

Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*

Web Page: <http://www.stlukesnb.org>

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Church Phone: 419-257-3253

*Whether this is your first time with us or you have been here your whole life, **WELCOME** to the place where we stand together before God as equals. If you are new here and seeking a church home, please contact the church office at 419-257-3253 and leave a message.*

Assisting in Worship

Organist: *Janet Goldner*

Worship Leader: *SAM Paul Brooks*

Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Janet Goldner*

Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*

Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

May Candles: *available for signup*

May Bulletins: *Laura & Tony Damon*

May Newsletters: *Laura & Tony Damon*

The North Baltimore Food Pantry

The requested donations for **MAY** are peanut butter, jellies, and jams.

Please give joyously and generously so the no one goes without.

Order of Worship

Second Sunday of Easter, April 27, 2025

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

**please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to love like Jesus."

THE GREETING

Leader: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL: and also with you.**

*GATHERING HYMN #377

ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN!

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

ALL: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

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

ALL: Amen.

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

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,

ALL: make us one as you are one.

Leader: 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,

ALL: make us one as you are one.

Leader: 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,

ALL: make us one as you are one.

Leader: 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.

ALL: Amen.

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day.

ALL: 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.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:27-32

Reader: 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.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 118: 14-29

Reader: The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

ALL: Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

Reader: The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

ALL: I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

Reader: The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

ALL: Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

Reader: “This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter.”

ALL: I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

Reader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

ALL: By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Reader: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ALL: Hosanna! O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!

Reader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

ALL: The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

Reader: You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

ALL: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

REVELATION 1:4-8

Reader: 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.

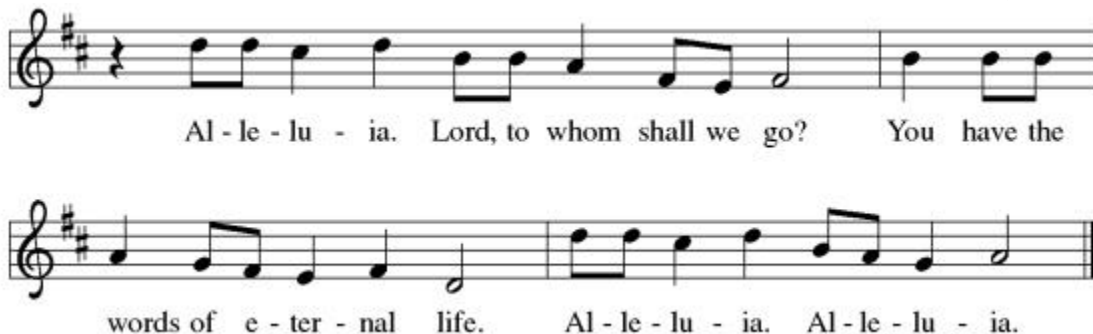
⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 3 #142



*GOSPEL READING

JOHN 20:19-31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of John chapter 20. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: 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.

Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #822

OH, SING TO THE LORD

***THE NICENE CREED**

ALL: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is

seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

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

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Hear us, O God, **ALL: your mercy is great.**

We pray for Rose Marie, Mike, Nancy, John, Becky, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Ella, Frances, Eli, Riley, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Eric, Lisa, Don, Ashley, Mary, Pat, Gordon, Ellery, Ari, and Josh.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Please share God's peace with those worshipping around you.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen! In the glory of the resurrection let us give our tithes and offerings with thanksgiving for all that we have to share with one another and with all of God's creation.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: 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.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL:** We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **ALL:** it is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: And so, with all creatures and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SETTING 3 HYMNAL PAGE 144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Leader: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

***THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US**

**All: 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 INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

DISTRIBUTION

***THE TABLE BLESSING**

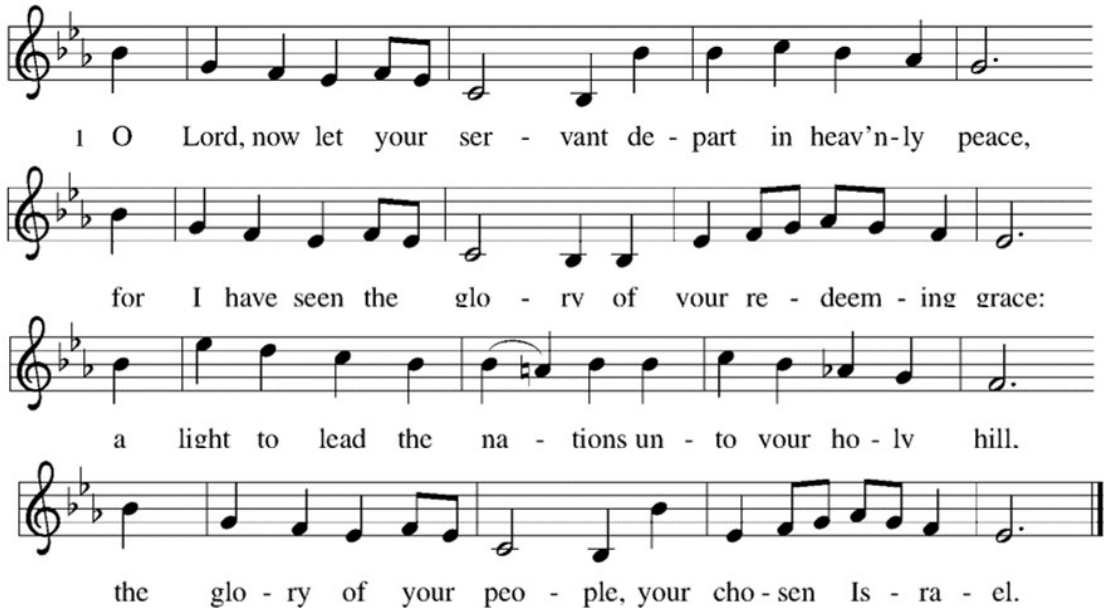
Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **ALL: Amen**

***HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313**

O LORD NOW LET YOUR SERVANT

(VERSE 1)

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill.
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

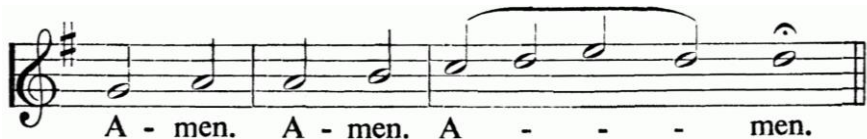
Leader: Please join with me in prayer.

ALL: 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.

*BLESSING

Leader: 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. In the name of the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit.

*The Amen



*SENDING HYMN #854

BLESSING AND HONOR

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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*During worship on Sunday, May 4, we will participate in a service of Invitation of Service for Paul Brooks and Ken Pollitz. We hope you will join us.*

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## TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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"Oh, Sing to the Lord" TEXT: Brazilian folk song, tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Spanish and English © Gerard Cartford, admin.

Augsburg Fortress MUSIC: Brazilian folk tune

"Create in Me a Clean Heart" PUBLIC DOMAIN

"O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" TEXT: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis MUSIC: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version TEXT © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress (#313)

"Blessing and Honor" Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, alt. Music: Matthias Keller, 1813-1875

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Please help to keep our Prayer List up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes, additions or deletions.

**WE GIVE THANKS:** for the resurrection – because Jesus lives, we will live! Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, Nancy Wymer, John Stewart, Becky Bean, JoLynn Stewart, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha Carter, Barb Williams.

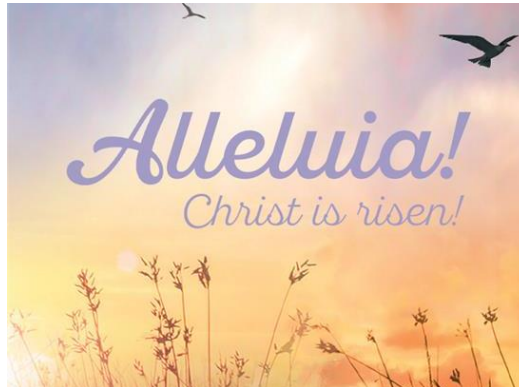
**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Ella Moore, Jo Mineo, Frances Bullock, Eli Swartz, Riley Guy, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

**MILITARY:** for all those who are in training and who are serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (*especially those in combat zones*); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

## Can I Get a Witness?

The texts for today explore what it means to be a witness: the power of seeing and experiencing the resurrection firsthand. For those of us who weren't there in person to witness Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, a question persists: How do we give witness? How have we experienced Easter firsthand? What do we need to see, to touch, to hear in order to believe?

The witness given in our readings today is extraordinary. "Doubting" Thomas comes up with one of the most powerful, concise creeds in all of scripture: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). Peter and the apostles affirm their belief in Christ at great risk to themselves and their families. The Spirit is at work, giving ordinary, doubting people extraordinary boldness to declare the core beliefs of Christian faith. God works in surprising ways, through unexpected people, to share the good news of Easter. With the Spirit's help, we can give witness too.



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[Church Office Hours M-F 9-1](#)