

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

24 April 2022



Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

# **Service of Holy Communion**

## ***Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 3***

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.  
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

### **Prelude / Ringing of the Bell**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Easter Greeting**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!      **C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!.**

### **Confession and Forgiveness (pages 94-96)**

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

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

*(There is a time of silence for reflection.)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I

therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **Hymn #619 “I Know That My Redeemer Lives!” vs.1-4**

**Greeting** (page 138)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**Kyrie** (pages 138-139; spoken responsively)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

♫ **This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Sing with all the people of God**

**and join in the hymn of all creation.**

**Blessing, honor, glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign. Alleluia.  
This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

### **Prayer of the Day**

### **Readings**

**L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**✠ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### **Gospel**

**P: The Holy Gospel according to John. C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Children's Sermon – Noisy Offering**

**Sermon – Pastor Roberta**

### **Hymn #380 “Halleluhah! Jesus Lives!”**

### **Confession of Faith: Nicene Creed**

**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 Intercession**

*(Each petition ends: P: God, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)*

#### **Peace**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

#### **Offering**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

#### **Great Thanksgiving**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is indeed right....and join their unending hymn:

**♫ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### ***Holy Communion is celebrated today.***

*All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited to receive Holy Communion  
Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

**✠ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.**

## **Hymn #392 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"**

### **Post Communion Blessing & Prayer**

#### **Blessing**

## **Hymn #619 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives!" vs.5-8**

#### **Dismissal**

**P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.**



**C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

**Ring of the Bell / Postlude**

**Pastor:** Rev. Roberta Pierce  
**Organist:** Jason Bousselot or Linda Whitman  
**Acolyte:** Faith Will  
**Lector:** Brian Bousselot  
**Communion Assistant:** Cindy Burke  
**Usher:** Brian Bousselot  
**Cleaners:** Deb and Ray Detlefs

### **Contact Information:**

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### **This Week At A Glance**

|           |         |                                  |
|-----------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Wednesday | 6:00 pm | Confirmation class at Faith      |
|           | 7:00 pm | Bible Jam at Faith               |
| Sunday    | 8:00 am | Worship service at Faith         |
|           | 9:30 am | Sunday School/Adult Class at Our |
|           | 10:30   | Savior's                         |
|           | am      | Worship service at Our Savior's  |

**Those to keep in prayer:** Heather Grau, Lucy Lee Petersen, Velma Jensen, Megan Mineck Wentland, Ryan Dick, Neil Mason, Tim Burke, Jim Goddard, Barb Johnson; the homebound: Betty Schau, Carol Christensen, Bus Seastrand, Rusty Porth, Hazel Richards, Ron Gasper, Norman Bousselot, Joan Shelton, and Myrna Kay Petersen; and those serving in the military.

**Bible School** will be held the first four Mondays in May: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:15-5:15 at Faith. Registration forms for children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are on the table at the back of the church.



The **DeWitt Community Hospital Auxiliary** annually participates in Birdies for Charity at the John Deere Golf Classic. 100% of donations go toward the designated project for the DeWitt Community Hospital. An additional 5% is also donated by the John Deere Classic.

If you would like to support this project, follow these steps.

1. Collect a donation form located on the bulletin board at Faith or at the back of the church at Our Savior's.
2. Write a check to **QC Golf Classic Charitable Foundation**.
3. Complete the brief donation form.
4. **Mail the donation and form prior to June 1, 2022 to this address:**

**Birdies for Charity  
15623 Coaltown Rd.  
East Moline, IL 61244**

DeWitt Community Hospital is often the first place one goes if injured or ill. Even though transportation to other hospitals for care may be needed, it remains the closest facility to meet our emergency, general, or long-term care needs. Thank you for supporting our local hospital.

***“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.”  
(Luke 24:5, NRSV)***

*By Timothy Siburg | [www.timothysiburg.com](http://www.timothysiburg.com)*

This is Good News. This is confounding news. This is confusing news. This is inexplicable news. But this is Good News.

**Good News in our world is often unbelievable. We hear it, and we can't believe what we hear.** Whereas the bad news, that we often hear we sometimes can't believe it, but often I fear we accept that kind of news quicker than the good kind. And there is no better news than that of the Resurrection.

So, on an early morning the women have gone to the tomb to find Jesus' body. But they don't find it. He is not there. He has risen. And they are asked an almost unfathomable question by those heavenly beings standing watch. “Why do you look for the living among the dead?”

I suspect we can all be asked this question from time to time. Whether it be when life doesn't go as planned. When we're waiting for news of an opportunity, a diagnosis, job offer, grade on a big test or assignment, what might transpire with an upcoming transition, the birth of a child or grandchild, or even just hoping for rain to fall so that the crops might grow. **Our human nature is such, that we expect the other shoe to drop.** We sit, and we try to be hopeful but our brains wander and more times than not they take us to the worst possible outcome. To fear. To failure. To hopelessness. To despair. To death.

This isn't without good reason. There are countless reasons we could point to such brokenness and pain. Our world is full of them. We need only look to the suffering of the people of Ukraine. To remember the global pandemic, and acknowledge the latest global estimated death toll of 15 million people who have lost their lives to Covid-19. We could point to the death of loved ones, or the health challenges that family and friends are facing. To anxiety of

any all kinds. Yes, we have perfectly valid reasons for our brains wandering and focusing on the broken and problems, and challenges of this world. To look for death and give into fear and hopelessness.

If that is why we look for the living among the dead, it's not without understandable reasons. **But I wonder, if God might just be inviting us to hear the question a bit differently.**

Why do you look for the living among the dead?

Whenever you might hear this question, what if instead of letting our minds wander to the worst possible outcome or news in the world; or instead of reacting defensively or being caught off guard, we take a step back, and look for God? For this very question, is of God. It is Good News. It's a reminder that God is not done. That God is very much alive, and at work: Bringing life out of death. Hope out of despair. Resurrection out of Crucifixion. Easter out of Good Friday.

It's a reminder that it is true whenever we claim that: God is with us. God is for us. And God loves us. Always. Just because of who we are, God's own. None of this we could ever earn or deserve. It just is. Because that is who God is. God is a God of abundant and abiding steadfast love. God turns mourning into dancing. God turns endings into beginnings. God turns our human notions of failure and finality into possibility and experimentation.

**So why on this early Easter morning, do you look for the living among the dead?**

If you're like me, perhaps you're grasping for something to hold onto. You're looking desperately for something to cling to. You're looking for certainty among uncertainty. Looking for answers, instead of remembering that at the heart of our faith, really are questions. Questions like "What does this mean?" Or, "What is this?"

Jesus tells story after story, parable after parable. That's how he answers questions. By telling stories.

So, let's try this again. Why do you look for the living among the dead?

I have seen God's creative work. I witnessed it just last week. I wrote about it in a story about **Nile Lutheran Chapel for the Nebraska Synod**. And just last week, I had the privilege of joining Bishop Brian Maas and witnessing the baptism of ten Children of God, ranging in age from infant to college aged and everywhere in between. In a world where we hear story after story of congregations in decline, of communities finding it harder and harder to be in relationship with one another, here is another story. Another way. Another truth.

God is alive. And that Spirit can be seen and felt every time a relationship is formed. Every time disciples begin to follow, and then ask a question and then another question, and then another question. Every time stewards wonder about the needs of others. Every time, we as God's people turn outward instead of inward. For in all of this, God's creative work is really happening. New ideas emerge. New possibilities. Experiments. New life.

So, again, why do you look for the living among the dead?

Because that is where we begin our journey. It's not where we end. It might be where we all end up at the end of our earthly life. But in God in Christ, it is merely a beginning.

If Jesus were asked this question, he might then again tell another story. Jesus might tell us the story of his life and ministry. He might show up anew with you and me on the walk to Emmaus and open our very eyes, hearts, and minds to his presence and promise. He might show up through the breaking of the bread, and the drinking of the cup. But in showing up, he's showing us that he is alive. That God is active and up to something. That God meets us where we are at, no matter our emotions or locations, questions, or reactions.

**Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here. He is risen.**

Now go and tell the Good News to all who might listen. Testify. Witness. Wonder. Spread hope and joy with good courage. For our world is hurting. It is grieving. It is aching and in such need for the truth of Easter. Our world is stuck in Good Friday. But that's not the end. Easter is real, because God in Christ makes it so.

New beginnings. New life. New hope. All things are made new in Christ Jesus.



What new life might you witness today and this week? For that new life that you see, is very much a sign that God is present and up to something. That God is alive, showing up and doing God's thing. That God's creative and reconciling work continues. That God's love is real.

Let's join in, following the examples of the first witnesses to the resurrection- the women at the tomb, who have, ever since, been proclaiming the Good News of the resurrection. **The Good News that our world so sorely needs, yet when it hears it, can scarcely believe it's true.**

But it is. Yes, friends, it's true. And we don't need to see the scars and wounds of Christ to know that it's so. We just need to look for the living Lord among us now and always. Yes, indeed.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Happy Easter and Thanks be to God! Amen.