



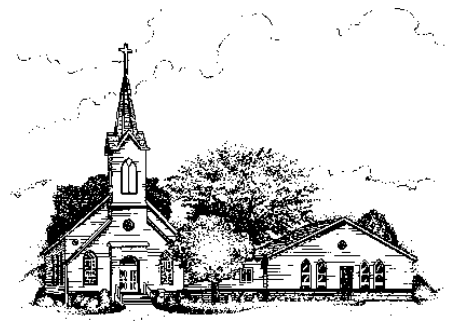
*“Put your finger here;
see my hands.
Reach out your hand
and put it into my side.
Stop doubting and believe.”*

John 20:27. NIV

Second Sunday of Easter

April 4 / 7, 2024

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church



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Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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Welcome to God's House

In most world religions, the alleged foundational event was experienced by only one person. A self-proclaimed prophet would allege he alone had

resurrection
REALity

some special encounter with God. "No really...trust me. It really happened." The resurrection reality is so very different. In his great resurrection chapter, St. Paul lists all the people to whom Jesus

appeared after he rose, including a group of over five hundred at one time. It's like Paul saying "You don't need to take *my* word for it...hundreds of people saw him!"

The proof of Jesus' resurrection brought peace and strength to those early believers. They knew there was more to their existence than just their time on earth. They knew the reality that eternal life was theirs, a gift from their living Lord. It gave them incredible joy and courage. May the resurrection reality give us the same.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

Awake My Heart, With Gladness #443:1-3

1 Awake, my heart, with gladness—
see what today is done!

Now, after gloom and sadness,
comes forth the glorious sun.

My Savior there was laid

where our bed must be made
when to the realms of light
our spirit wings its flight.

2 The foe in triumph shouted
when Christ lay in the tomb;
but lo, he now is routed,
his boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free;
in glorious victory
he who is strong to save
has triumphed o'er the grave.

3 This is a sight that gladdens—
what peace it does impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
the joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
no foe shall ever take
the hope which God's own Son
in love for me has won.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

Confession

As we come before our God and King, let us confess our sins.
Lord God, I humbly come before you.

**I confess that I am sinful in thought, word, and deed.
I daily fail to do what you command,
and continually do what you forbid.
Lord, I am sorry for my sins.
I believe that for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ,
you will have mercy on me.**

Upon this, your sincere confession,
and by Christ's command and authority,
I assure you that your sins are all forgiven.
The vacant cross and empty grave are God's signs to you
that he has accepted the sacrifice of his one and only Son.
Whoever believes this simple truth of Scripture has eternal life.

The Lord is gracious and righteous!
When I was in great need, he saved me.

Psalm 116:5,6

The Lord is my strength and my song.
He has become my salvation.

Psalm 118:14

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

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

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.
Lord, have mercy.

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

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

Amen.

Gloria

LANCASHIRE CW 1017



1 To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth,
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, you take all sin a - way;



for God has shown his fa - vor in Je - sus' ho - ly birth!
ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.



Al - might - y God and Fa - ther, our hum - ble thanks we bring;
With God the Ho - ly Spir - it, at God the Fa - ther's throne,



we wor - ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

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.

First Reading

Acts 18:1-11

After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³ and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. ⁴ Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

⁵ When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. ⁶ But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

⁷ Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. ⁸ Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

⁹ One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. ¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.” ¹¹ So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

This Is the Day - Psalm 16B

Refrain



This is the day the LORD has made.



Let us re-joice and be glad in it.

Tone



Lord, you alone are my portion / and my cup;
you make my / lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant / places;
surely I have a delightful in- / heritance.

I keep my eyes always / on the Lord.

With him at my right hand, I will not be / shaken. **Refrain**

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue re- / joices;
my body also will / rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the realm / of the dead,
nor will you let your Holy One / see decay.

You make known to me the / path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at / your right hand.

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**

Second Reading

1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

**Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
Alleluia.**

Gospel

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

O Sons and Daughters of the King #456:1-6

1 O sons and daughters of the King,
whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
today the grave has lost its sting!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 That Easter morn, at break of day,
the faithful women went their way

to seek the tomb where Jesus lay.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 An angel bade their sorrow flee,
for thus he spoke unto the three,
“Your Lord will go to Galilee.”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 That night th’_apostles met in fear;
among them came their Lord most dear
and said, “My peace be with you here.”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5 When Thomas afterwards had heard
that Jesus had fulfilled his word,
he doubted that it was the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 “Thomas, behold my side,” said he,
“my hands, my feet, my body see;
and doubt not, but believe in me.”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sermon

John 20:19-31

The 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.

Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, you have made known to us the path of life. You have made our joy complete.

You are our Lord. **Apart from you we have no good thing.**

Give us your gift of peace and drive all doubt from our hearts with the gospel of your resurrection, that we may face all troubles with boldness and confidence.

You are our Lord. **Apart from you we have no good thing.**

Have mercy on those who live in doubt, who live without hope, and even those who oppose your gospel. In your grace prepare their hearts and give them opportunities to hear your gospel again.

You are our Lord. **Apart from you we have no good thing.**

Lead and guide all those in authority, that peace may prevail among us, and that we may remain free to openly worship you as our Lord and our God.

You are our Lord. **Apart from you we have no good thing.**

Strengthen and keep those who proclaim your Word in your grace that they may boldly proclaim the gospel they have heard and bring many more into fellowship with you and your church.

You are our Lord. **Apart from you we have no good thing.**

Risen Lord, with you there is no doubt, but the worries and cares of the world and the burdens in our hearts weigh us down. Lighten the burdens of

those who struggle, [especially...] that they may never doubt your Word or your goodness, but find their life and light in you.

You are our Lord. **Apart from you we have no good thing.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Lord Jesus Christ, true God and truly human, you do not change, and you are holy in all your works. Remove all our unbelief and doubt and fill our hearts with the gifts of your grace that we may believe and know you as our Lord and our God; you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Hymn

We Have a Gospel to Proclaim #741:1-4



1 We have a gos - pel to pro - claim, good news for
2 Tell of his birth at Beth - le - hem, not in a
3 Tell of his death at Cal - va - ry, hat - ed by
4 Tell of that glo - rious Eas - ter morn: emp - ty the



all through - out the earth, the gos - pel of a
roy - al house or hall, but in a sta - ble
those he came to save; in lone - ly suf - f'ring
tomb, for he was free. He broke the pow'r of

- 1 Savior, again to thy dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.
- 2 Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
with thee began, with thee shall end the day.
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon thy name.
- 3 Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
turn thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep thy children free,
for dark and light are both alike to thee.
- 4 Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife.
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.

Copyrights / Acknowledgments

1017 Gloria (Brit) - LANCASHIRE CW 1017

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16B This Is the Day Psalm 16B

Tune: Dale A. Witte Setting: Dale A. Witte

Music: © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

741 We Have a Gospel to Proclaim CW 741 sts. 1-4

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This Week at Zion

Today:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
Mon:	6:30 p.m.	Evangelism meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Sunday School Teacher meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Elders meeting
	7:00 p.m.	KML General Board meeting
	8:00 p.m.	Council meeting
Tue:	8:00 a.m.	KM Conference at St. Paul's, Neosho
	1:00 p.m.	OWLS meeting at St. John's, Lomira
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Catechism Instructions
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Fri:	2:00 p.m.	Hope Rehab Devotion
	5:00 p.m.	KML Family Music Fest and Science Fair
Sat:	8:00 a.m.	Spring Work Day at church
	8:30 a.m.	LWMS Rally at St. Matthew, Iron Ridge
Sun:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study

In Our Prayers Chuck Williams, in hospice care at Kathy Hospice in West Bend; Darleen Oelhafen, recovering from a broken leg at Cedar Lake Campus, West Bend; also Jean Wunder, recovering at home from knee replacement surgery.

Lord's Supper As a church concerned with upholding all the truths of Scripture and encouraging faithful Christian living, we practice "member communion" with those who have confessed a unity of faith with us. If you are not a WELS or ELS member and you would like to commune with us in the future, please speak to the pastor after the service.

Bible Study / Sunday School Sunday School and our adult bible study class resumes today (Sunday) after a week off for Easter. The children are studying some interactions between Jesus and Mary Magdalene, Zaccheus, Lazarus, etc...and the adults are finishing up a study of the Life of Joseph. All are welcome to join us.

We thank Barb Olsen for serving as our organist for all our worship services this weekend.

Help Needed Our updated audio-visual equipment is scheduled to be installed next week Wednesday and Thursday. We will need people to help run the equipment – if you are interested contact Keith Bartelt or Stephen Galleske.

Easter Lilies If you purchased an Easter lily to beautify the church last Sunday, you're welcome to find it (cards are attached) and take it home with you today. Thank you!

Work Day As always, winter takes a toll on our buildings and grounds. We could use as much help as we can get this coming Saturday, April 13th, to do some cemetery repair, raking, trimming, and tackle some specific projects that need to get done. Even if you only have an hour or two, please join us starting at 8:00 a.m.

LWMS Rally Ladies, you're invited to the spring rally of the local Lutheran Women's Missionary Society this coming Saturday, April 13th. You'll be inspired by the presenter, Juan Escobar, who will share how a simple basketball camp changed his life. See the poster on the bulletin board for additional information.

OWLS Meeting Tuesday, April 9th, is the date for the next area OWLS meeting. Bruce Braun will be repeating his presentation on our mission in Ukraine and his family's history. It will be held at the Lomira Village Hall beginning at 1 p.m.

Open Enrollment for School Choice If you're looking for a quality Christian education for your child(ren) in a smaller elementary school with a loving atmosphere, consider St. Lucas Lutheran in Kewaskum. Since St. Lucas participates in the Wisconsin Parental School Program, you may be eligible to have your tuition covered. The signup runs through April 18th. E-mail or call Principal Mark Hesse with any questions at 262-626-2680 or mhesse@stlucaswels.org.

Sign up to Greet Thanks to all who have been serving as greeters for our worship services each weekend. We'd love to work our volunteers out of a job by making this something self-sustaining...people simply signing up on their own as often as you'd like. Go to www.zionallenton.org and click on the "Greeter Signup" at the bottom of the page.

Bags / Cornhole Tournament If you're reading this on Thursday night, you can still sign up for a fun evening of food, friendly competition, and the chance to win some great prizes. The date is **April 6th**, starting at 5 p.m. and the place is our church fellowship hall. Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.