

Peace Lutheran Church  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
Saturday, April 6, 2024 + 6:00 PM & Sunday, April 7, 2024 + 8:00 AM

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK** - "Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."  
*John 20:21*

**INVOCATION**

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

C: **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

**LSB 463 v. 1-4**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

**KYRIE** *sung*            *LSB p. 152-153*

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: 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.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Refrain:*            **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.    *Refrain***  
**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,**  
**And honor, blessing, and glory are His.    *Refrain***  
**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.    *Refrain***  
**For the Lamb who was slain**  
**Has begun His reign. Alleluia.    *Refrain***

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

L: Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**FIRST READING***Acts 4:32-35*

<sup>32</sup>The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. <sup>33</sup>And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold <sup>35</sup>and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING***1 John:1—2:2*

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup>the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— <sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup>He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA VERSE**

*LSB p. 156*

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

**GOSPEL**

*John 20:19-31*

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**L:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON HYMN**

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts To Heaven"

*LSB 477 vs. 1-3*

**SERMON**

“The First Step Was/Is the Hardest”  
*John 20:19-31*

Pastor Jarod Fenske

**APOSTLES CREED**

**OFFERING**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**PREPARATION TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT**

- L: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**  
L: Lift up your hearts.  
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**  
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**PROPER PREFACE**

- L: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS**

LSB p.161

**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**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**AGNUS DEI** *LSB p.163*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“When Peace Like A River”

**LSB 763 V 1-3**

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

**LSB 480 V 1-5**

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

L: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a fore-taste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

L: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

C: Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won” **LSB 490 vs. 1**



