



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

A **LIE** THAT TELLS THE
TRUTH

MATTHEW 28:11-15


NEW TESTAMENT
PROJECT

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

10:30 Holy Communion

The resurrection is hard to believe! Even proof and eyewitness reports aren't enough to convince people. In today's gospel reading we'll meet some people who refuse to believe all the proof, and they even devise a plan to suppress the facts!

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!
(For music see Hymn 382 in the Red Hymnal)

1. Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him
as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him,
rising up from griefs and tears.

Refrain: Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!

2. Christ is risen! All the sadness
of our Lenten fast is o'er;
through the open gates of gladness
he returns to life once more;
death and hell before him bending
see him rise, the victor now,
angels on his steps attending,
glory round his wounded brow. *Refrain*

3. Christ is risen! All the sorrow
that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow
in the rising of today.
See the grave its first-fruits giving,
springing up from holy ground;
Christ was dead but now is living;
he was lost, but he is found. *Refrain*

4. Christ is risen! Henceforth never
death or hell shall us enthrall.
We are Christ's, in him forever
we have triumphed over all.

**All the doubting and dejection
of our trembling hearts have ceased;
hail the day of resurrection!
Let us rise and keep the feast. *Refrain***

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1873, alt. Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,
you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

The worship leader stands by the baptismal font. Water may be poured into it.

P: Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P: Satisfy the world's needs through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise I Am the Resurrection and the Life
(For music turn to Hymn 16 in the Songbook binder)

Chorus

**I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will never die
I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will live a new life.**

**1. I have come to bring the truth
I have come to bring you life
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

**2. In My word all men will come to know
it is love which makes the spirit grow
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

**3. Keep in mind the things that I have said
remember Me in the breaking of the bread
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

Text and music: Ray Repp, CCLI #9189, Copyright 1967 K & R Music Publishing

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Jeremiah 2:4-8

B: ⁴Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? ⁶They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the

wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" ⁷I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. ⁸The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 16 (*read responsively*)

D: Protect me, God,

I turn to you for help.

I profess, "You are my Lord,
my greatest good."

**C: I once put faith in false gods,
the idols of the land.**

D: Now I make no offering to them,
nor invoke their names.

Those who chase after them
add grief upon grief.

**C: Lord, you measure out my portion,
the shape of my future;**

D: you mark off the best place for me
to enjoy my inheritance.

**C: I bless God who teaches me,
who schools my heart even at night.**

D: I am sure God is here,
right beside me.

I cannot be shaken.

**C: So my heart rejoices,
my body thrills with life,
my whole being rests secure.**

D: You will not abandon me to Sheol,
nor sent your faithful on to death.

**C: You show me the road to life:
boundless joy at your side forever!**

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

E:³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the

resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (John 20:29)

C: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. Alleluia

Gospel Reading Matthew 28:11-15

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 28th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

While [the women] were going [from the tomb] , some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened.

¹²After the priests had assembled with the elders, they devised a plan to give a large sum of money to the soldiers, ¹³telling them, “You must say, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.’

¹⁴If this comes to the governor’s ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” ¹⁵So they took the money and did as they were directed.

And this story is still told among the Jews to this day.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
(For music turn to Hymn 675 in the Blue Hymnal)

1. **We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e’r spoke:
“My peace be with you here.”**
2. **We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, “My Lord and God!”**
3. **Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:**
4. **And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.**

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.; Music: Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816; arr. With one Voice, 1995. Arr. copyright Augsburg Fortress 1995

Nicene Creed

P: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: 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 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 Church

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord
For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Generous God,
**C: in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen one.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

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, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has embodied the promise of eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.”

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.
Alleluia

Communion Distribution

*Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:
Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)*

491 *Come Let Us Eat (Red Hymnal)*

485 *I Am the Bread of Life (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray: Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: The God of all,
who raised Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me*
(For music see Hymn 860 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.**
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
2. **Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.**
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
3. **When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.**
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.

**When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

Text and music: African American Spiritual

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939. Music: George Frederic Handel, 1685-1759

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Gary Wood
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Adele Garvey
Counters	Mary and Greg Zuege
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 23, 2023

Greeters and Ushers	Mary and Greg Zuege
Acolyte	Owen Young
Counters	Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour	

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States, unless otherwise noted. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications. Variable worship texts from *Sundays and Seasons 2023* copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress.

St. John's Lutheran Church
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
William Shi, Pianist