



# 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 23, 2017*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

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.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

# † GATHERING †

## Prelude and Announcements

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends,  
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.  
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:  
for water to bathe in, and for water to drink,  
for the rain, the snow, and the water in the ground.

**C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.**

P: We give you thanks, O God for the waters of this place:  
the Finger Lakes, the Genesee River, and Lake Ontario;  
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,  
for water that gives life to our planet.

**C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of wonder.**

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
and for all who gather in this place;  
for godparents and baptismal sponsors,  
for children and grandchildren,  
for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to  
whom we are bound.

**C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.**

P: We give you thanks, O God, for water, for life, for grace, for  
forgiveness, for resurrection and for eternal life.

**C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.  
Amen.**

Gathering Hymn Alleluia! Jesus is Risen  
(For music turn to Hymn 377 in the Red Hymnal)

### 1. Alleluia!

**Jesus is risen!**

**Trumpets resounding in glorious light!**

**Splendor, the Lamb,  
heaven forever!**

**Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

*Refrain*

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise:  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**2. Walking the way,  
Christ in the center  
telling the story to open our eyes;  
breaking our bread,  
giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.   *Refrain***

**3. Jesus the vine,  
we are the branches;  
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
heaven to earth,  
Christ to the people,  
gift of the future now flowing to me.   *Refrain***

**4. Weeping, be gone;  
sorrow, be silent:  
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing:  
“O grave, be open!”  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.   *Refrain***

**5. City of God  
Easter forever,  
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
river of life,  
saints and archangels,  
sing with creation to God the I AM!   *Refrain***

Text: Herbert Brokering, Copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress; Music: David Johnson, copyright 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*Greeting* (2 Corinthians 13:13)

**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.

Gathering Dialog (Romans 10)

A: The word is near you,

**C: on your lips and in your heart.**

A: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

**C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

A: Faith comes from what is heard,

**C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.**

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

<sup>4</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup>Thus 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? <sup>6</sup>They 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?" <sup>7</sup>I 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. <sup>8</sup>The 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*)

A: 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.**

A: 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;**

A: 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.**

A: 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.**

A: 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

<sup>3</sup>Blessed 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, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

<sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so 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. <sup>8</sup>Although 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, <sup>9</sup>for 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

<sup>14</sup>If this comes to the governor’s ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” <sup>15</sup>So 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 635 in the Red Hymnal)*

1. **We walk by faith and not by sight;  
with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e’re 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. **For you, O resurrected Lord,  
are found in means divine:  
beneath the water and the word,  
beneath the bread and wine.**

5. **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: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, Music copyright 1984 GIA Publications Inc.

*Apostles' Creed*

A: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

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

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

**C: And also with you.**

A: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

‡ THANKSGIVING ‡

Offering

Hymn of Thanksgiving *As the offering is brought forward the congregation sings:*

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your Word.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.**

**When my heart is hard,  
break the stone away.**

**When my heart is cold,  
warm it with the day.**

**When my heart is lost,  
lead me on your way.**

**Lord, let my heart,**

**Lord, let my heart,**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil.**



Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray:

**C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

A: 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.**

† SENDING †

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**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

*Dismissal*

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

WHY WOULD  
THE BIBLE  
SAY THAT  
SOME  
DISCIPLES  
DOUBTED?



BECAUSE  
IT'S  
TRUE?



THE FACT THAT THE  
DISCIPLES' FAILURES  
ARE ADMITTED  
GIVES THE BIBLE  
CREDIBILITY.



I WOULD NEVER  
ADMIT I WAS  
WRONG LIKE  
THAT. ARE  
YOU SAYING  
THAT'S A  
PROBLEM?



DO I  
HAVE  
TO  
ANSWER  
THAT?



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MATTHEW 28:16-20

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Rob and Laura Stroup
Acolyte	Scott Wilmot
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Ethan and Alyssa Minkel
Coffee Hour	The Shuler Family

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 30**

Greeters and Ushers	John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte	Jaden White
Altar Care	Beth Perdan and Joy Lethbridge
Communion Assistants	Don and Sally Mansfield
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Nancy and Ivan Shuler
Coffee Hour	Thompsons and Brights

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