

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

QUASIMODO GENITI

April 16, 2023

Service Notes: **Divine Service Setting One, page 151**
Hymns: 468, 470, 472, 483, 477, 480, 487
Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14
Epistle: 1 John 5:4-10
Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31
Sermon: "Written That You May Believe" John 20:19-31

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Maundy Thursday	04/06	1:30 p.m.	35
		6:30 p.m.	82
Good Friday	04/07	1:30 p.m.	71
		6:30 p.m.	66
Easter Sunday	04/09	6:00 a.m.	29
		8:00 a.m.	126
		10:00 a.m.	115

BULLETINS are given by Pat Wagner and Anna Farkas in memory of their mother, Margaret Jacob.

FLOWERS are given by the Gerloff family in memory of Betty Gerloff. Flowers are also given in celebration of Judy Hanson's 82nd birthday.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing.

CALL ACCEPTED Bob Cahill has accepted our Call to serve as Principal of Our Father's Lutheran School. He will be installed on Sunday, April 16 at the 8:00 a.m. service. Please continue with your prayers and support for the students, teachers and staff of our school.

SPRING CAMPUS CLEANUP Please plan to help clean up Our Father's campus on **Saturday, April 22** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Items to bring: hedger, shovel, rake, wheelbarrow, etc. Tasks to perform: trim bushes, fill holes in the lawn, plant grass, spread mulch, pick up trash, etc. Bring your own gloves and energy! If you have any questions, please contact Jon Kurth at (414) 881-5596.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	04/16	DIVINE SERVICES	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Thursday	04/20	CHAPEL SERVICE	8:10 a.m.
		DIVINE SERVICE	6:30 p.m.
Saturday	04/22	Spring Cleanup	9:00 to 12:00 p.m.
Sunday	04/23	DIVINE SERVICES	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.

WE PRAY for Michael Borchardt, Sr., Janet Brown, Jennifer Chapel (niece of Linda Christian), Karen Christiansen, Anna Rose Consigny, Sandy Damms, Harriet Davidson, Cheryl Fisher (sister of Lynn Hester), Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Carol Georgson, Glenn Georgson, Judy Hanson, Elaine Howe, Paul Howe, Jackie Johnson (mother of Don Johnson), Michelle Johnson, Marilyn Kolter, LeAnn Lagerman, Kandy Lilley, Konnie Otto, Angeline Pence, Jeff Pfander (brother of Todd Pfander), Susan Sochowski (wife of Mark Sochowski), and Joan Wolffersdorff (sister-in-law of Donna Metzfeld).

DINNER WITH PASTOR There are some openings available for inviting Pastor Nuckols to dinner at your home on Thursdays before church. There is a sheet in the narthex if you wish to sign up.

OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL, AND CHILDCARE CENTER

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**THE READINGS FOR
QUASIMODO GENITI**

April 16, 2023

INTROIT

(Psalm 81:1, 7a, 10, 16b; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a, chant responsively)

Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*

long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.

Sing aloud to | God our strength;*

shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!

In distress you called, and I de- | livered you;*

I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.

I am the | Lord your God,*

who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it;*

and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy you.

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.

Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*

long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (ESV)

¹ The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.'

¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

1 John 5:4-10 (ESV)

⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31 (ESV)

¹⁹On 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." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵So 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." ²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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."

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER
FOR THE WEEK OF
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
QUASIMODO GENITI**

“Written That You May Believe”
April 16 through April 22, 2023

Quasimodo Geniti means “like newborn babes.” This phrase from 1 Peter 2:2 describes the life of faith. Peter is speaking about the newly baptized who need to drink the sweet milk of the Word of God at the breast of their mother the Church. This sweet milk is administered in the preaching of repentance and the forgiveness of sins. It is also fed to the babes in the catechesis of the Church, which is God’s way of teaching through His Holy Scriptures. There the milk of God’s Word is freely poured out that the baptized might be strengthened until they are ready for the solid food of the Lord’s Supper. In baptism, we have been made living stones in Christ’s Church, who are joined firmly to the chief Cornerstone, Christ Jesus Himself. During Easter, we celebrate our own death and resurrection in Holy Baptism and pray that all “newborn babes” (including us) might be raised up to eternal life.

INVOCATION: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE CREED

VERSE: ³² So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 10:32-33 (ESV)

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: 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. **AMEN.**

PSALM OF THE WEEK: 119:49-56

PSALMODY PRAYER: Forget my pride, unbelief and disobedience and remember only the many promises You have made to Your servant. Your promises give me hope in all my afflictions. Cause me to remember Your name and keep Your law. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	Matthew 5:13-20
Tuesday	Matthew 6:19-34
Wednesday	Matthew 7:1-14
Thursday	Matthew 7:15-29
Friday	Matthew 8:5-13
Saturday	John 10:11-16

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: Table of Duties

To Husbands

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. *1 Peter 3:7*

Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. *Colossians 3:19*

Luther, On the Resurrection (1530): In so far as you believe, you are like Christ, but at the same time feel sin and death. By faith you are one with Christ and with him you are risen from the dead. On the last day, it will be manifest, but in the meantime, there is no difference between a Christian and any other man. The Christian lives in sin as does another, except that the Christian commits no gross sins, and when he falls does not stay down. Yet a hypocrite often seems better than a true Christian. You will have to leave Christianity and sin together. In the Lord’s Prayer, there is the confession that we need forgiveness. At the death of Christ, the sun was darkened, but at the resurrection, there were not many miracles. This may have been lest we lose ourselves in speculating night and day about the miracles and miss in so doing the true use of the resurrection. See now what Christ had done to the apostles when he died. They had supposed he would be king of the world. When, then, he died, they were desolate and felt as if they were dead themselves. Thus, God desired that the suffering of Christ should be at work in his disciples. Similarly, through the resurrection, the disciples were renewed and lived again. And how did that happen if not by the resurrection? It must be powerful, inasmuch as there can be only death and affliction in the Passion. Paul says, “We are buried with him by baptism” (Romans 6:4) and “for thy sake, we are killed all the day long. We are counted as sheep for the slaughter” (Psalm 44:22). Why must we suffer such things? It is in order that we may be made comfortable to Christ. “But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:57). What does that mean? There Paul speaks of a wonderful war. This victory has come to us through Christ, and if we have the victory, we can win the war. . . . [Christ] had done many miracles, but on the cross, he was weak. Others he had helped, himself he could not help. He became a sham, and they mocked his words, saying, “He has made himself to be the Son of God.” Then the people turned away from him. He had predicted that he would come again. For that reason, the grave was securely guarded and his enemies supposed

that Christ was entirely destroyed, but then arose the goodness of God and confounded the wiles of the devil, for the Divine Majesty could not connive with all this. God summoned the devil. “Satan,” said he, “you have done all the ill you could to me, but I am still alive.” This is the miracle which God showed in the person of Christ. He was eternal life. Blessing and righteousness now fought against curse and death. Temporal death is now nothing against eternal life. It is as if you should try to contain the sea in a little vessel. Paul said not that Christ had overcome sin but that he had swallowed up sin (1 Corinthians 15:55). . . . Just as Christ won the victory only through struggle, so also must we. If his resurrection is to work in us, we, too, cannot escape the struggle with death. . . . I feel sin and death in me. The body delights in sin and fears death, and this war we must carry on so long as we live. The Lord assails us with many sufferings. Death assaults me, but I have Christ who is risen from the dead, as I also shall rise. I will hold to this. . . . Outwardly, I must die as Christ died, but the gospel is a jubilant word, which the flesh hears gladly. Yet it has no effect unless we feel it both inwardly as well as outwardly. (*Martin Luther’s Easter Book*, pp. 98-101)

PRAYER: Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord’s Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

THE LORD’S PRAYER

LUTHER’S MORNING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

OR

LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

HYMN OF THE WEEK: *LSB 482 “This Joyful Eastertide”* (stanza 1)

**LOOKING FORWARD TO
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
MISERICORDIAS DOMINI**

April 23, 2023

“I Know My Own and My Own Know Me”

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 463, 709, 482, 740, 623, 666, 484

READINGS

Ezekiel 34:11-16
1 Peter 2:21-25
John 10:11-16

There is only One who is the Good Shepherd because there is only One who laid down His life for sheep who love to wander, that is, us. Throughout the Old Testament, God raised up one shepherd after another to lead His people, but each shepherd was limited by his sinful flesh. The Good Shepherd has purchased the flock with His own blood and marked His flock with the sign of His holy cross in the waters of Holy Baptism. The Good Shepherd has instituted the Office of the Holy Ministry to be the shepherds of His Church on earth. Pastors are not hirelings, that is, they are not employees of a congregation. Pastors are shepherds who have been called to be the voice of the Good Shepherd, that is, to proclaim the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins, to teach young and old the Holy Scriptures, to baptize the nations, to bring the Gospel to the sick sheep, to call wandering sheep back to the sheepfold, and to feed the sheep with the body and blood of Christ. Pastors are called to stand fast against the wolves, that is, those who seek to devour the sheep with false and misleading teachings. The wolves come dressed as pious sheep seeking to devour the sheep, but they are known by what they teach. The sheep are always to listen to the preaching and teaching of their pastors and judge it by the teaching of Christ. Anyone who does not proclaim the Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep is not a good shepherd, but a wolf. Those who deny that baptism saves or that the Lord’s Supper is the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins are wolves, for they seek to take away the certainty of the forgiveness of sins from the sheep. Those who want us to follow Jesus as an example are wolves seeking to lead us away from the confidence that Jesus has completed the work of salvation to a need for us to finish that work. Pray for your pastors that they remain faithful shepherds, not hirelings or wolves.