

Closed Communion

The Sacrament of 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. If you arrive too late to do this before the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor after the service.

Visitors

We welcome you. Please sign the guest book and introduce yourself to the Pastor. Also complete a blue attendance card located in the pews and put an X in the ( ) if you will be communing with us. We invite you to join us for Bible Study on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the school gym.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Easter is the chief festival of the Church Year. On this day (and throughout the 50 day season) the Church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The etymology of the word Easter is hotly debated. Skeptics assert it comes from the supposed Celtic fertility goddess Oestra, who was perhaps venerated around this time of year. But most likely the word Easter is from an old Nordic word ausa, which means “to pour water” (referring either to water pouring freely through Spring rivers OR water poured out in Baptism at the Easter Vigil!). While the word Easter is debated, the details of the holiday (i.e. Jesus’ Resurrection confirmed by many proofs) are not. The date of Easter changes from year to year and is arrived at with the following formula: the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox. The liturgical color is gold or white, the color of joy, purity, and light. On Easter, all the worship elements that were omitted in Lent return: the Alleluia, the Hymn of Praise, and the Gloria Patri.

*The Order of Divine Service for*  
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

Sunday, April 20, 2025 – 8:00 and 10:00 AM

✠ *In Nomine Iesu* ✠

**Prelude**

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*  
Healey Willan

**Divine Service** Setting One

Lutheran Service Book 151

**Easter Acclamation**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 28:1–8*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” <sup>8</sup>So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Processional Hymn**

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today* LSB 457  
setting by John Ferguson

Easter Acclamation

**[P]** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**[C]** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession and Absolution

LSB 151

Introit

*Psalm 8:l, 5-6, 9; Antiphon: Luke 24:5b-6b*

*The congregation chants the verses in bold*

*Antiphon: He is risen! Alleluia! Why do you seek the living among the dead? Alleluia!*  
*Remember how he told you, Alleluia, that the Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise. Alleluia!*

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!\*

You have set your glory above the | heavens.

**Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings\***  
**and crowned him with glory and | honor.**

You have given him dominion over the works | of your hands;\*

you have put all things under | his feet.

**O | Lord, our Lord,\***  
**how majestic is your name in | all the earth!**

**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.**

*Antiphon: He is risen! Alleluia! Why do you seek the living among the dead? Alleluia!*  
*Remember how he told you, Alleluia, that the Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise. Alleluia!*

Kyrie

LSB 152

Hymn of Praise

*This is the Feast* LSB 155

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

Old Testament Reading

*Job 19:23-27*

<sup>23</sup>“Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! <sup>24</sup>Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! <sup>25</sup>For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. <sup>26</sup>And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, <sup>27</sup>whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!”

**[P]** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**[C]** Thanks be to God.

Hymn

*Christians to the Paschal Victim* LSB 460

*The choir sings the ancient Easter text Victimae Paschali, alternating with the congregation singing the text of Christ is Arisen, LSB 459, as outlined on LSB 460.*

Epistle Reading

*1 Corinthians 5:6-8*

<sup>6</sup>Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? <sup>7</sup>Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

**[P]** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**[C]** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

*1 Corinthians 5:7b-8a, c*  
setting by Stephen P. Johnson

*Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
**Congregation:**



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Choir: Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

Congregation:



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. <sup>5</sup>And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup>And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**¶** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

## Hymn of the Day

*Choir vs. 3, 5*

*Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands* LSB 458

setting by Kevin J. Hildebrand

## Sermon

*Christ Is Risen!*

## Nicene Creed

LSB 158

## Prayer of the Church

LSB 159

## Offertory

LSB 159

## Liturgy of Holy Communion

LSB 160

## Anthem

### *Triumphant from the Grave*

*Mark 16:1-8*

Carl Schalk

Triumphant from the grave  
Rose Jesus strong to save.  
He crushed – O Christian, mark it well!  
Sin, Satan, death and hell.

*Refrain:* Now sing your glad song  
And joyous praise to him prolong!

Buried like sinful man  
 Who ends his mortal span,  
 Our Lord could not for long lie there,  
 Decay of men to share. *Refrain*

Fierce though God's wrath had been,  
Afflicting him for men,  
The fi'ry judgment burned no more;  
Its fury had passed o'er. *Refrain*

Sure bond and guarantee  
 God gave to you and me:  
 The Father has raised up his Son  
 To seal redemption won. *Refrain*

Now Satan is undone!  
 Now death's dread pow'r is gone!  
 From fear of hell you are set free  
 Through Jesus' victory! *Refrain*

## Distribution Hymns

LSB 461, 465, 468, 633, 478

## Post-Communion Cantic

*Thank the Lord* LSB 164

## Post-Communion Collect

LSB 166

## Benediction

LSB 166

## Recessional Hymn

*Choir vs. 2, 6*

*Awake, My Heart with Gladness* LSB 467

setting by Richard Hillert

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

The Participants

The Celebrant	Rev. Brennick Christiansen
The Organist and Choir Director	Mr. Stephen P. Johnson
The Choir	Festival Choir
The Instrumentalists	
Trumpet	Gabriel Beversdorf
	Andrew Premo
	Dean Sievert
Trombone	Sebastian Beversdorf
	Matthew Fabrizio
Euphonium	Dennis Hanley
Timpani	Erika Johnson

*Thank you to the Heritage Funeral Home  
for the donation of palms for  
the Palm Sunday and Easter Services*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Wednesday	4/9/25	4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	65 17
Thursday	4/10/25	6:30 p.m.	23
Sunday	4/13/25	8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	119 44

**WE PRAY** for Mary Ankerberg, Michael Borchardt, Sandy Damms, Tom Domagalski, Daut Gaba, Elaine Howe, Paul Howe, William Moore (husband of Barbara Moore), Susan Sochowski (wife of Mark Sochowski), and Barbara Wieting.

**OFLC PASTORAL CALL** The voters assembly of Our Father’s Lutheran Church voted to extend a divine call to Pastor Dan Greg, who is currently serving in Elk Grove, Illinois, at The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. Please keep Pastor Greg in your prayers as he considers the call to serve as our pastor!

**CALL DECISION - PASTOR CHRISTIANSEN** Pastor Christiansen has returned the divine call to serve as our pastor. In this Lent alone, Pastor Christiansen had received four divine calls in four sequential weeks, along with receiving offers into two PhD programs. After much prayerful deliberation, Pastor Christiansen returned all four calls and chose to pursue his longtime goal of doctoral studies at the University of Dallas. It is his hope for the opportunity to serve a local congregation somewhere in Dallas while he does his studies. He says, "The Church needs more pastors and teachers. If God would grant it, I would serve the church by preparing young men and women to do the very thing you called me to do: preaching, catechizing, and teaching children in partnership with parents." We pray for him and his family as they move to Dallas this summer.

**TROJAN HIGHLIGHT** The visiting team of educators representing the National Lutheran School Accreditation program spent 2 days on our campus this past week. They spoke with teachers, parents, students, and BCE members as they gathered evidence to support and validate our self-study report. At the conclusion of their visit, they recommended that we once again be accredited for the next 5 years. Thanks be to God! A formal presentation of the certificate will take place sometime this summer. Stay tuned.

**SCHOOL/CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** The school and church offices will be closed Easter Monday, April 1. In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Christiansen.

**EASTER PLANTS** If you ordered a plant, it can be picked up on Easter Sunday after each of the services. The proceeds from the sale benefit the ongoing work of our Altar Guild. Thank you for your order!

**THANK YOU** We thank Lake Country Lutheran High School for loaning us the timpani for our Easter Services.

**BOILER PROJECT MATCH OPPORTUNITY** We have hit our goal for this project, \$126,085. Thank you to all who contributed for your generosity. Any excess will go into the General Fund.

**RE-ENROLLMENT** is open for all returning students in any of the School Choice programs (Milwaukee, Wisconsin, or Racine) for the 2025-26 school year. The next deadline for the Milwaukee and Racine programs enrollment is *April 20*. The Wisconsin program deadline was *April 17* and is now closed. Our Father's Enrollment is also open. Please share this information with any school aged families who are looking for a Lutheran School to attend. Contact Mr. Cahill or Mrs. Wang at 414-282-7500 with any questions.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** Our Father’s and Mt. Zion will be hosting a joint Vacation Bible School here at Our Father’s June 23-27 from 9-11:30 a.m. each day. All children ages 3 through 4th grade are encouraged to attend. We are also looking for 5-12th grade student volunteers. Please see the flyer in the narthex to either register your child or volunteer to help. We look forward to a wonderful week!

**THANK YOU** A huge thank you goes to Jerry and Kathy Stache for volunteering to help with school hot lunches every week and for donating food items for the Congolese children for daily lunches. A thank you also to Mike Lagerman for all the work he has been doing lately in the school with lighting, stage assembly, and other fix-it things, in addition to yard work around the Childcare. We are blessed to have all of your help!

**PASCHAL CANDLE** The new Paschal Candle is given from memorials for past members Romaine Marquardt and Gordon Rieck.

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Sunday	4/20	<b>EASTER SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICES</b>	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:00 a.m.</b>
Monday	4/21	No School	
Tuesday	4/22	Handbell Rehearsal	5:45 p.m.
Wednesday	4/23	<b>CHAPEL SERVICE</b> Morning Bible Study	<b>8:00 a.m.</b> 9:30 a.m.
Thursday	4/24	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
Sunday	4/27	<b>DIVINE SERVICES</b> Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:45 a.m.</b> 9:30 a.m.



**THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER  
FOR THE WEEK OF  
EASTER SUNDAY  
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

*“Christ is Risen!”*

April 20 through April 26, 2025

*Every funeral in church is a service that mirrors this day. Funerals for the faithful Christian are the culmination of all the Easters they have celebrated on this earth as they anticipate their own resurrection. Those who have died in the faith are brought to this nave where they have so often sung of Christ’s resurrection and their own. Their fellow members of the congregation come to sing hymns proclaiming the resurrection of Christ. The liturgy of the funeral always includes the Apostles’ Creed, that is the baptismal creed. The casket is draped in a white pall with a gold cross banding to proclaim the crown of life granted to those who have died in this most holy faith as saints of God. The readings often include the Easter Gospel accounts. So let us feast on Christ this day that we may be ready for the day of our own death and resurrection. Let us also not forget the Easter reality at each Christian funeral held in this place.*

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

**THE CREED**

**VERSE:** <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. **John 15:5**

**COLLECT FOR THE WEEK:** Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord’s resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

**PSALM OF THE WEEK:** 80

**PSALMODY PRAYER:** Come and save us, O Shepherd of Israel, for we perish in this world. You have fed us on the bread of tears and given us tears to drink, while we hunger and thirst after Your righteousness. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	John 21:1-14
Tuesday	Luke 24:1-12
Wednesday	Luke 24:13-35
Thursday	Luke 24:33-49
Friday	John 20:19-31
Saturday	John 20:19-31

**CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: Table of Duties**

**To Wives**

Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. **Ephesians 5:22**

They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

**1 Peter 3:5-6**

**Luther, Sermon for Holy Easter (1533):** Therefore, we must not only believe that Christ died and rose from the dead in his own person, but also that we partake of this suffering and resurrection as a treasured gift and derive genuine comfort from the same, even as we sing in the Easter hymn: “Christ is arisen from the grave’s dark prison; We now rejoice with gladness; Christ will end all sadness.” Clearly, Christ wishes to comfort us with his resurrection. That is a great hymn and very comforting, yes, with truly inspiring text, teaching us that the victory and the glorious resurrection of this most noble person is a gift to all believers, for each one to have against his own death; I against mine, you against yours, for Christ’s resurrection is greater than heaven and earth. By it, the sins and death of all mankind have been swallowed up. My righteousness cannot redeem me from a single sin, let alone the entire burden of sin and death. But because this person is true God and man, he accomplishes it, gaining an eternal, glorious victory over sin, death, and the devil. The same victory is mine if only I believe in him and confess him to be the person who has accomplished all this for me and all believers. If a person does not wish to believe this, let him be. We preach to those who gladly hear and who have need of this message. These are the ones who live in mortal fear and despair of death and say, I have sinned; I have neither peace nor rest. When the devil attacks an individual, he makes heaven and earth too narrow for the person. The devil plagues me at times, too, creating such a tempest and fire over a forgivable sin that I find that I do not know what to do. Those are his tactics with sin. He does the same with death also. He can intimidate a person in such a frightful, horrible, heinous manner that the individual forgets entirely about God and His Word.

He is a virtuoso and a champion when it comes to sin and death, reproaching a person in a very masterful manner. . . . Against such an enemy it is necessary and needful that we arm and compose ourselves with a correct understanding of the power and fruit of Christ’s resurrection,

. . . that he shares his estate and inheritance with us. He did not come for his own sake to earth; for his own sake, he did not permit himself to be crucified; he had no need of this for himself, but rather bore our sin and by his death devoured and swallowed up our death. Hell, to which we were destined, he has destroyed, as the prophet Hosea writes (13:14) . . . He is speaking of our death and of hell which held us captive, stating that he will exterminate the sin which accuses me, and he will annihilate death and hell which would devour and swallow me up. (*Sermons of Martin Luther, The House Postils*, 2:14-15, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996)

**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 741 “*Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*” (stanza 7)

7    Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave  
      And at death no longer tremble;  
      He, the Lord, who came to save  
      Will at last His own assemble.  
      They will go their Lord to meet,  
      Treading death beneath their feet.

**LOOKING FORWARD TO  
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER  
QUASIMODO GENITI**

*April 27, 2025*  
*“Unless...”*

**HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** 468, 470, 741, 483, 636, 477, 480, 487

**READINGS**

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
1 John 5:4-10  
John 20:19-31

How often have you heard the pastor say “Peace be with you”? These are the words of the Risen Christ spoken to you by His called and ordained servants. They have their power and authority in the death and resurrection of Christ. It is from His death and resurrection that your peace comes. It is not death alone or resurrection alone, but the two together. The peace Christ offers is seen in the wounded hands, feet, and side. Are these not the five wounds that remind us of the Law that condemns us in the five books of the Law? He bore the curse of the Law that you might receive the gift of peace from His Father, instead of the punishment from the Father that you rightly earn. The wounds remain on His hands as a continual reminder of the price He paid for your salvation. Yet the One who holds out those wounded hands is alive. He is not a bodiless spirit or ghost. He is a living, breathing, eating man in the flesh. This is the life that He gives to you in the sacrament of baptism – the very victory over death itself. Do not fear that your bodies are nothing for they have been adopted as sons of the Father and will share fully in the resurrection of Christ. The pastor gives you peace and then reads the Word of the Risen Christ to you. The pastor gives you peace as you eat and drink the Risen Lord’s body and blood that prepares your body for the resurrection of all flesh. Your bodies become witnesses of this peace as you daily share in the sufferings of Christ and finally in His resurrection to eternal life. Believe these words of peace for they are not a wish, but a promise.

April 20, 2025



**About the Cover:** David’s psalm proclaims that the Lord is at his right hand, and at the Lord’s right hand are pleasures forevermore (see Psalm 16:8, 11). David’s soul will not be abandoned to Sheol. While David died and remained in the tomb, we know that this psalm is ultimately about Jesus. Jesus is the Holy One who did not see corruption in the tomb. He was raised from the dead, ascended, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. Jesus will bring David and all who are in Him by faith to the resurrected life. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

# Our Father’s Ev. Lutheran Church, School and Childcare

*A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

[www.ofls.org](http://www.ofls.org)

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Stephen Johnson Ben Culli Organists	<a href="mailto:sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org">sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org</a>