



He Lives to Give Us Peace

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12/13, 2026

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's *eternal love* for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing or sitting, will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

Restrooms: are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.

Nursery: We encourage families to worship together. If an adult needs to step out of the chapel briefly with a child, the nursery is provided just outside the chapel near the restrooms.

For Kids: Activity sheets for young children are available on the bulletin table. Small bags with quiet activity items hang near the table.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: *WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES EASTER MAKE?*

Either Jesus is still dead, or Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus claimed that he “must suffer many things; ...be killed; and after three days rise again” (Mark 8:31). So if Jesus remains dead, he is both a failure and a fraud. If Christ has not been raised, we are still in our sin. *But Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! It makes all the difference! He lives!* The season of Easter is a 50-day celebration of that fact.



TODAY'S SERVICE: JESUS LIVES TO GIVE US PEACE

Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would have to wonder whether anything he said was true. One of Jesus' disciples, Thomas, had been taught and trained by Christ himself. He heard Jesus predict his death and resurrection. Even after hearing the eyewitness testimony of friends, Thomas still had doubts. But Jesus lives, and it makes a difference, for Thomas and for us! Today, we have great comfort as people just like Thomas with doubts about Christ's promises in our lives. Jesus engages us with continuing assurances in Word and sacrament. We have proof. We have peace.

OPENING HYMN

438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today sts. 1-3



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

I rejoiced with those who said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!
Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

CONFESSION

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

Cleanse me from my sins.

Release me from my guilt.

Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." Do you believe this?

Yes, I believe.

ABSOLUTION

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

Amen.

OUR EASTER CONFIDENCE AND PEACE

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us

so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus was delivered over to death for our sins

and was raised to life for our justification.

Death has been swallowed up in victory!

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

BE SEATED

HYMN

850 It Is Well with My Soul sts. 1, Ref, 3



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my



sor - rows like sea bil-lows roll— what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 22–32

Peter shares testimony about Jesus' resurrection, citing a prophecy by King David.

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them:

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. ²³This man, who was handed over by God's set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. ²⁴He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

²⁵“Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart was glad,
and my tongue rejoiced.

My flesh also will rest in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon my life to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life.
You will fill me with joy in your presence.¹

²⁹“Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne,² ³¹he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

³²“This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 16C You Will Show Me the Path of Life

The minister introduces the refrain and sings the stanzas. The congregation sings the refrains.

Refrain



You will show me the path of life, you, my hope and my shel-ter;



in your pres-ence is end-less joy, at your side is my home for - ev - er.

¹ Psalm 16:8-11

² Psalm 89:3-4; 132:11

- 1 *Faithful God, I look to you,
you alone my life and fortune,
never shall I look to other gods,
you shall be my one hope. (Refrain)*
- 2 *From of old you are my heritage,
you my wisdom and my safety,
through the night you speak within my heart,
silently you teach me. (Refrain)*
- 3 *So my heart shall sing for joy,
in your arms I rest securely,
you will not abandon me to death,
you shall not desert me. (Refrain)*

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3–9

Because of Jesus' resurrection what blessed assurance is ours for life and eternity!

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Ali

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Jesus gives Thomas peace. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.”

²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Young children are invited to the front for a brief message.

HYMN OF THE DAY

456 O Sons and Daughters of the King sts. 1, 4-8



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, whom heav'n - ly
 4 That night th' a - pos - tles met in fear; a - mong them
 5 When Thom - as af - ter - wards had heard that Je - sus



hosts in glo - ry sing, to - day the grave has lost its sting!
 came their Lord most dear and said, "My peace be with you here."
 had ful - filled his word, he doubt - ed that it was the Lord.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Men: "Thomas, behold my side," said he,
 "my hands, my feet, my body see;
 and doubt not, but believe in me."
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Women: No longer Thomas then denied;
 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God," he cried.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**All: Blessèd are they that have not seen
 and yet whose faith has constant been;
 in life eternal they shall reign.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

BE SEATED

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness, come to my relief.

Spare us, Lord, from the lies of the devil and the attacks of our conscience. Comfort and save us in your patient compassion.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Guide us, Lord, to the wisdom of your Word and the power of your promises. Take away our confusion and doubt.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Hear us, Lord, when we come to you in prayer. Make us confident to take you at your word and to follow you in faith.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Empower us, Lord, to walk in your ways and live in your truth. Fill us with your love, that we may love you and one another.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

OFFERING

The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. If being here today was a blessing to you and you would like to support our ministry, you can scan here and enter your phone number or email address to donate. (Members, please use a phone number or email address that is currently on file with the office).



During this time, we ask that everyone take part in completing the worship register. Please fill in the requested information and pass the booklet to the end of the row. Thank you!

OFFERING SONG

O Praise The Name

*I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree*

*His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone*

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

*Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King*

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

*He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face*

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

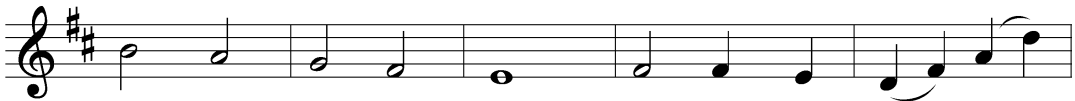
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

HYMN

441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives sts. 1, 4-5, 8



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to
8 He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
Je - sus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.
sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

PRAYER

Almighty God, by the death of your Son you conquered sin, and by his resurrection you restored our innocence and gave us everlasting life. Fill our hearts with steadfast faith that we may daily serve you in your kingdom and praise and thank you always;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

HYMN

930 Go, My Children, with My Blessing sts. 2, 4



2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;



Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;



Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and



glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Minister: Pastor Dave Backus

Usher: Mark Welch (8:00am), Mike Armitage (10:45am)

Lectors: Jason Kempfert (8:00am), Dan Feld (10:45am)

Accompanist: Tessa Ray

Alive, Alive

Arr. © Copyright 1993 Cedarwood Music Publishing/ASCAP, All rights reserved.

438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today sts. 1–3

Text: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt. Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708. Text and tune: Public domain

850 It Is Well with My Soul sts. 1, Ref, 3

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt. Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876. Text and tune: Public domain

Psalm 16C You Will Show Me the Path of Life

Text: Marty Haugen. Tune: Marty Haugen. Text and tune: © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840

456 O Sons and Daughters of the King sts. 1, 4–8

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; Text and tune: Public domain

441 I Know That My Redeemer Lives sts. 1, 4–5, 8

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739–1799, abr. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710–1793. Text and tune: Public domain

930 Go, My Children, with My Blessing sts. 2, 4

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008. Tune: Welsh, 18th cent. Text: © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840. Tune: Public domain

Holy Bible

Unless otherwise indicated, scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version®, EHV®, © 2019 Wartburg Project, Inc. or The New International Version®, NIV® copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® All rights reserved. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. Based on Service of Word and Prayer from Christian Worship

Photography and video recording may occur during your visit here today. If you do not wish to participate, please notify us at office.manager@eternal-love.org.

CONTACT US

Dave Backus, Pastor

920.716.7987

Pastor.Backus@eternal-love.org

Kara Krull, Wee Love Director & Teacher

920.858.3933

Kara.Krull@eternal-love.org

Kathleen O’Neill, Office Manager

920.749.9744

Office.Manager@eternal-love.org

