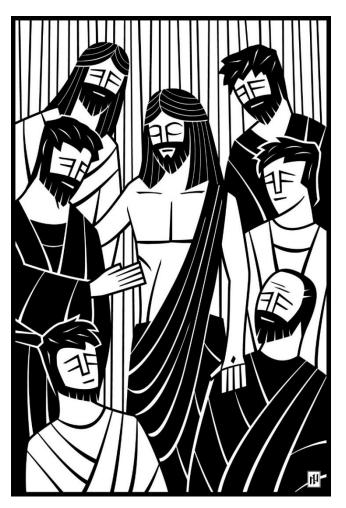


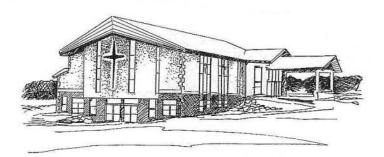
Second Sunday of Easter



Blessed are Those who have not Seen, Yet have Believed!



"I rejoiced with those who said to me, Let us go to the house of the LORD."" Psalm 122:1



Lord of Love Lutheran Church

April 24, A.D. 2022

THE COMMON SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done

Our opening anthem today will be sung by our male quintet. The words are printed below for your meditation.

> Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done; Now is the Victor's triumph won; Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

Death's mightiest pow'rs have done their worst, And Jesus hath his foes dispersed; Letr shouts of praise and joy outburst. Alleluia!

On the third morn he rose again, Glorious in majesty to reign; Oh, let us swell the joyful strain! Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, From death's dread sting thy servants free, That we may live and sing to thee. Alleluia!

STAND

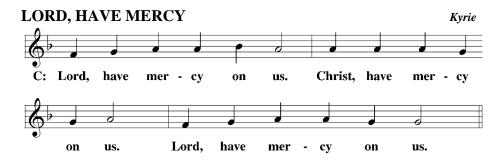
M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.





CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: (sung) He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are open. My Jesus did triumphant die, And Satan's arrows broken lie, Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon. Oh, hear! What cheer! Christ, victorious, Rising glorious, Life is giving. He was dead, but now is living! (CW 162)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your 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.



BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 5:12, 17-32

¹² Many signs and wonders were done among the people through the hands of the apostles. With one mind, they all continued meeting in Solomon's Colonnade... ¹⁷ The high priest rose up, along with his associates (that is, the party of the Sadducees), because they were filled with envy. ¹⁸ They arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, brought them out, and said, ²⁰ "Go, stand in the temple and keep on telling the people the whole message about this life." ²¹ After they heard this, they entered the temple courts at daybreak and began to teach. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin (that is, the whole council of elders of the people of Israel). Then they sent orders to the jail to have the apostles brought in. ²² But when the officers arrived, they did not find them in the prison. They returned and reported, ²³ "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside!" ²⁴ When the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard these words, they were puzzled about them, wondering what could have happened.

²⁵ Then someone came and reported to them, "Look! The men you put in prison are standing in the temple courts and teaching the people."

²⁶ Then the captain went with the officers and brought the apostles in without force, because they were afraid that the people might stone them. ²⁷ After they brought them in, they had them stand before the Sanhedrin. The high priest asked them, ²⁸ "Did we not give you strict orders not to teach in this name? Look, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood down on us!"

²⁹ But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you arrested and killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ God exalted him to his right hand as Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and the forgiveness of sins. ³² We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

SECOND LESSON

⁴ John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is, who was, and who is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his own blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom and priests to God his Father—to him be the glory and the power forever. Amen.

⁷ Look, he is coming with clouds, and every eye will see him, including those who pierced him. And all the nations of the earth will mourn because of him. Yes. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, the one who is, and who was, and who is coming, the Almighty.

⁹ I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingship and patient endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus.

¹⁰ I was in spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard a loud voice behind me, like a trumpet, ¹¹ saying, "Write what you see on a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

¹² I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me. When I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was one like a son of man. He was clothed with a robe that reached to his feet, and around his chest he wore a gold sash. ¹⁴ His head and his hair were white, like white wool or like snow. His eyes were like blazing flames. ¹⁵ His feet were like polished bronze being refined in a furnace. His voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ He held seven stars in his right hand. A sharp two-edged sword was coming out of his mouth. His face was shining as the sun shines in all its brightness. ¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He placed his right hand on me and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last—¹⁸ the Living One. I was dead and, see, I am alive forever and ever! I also hold the keys of death and hell.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia. (John 20:29b)

STAND

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On 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!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

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

²⁴ But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So 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."

²⁶ After 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. ²⁷ Then 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."

²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

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

³⁰ Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹ But 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.

NICENE CREED

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 Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

HYMN (CW 153) **Alleluia!** Jesus Lives 1 Al - le - lu - ia! lives! Je - sus He is now the 2 Je - sus lives! him, ran - somed Let all re - joice; Praise 3 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and 4 Je - sus lives! Life And soul. is yours thus, my e liv - ing From of death one; the gloom - y house ones of earth. Praise him in no - bler song, а fre - quent sigh? He who died broth - er here our Joined ter - nal - ly; to him, your liv - ing head. Forth the con - quer - or has gone, Bright fore - run ner heav'n - ly Cher u - bim of birth. Praise the Vic tor -Lives our broth - er still Lives for on high. ev er Where You with him he is. you too shall be: at ð the skies Of his rise. to peo ple, yet to King, whose sway Sin and death and hell o - bey. be - stow to Bless ings on his Church be - low. his right hand Vic tor death shall stand. O ver

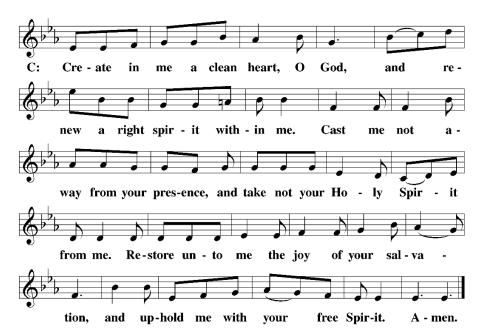
Text: Karl B. Garve, 1763–1841, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt. Tune: FRED TIL BOD (77 77 77) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87.

SERMON

Revelation 1:12-18

When the Risen Jesus Comes Up Behind You

After the sermon, the congregation sings:



OFFERING BROUGHT FORWARD & OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **M:** Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.
- C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive. C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification. C: Alleluia!

- **M:** We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.
- C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.
- M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.
- C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.
- M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.
- C: You are risen!
- M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

- **M:** Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.
- **C:** We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.
- M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

- **M:** As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.
- C: He is risen indeed!

Special prayers and intercessions may follow. **M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.
- C: Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.

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LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

The recorded Service of the Word for members at home concludes here. We continue with the Service of the Sacrament with those gathered in the sanctuary.

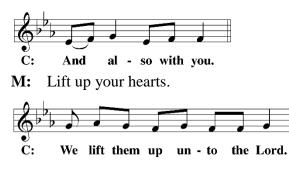




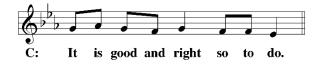
THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

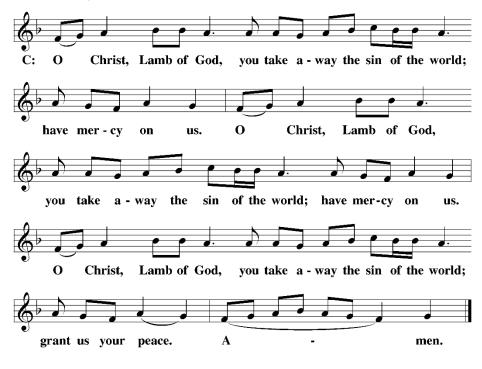
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



Sanctus

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with a pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future. **DISTRIBUTION HYMN** (CW 165)



- 6 "Thomas, behold my side," said he, "My hands, my feet, my body see; And doubt not, but believe in me." Alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God," he cried. Alleluia!
- 8 Blessèd are they that have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been; In life eternal they shall reign. Alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days To God your hearts and voices raise In laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-66, alt.

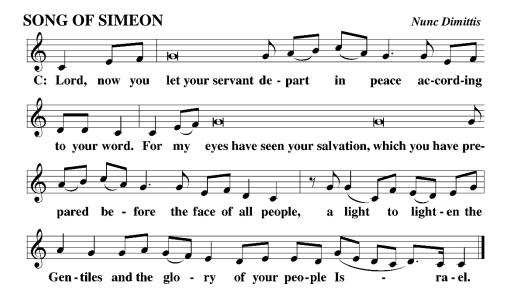
Tune: GELOBT SEI GOTT (888 with Alleluias) Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615, alt.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 143)

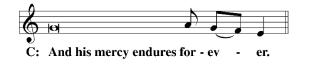


Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt. Tune: WALTHER (11 11 11 11) C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87.

THANKSGIVING



M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN (CW 147)

Thanks to you, O Christ, victorious! Thanks to you, O Lord of Life! Death has now no power o'er us, You have conquered in the strife. Thanks because you did arise And have opened paradise! None can fully sing the glory Of the resurrection story.

For the joy your advent gave me, For your gospel's great reward, For your baptism which has saved me, For your supper and your Word, For your death, the bitter scorn, For your resurrection morn: Lord, I thank you and extol you, And in heav'n I shall behold you.

Like the Golden Sun Ascending (v. 2, 5)

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Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Sunday April 24: Second Sunday of Easter Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Open Forum and Voters' Meeting, *sanctuary* 9:15 am: Teen Group and Sunday School

- Preaching Pastor: Joel Jenswold Presiding Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Quintet Coordinator: Ruth Kovaciny

- Councilman: Jim Miller (8:00) and Mitch Myhre (10:30)
- Ushers 8:00 am: Ryan Jaeger and Aaron Oughton
- Ushers 10:30 am: Joshua Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Roger LaGrange and Mike Wilson
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer and Mandi Miller A/V & Recording: Julie Doyle

Sunday May 1: Third Sunday of Easter Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen Group and Sunday School

- Preaching Pastor: Michael Willitz Presiding Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: TBA
- Councilman/elder: Dave Olson (8:00) and *councilman needed* (10:30)
- Ushers 8:00 am: Sef Fox, Ben Olson and Dave Olson
- Ushers 10:30 am: The Heath Family
- Counters: Kim Bauer and Mike Wilson
- Altar Guild: Candace Saidler
 A/V & Recording: Joe Hornbeck
- 11:40 am: Farewell to the Willitz Family, *downstairs*

Belated Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Dawn Porter (4/20), Jenna Gay (4/23) and Bonnie Gotzion (4/23) who celebrated their birthday's last week.

Happy Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Lori Kalscheuer (4/25), Benjamin Kerl (4/25), Tyler Pond (4/25), Alton Uebersetzig (4/26), Samy Nelson (4/27), Pam Timm (4/27), Steve Tobison (4/27), Kim Bauer (4/29), Gregg Andler (4/30), Gavin Bauer (4/30) and Kristin Huebner (4/30) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

Belated Anniversary: We wish God's blessings to Leona & Roger LaGrange (4/21) who celebrated their anniversary last Thursday.

Anniversary: We wish God's blessings to Matthew & Shannon Garrett (4/24) and John & Sherry Hill (4/30) who celebrate their anniversaries this week.

In Our Prayers: Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Wyatt Kingsland, Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Barb Noltemeyer, Marilyn Richardson, Marge Ripp and Peg Schroeder who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all of our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett, Sara Goss and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

Quarterly Open Forum and Voter's Meeting today: April 24 at 9:15 am

This meeting will include follow up from discussions on April 10 and would allow action to be taken if the voters so chose. (The focus on 4/10 was collecting thoughts and feedback regarding our next steps with Pastor Willitz taking his new call.)

The Willitz Family Farewell—Next Sunday May 1st: Pastor Willitz has accepted a call to serve at Trinity Lutheran in Wabeno and Risen Savior in Mountain. Both congregations are located in northern Wisconsin. His last day serving at Lord of Love is Sunday May 1st. Following the late service that day, there is a luncheon downstairs for Pastor, Erica, David and Theo. The congregation is invited.

The church is providing pulled pork sandwiches, beverages and dessert. Families are encouraged to bring a side dish to the meal. Following the meal there will be a presentation as we wish them God's richest blessings in their new home and new role in northern Wisconsin.

Offerings April 1 - 9, 2022:

- General Fund: \$10,180
- Building Expansion Fund: \$225

Offerings April 10 – 16, 2022:

- General Fund: \$8,256
- Building Expansion Fund: \$525
- Mortgage Reduction Fund: \$510

Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$8,660

MTD shortage/surplus (4/1 – 4/16): + \$1,116, YTD shortage/surplus as of 3/31: - \$17,492 (Budget year July 2021 – June 2022)

Electronic Giving: You can give contributions to the church electronically through the Vanco Mobile app. Download the free app today in the **Google Play store** or the **Apple App store**. Find the church by searching for Lord of Love Lutheran Church in DeForest, or by its invite code, D4K54K.

(April 1 - 16, 2022: In the totals listed above, \$4,957 was given through Vanco to the general fund and \$100 to the building expansion fund.)

