

Sunday & Monday April 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026



**HE LIVES TO GIVE ME  
PROOF AND PEACE**



**St. Paul**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## HE LIVES TO GIVE ME PROOF AND PEACE

*Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would have to wonder whether anything he said was true. 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 about the resurrection of Jesus.*

*But he lives, and it makes a difference. Today I have great comfort as someone with doubts about Christ's promises in my life. Jesus engages me with continuing assurances in Word and sacrament. I have proof. I have peace.*

---

Service Setting 3, CW p. 188

### Hymn

### Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed

CW 447

Stand

### Easter Greeting

Christ is risen!

**He is risen, indeed!**

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*

5 For the Lamb who was slain  
 has begun his reign. Alleluia! (Final Refrain)

Final Refrain  
 This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The Word**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

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 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.**

*Be seated*

**First Reading**

*Acts 2:14a,22-32*

*The living Lord appeared to many eyewitnesses so they could testify to the truth of Jesus' resurrection.*

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

<sup>22</sup>“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup>This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. <sup>25</sup>David said about him:

“ I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,  
I will not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest in hope,

<sup>27</sup>because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
you will not let your holy one see decay.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

<sup>29</sup>“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. <sup>30</sup>But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. <sup>32</sup>God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

## Like the Golden Sun Ascending

CW 470

## Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3–9

*St. Peter points to the resurrection as proof of the hope we have.*

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup>These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

# Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

## Refrain



## Tone



Tune: © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703831

# Gospel & Sermon Text

John 20:19–31

*Jesus gave the proof that led to peace for Thomas.*

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

<sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup>Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, 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!**

*Be seated*

## **Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day**

**O Sons and Daughters of the King**

*CW 456 sts. 1–6*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Philip Birner**

*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**

**Offering**

**Hymn**

**O Sons and Daughters of the King**

*CW 456 sts. 7–9*

Stand

## Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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 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.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

## Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

CW 460

---

### Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are 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.

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.

---

## WORSHIP NOTES

Preacher: Philip Birner

Presiding Minister: Justin Shrum

Accompanist: Philip Machkovech

Service Teams:

8:00 a.m. Team Abitz; AV: tbd

10:30 a.m. Team Blob; AV: To. Falck

6:00 p.m. Team Paulson