

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 8, 2018
Second Sunday of Easter

Prelude

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” Leavitt

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” Gieseke

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives” Hobby

Announcements

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Blessed be the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit from now and ever and unto ages of ages.

C: Amen

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord’s resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!” #369

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
when contending death and life, Alleluia!
met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!

all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807-1882, alt.

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

pg. 888

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

A.M.: Psalm 133

A.M.: Let us read the Psalm responsively.

¹How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

A.M.: Let us pray

Gracious God, you have poured into our hearts the precious oil of your Spirit. Make of us one heart and one will, that as members of the body of Christ, we may be united in the bonds of love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Second Reading 1 John 1:1-2:2

pg. 989

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Children Sermon

Gospel Acclamation “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

#172

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Blessed are those who | have not seen* and yet have come | to believe.

Alleluia. (John 20:29)

Holy Gospel **John 20:19-31**

pg. 883

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the

sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt 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 come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. Amen.

Pulpit Hymn “Open Your Ears, O Faithful People” #519

1 Open your ears, O faithful people,
 open your ears and hear God's word.
 Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
 God has come to you.

Refrain

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

2 They who have ears to hear the message,
 they who have ears, now let them hear;
 they who would learn the way of wisdom,
 let them hear God's word. *Refrain*

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras

Hymn of the Day “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”#363 vss.1,3,4&5

1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!

God has brought forth Israel

into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strain
Jesus' resurrection!

4 Neither could the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal
hold you as a mortal:
but today, among your own,
you appear, bestowing
your deep peace, which evermore
passes human knowing.

5 Alleluia! now we cry
to our Lord immortal,
who triumphant burst the bars
of the tomb's dark portal;
Alleluia! with the Son
God the Father praising;

Alleluia! yet again
to the Spirit raising.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

The Nicene Creed

Back of Hymnal

A.M.: Let us confess our faith using the words of The 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He had spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

A.M.: Prayers of Intercession

A.M.: Let us pray

After each petition, please respond with **“Hear our prayer”**.

Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you speak peace in the presence of fear. Give us courage to testify to your grace with our lives. Embolden prophets, preachers, and teachers to speak your truth. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, you create peace in the midst of chaos. Where storms rage and winds howl, bring calm. Protect people and animals from the dangers of weather. Restore damaged lands and homes. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, you are peace in a violent world. Heal neighborhoods ravaged by crime. Reconcile political factions at war. Build relationships where suspicion keeps us apart, and bring us to the day of unity. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, you bring peace to a hurting world. Fill the stomachs of the hungry. Bind up the shattered. Give rest to the weary and hope to the disillusioned. Restore the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, you breathe your Spirit of peace into us. Enlivened by the Spirit, equip us to bring new life to all we meet in our work and in our play. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, you are our peace in this world and the next. Comfort all who mourn (*especially*). Hold them in your tender care. Bring us all around the table as we share the heavenly banquet. Let us pray by singing “Be Not Afraid”

“Be Not Afraid” (*sing twice*)

#388

Be Not Afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be Not Afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Pastor: We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always

C: and also with you.

Offering “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” Diemer

Offertory “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” #656 vs. 1 & 2

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.

- 2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

Offering Prayer

A.M.: Let us pray together in union

Merciful God,

receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving

and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.

Amen.

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn “Thine Is the Glory”

#376

- 1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry

thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting! *Refrain*

3 No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. *Refrain*

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

Dismissal

A.M.: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A.M.: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

A.M.: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

I will and I ask God to help me.

Postlude “Thine is the Glory” Smith

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Prayer Concerns: Thelma Bursik, Neil Coakley, Joella Corado (Maggie Westaby’s cousin), Jerrilynn Duxbury, Betty Jane Kettunen, Justin Nickolai, Esther Osterby, Barb Peterson, Dolores Riege, Pam (Rodney Riese’s wife), Dina Sarras, Kathrine Sylvia Sarras, Norm Winterhoff, April Winters (Jamie Rice-Heckendorf’s niece), Breanna Kurth, Meredith Westaby, Connor Rice (Jamie Rice-Heckendorf’s cousin), Janci Treutel, Ashley Nickolai, Lucy Peterson, Ted Sanders, and Youa Xiong & Shelby Brod (Serenity Hulstrom’s Friends)

Pictures – Church Directory Time! It’s time to create an updated church photo directory! We will once again be partnering with Lifetouch to complete a church directory. **They will be here April 12th-14th to take photographs.** If you have not signed up, please sign up in the Narthex TODAY or call ILC office to sign up for a time slot. There will be no obligation to purchase; each family receives a copy of their directory photo free as well as a directory. If you have any questions, please contact the office or Jamie Rice-Heckendorf.

We will also need volunteers during the photos shoots. It’s a great way to see your fellow worshipers and socialize! To volunteer please contact Jamie Rice-Heckendorf 715-848-4678 or vicepres@immanuelwausau.org

First Communion will be during April 15th worship service. Join Baylen Hulstrom, Emily and Grace Kallio as they will be communing for the first time.

You are invited to join us for our last Bible study on the Book of Revelation. We will meet at 10:30 am in Emmaus Room after worship service on Sunday, April 22.

Greetings and grace to all of you at Immanuel Lutheran Church. I have been in contact with your pastor and your president and we have decided, together, to spend some time in conversation to explore new ways of communicating with one another. Your congregation has experienced recent change and there are rich lessons that come from that. We will explore what the future might hold with the learning that has already happened.

I work with our synod office and I am trained to work with the systems of the church. My passion is the health of the system - the climate that makes people want to join your congregation! I hope that you will take the time to join us in conversation on Sunday, April 29th following worship service. Joan Johanson

Newsletter article for May & June newsletter are due at the church office Monday, April 16th.

Synod Assembly 2018 Service Project will be “Blast Off for Books”. Purchase a book(s) for a child in need by helping the National Youth Gathering collect 100,000 books for students pre-K through 6th grade in Houston. See the insert for all the information. On the Narthex table is the list of accepted book; only purchase what is on the list. All books must be new or gently used. If you bring books, you may drop them off in the Gathering Room box by May 13th. Please complete the form with your information. The books will be taken to the Synod meeting May 18th.

Embracing Stewardship-How to put stewardship at the HEART of your congregation’s life will be April

28th from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm in New London, WI. Registration deadline is April 13th. Rev Chick Lane and Grace Duddy Pomroy will articulate what stewardship means to them and explore a few of the pathways ILC can follow to deepen our members’ understanding of themselves as stewards of God’s abundance.

Circle of Faith – WIPPS invites you to meet other community members to talk about experience with faith and interfaith relations at the final “Circle of Faith dialogue next Sunday, April 15th from 2-3:30 pm at NTC.

Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Address is: c/o Moruti (Pastor) Rev. G.M. Nkale, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa. Email for Pastor: nkalesto@gmail.com

SERVING US TODAY

Worship Leader	Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras
Assisting Minister	Kristin Kallio
Ministers	All Members of Immanuel
Organist	Adele Bluhm
Head Usher	Bob Doede
Greeters	Neil & Mary Munson
Reader	Al Solomonson
Nursery	Jamie Rice-Heckendorf
Video Recorder	Floyd Hallberg
Presentation Manager	Jerry Nickolai
Altar Guild	Joanne Diestelhorst & Lisa Steltenpohl
Contact Person	Mary Munson

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun.	Apr. 08	9:00a	Worship Service
		10:15a	Coffee Fellowship hosted by Doug & Nancy Helling
		10:30a	First Communion Class
Mon.	Apr. 09		-----
Tues.	Apr. 10	5:30p	Handbell Choir Practice
		5:45p	TV Worship CH 980
Wed.	Apr. 11		-----
Thurs.	Apr. 12		Picture Directory Day at ILC
		7:30a	Men’s Discussion Group
		9:00a	Quilters
		9:15a	TV Worship CH 980
Fri.	Apr. 13		Picture Directory Day at ILC
Sat.	Apr. 14		Picture Directory Day at ILC
Sun.	Apr. 15		First Communion
		8:15a	Choir Practice
		9:00a	Communion Worship Service, First Communion
		10:15a	Coffee Fellowship
		10:30a	Sunday School
		10:30a	Choir Practice

Attendance For 4/1/18 153

Flowers on the altar today are given by Arzelee Drown. “And God shall wipe away all tears” Flowers are given to celebrate the life of Donald Drown and that of dear friend, Lynn Larson Douglas.