

# Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by Susan Roegge – “Christ Is Risen!,” arr. Ruth Elaine Schram*

## GATHERING

*\*Call to Worship and Confession*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Silence for Reflection and Confession*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*\*Call to Worship – “Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord”* (piano)

1. **Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.  
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.  
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.**
2. **Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire, with splendor he is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.**
3. **Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.**

*\*Greeting and Prayer of the Day*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray ...

**C: Amen.**

*\*Sharing Christ's Peace*

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

**C: And also with you.**

*All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

*Children's Sermon*

*Hymn of Praise – “Alleluia”* (organ)

*to the tune of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (ELW 836)*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, hearts to heaven and voices raise.  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.  
He who on the cross as Savior for the world's salvation bled.  
Jesus Christ the King of Glory now is risen from the dead.**

## WORD

*Reading:* Acts 1:1-14      Reader: Patty Nelson

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. ‘This’, he said, ‘is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ <sup>7</sup>He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going, and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*\*Gospel Reading:* Mark 6:7-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics.

<sup>10</sup>He said to them, ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’ <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon:* "Forgiveness Works"

*Song of the Day* – “Will You Come and Follow Me” ELW 798 (piano)

1. **Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**
2. **Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?**
3. **Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**
4. **Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**
5. **Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

*\*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*\*Prayers of Intercession*

*Stewardship Time*

“How Beautiful,” arr. Paris  
*Jean Welch, piano solo*

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

*–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–*

*\*Great Thanksgiving*

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*\*Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*\*Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Communion Songs*

“Now the Green Blade Rises” ELW 379 (*piano*)

- 1 **Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 2 **In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 3 **Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 4 **When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

- 1 **I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.**

*Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

- 2 **I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy word. Refrain**
- 3 **I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. Refrain**

*\*Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
C: **Amen.**

*\*Closing Prayer*

## SENDING

*\*Benediction*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be  
gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
C: **Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” ELW 547 (piano)*

- 1 **Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us  
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

- 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,  
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—  
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children, the whole human race.  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

*\*Dismissal*

**P:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Worship Assistants**

Communion Assistant: Pam Devlin  
Greeter: Hallie Mayner  
Reader: Patty Nelson  
Usher: Patty Nelson  
Pastor: Adam Dichsen  
Sabbatical Pastor: Paul Schwartzkopf  
Music Director: Jean Welch  
Organist: Susan Roegge  
Pianist: Jean Welch  
Drummer: John Demien  
Financial Assistants: Ken Devlin & Kelly Street  
Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw  
Coffee Host: Barb Davenport

**Singers:**

Benen Dichsen

Kelly Hartz

Kris Roth

Carol VanderKloot

Louis Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Cole Street

Marilyn Dichsen

Adam Krohe

Melissa Street





Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Gaylon Martin	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

## What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, April 7, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Sunday School

10:45am: Book Discussion Group in the Justice Room

Wednesday, April 10, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

6:00pm: Women of Faith Fellowship in the Great Room

Sunday, April 14, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Sunday School

2:00pm: Faith Family Bowling at the Bowl Inn

Wednesday, April 17, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

10:00am: Discipleship Group in the Faith Library

Thursday, April 18, 6:00pm: Church Council Meeting

The Altar Plants are given today  
by the Dichsen family in celebration of Rigby's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 10  
and by Vicki Robson in memory of Kelly's birthday  
and in memory of Chuck and Judy Dillard's wedding anniversary

### Song Credits

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## News Updates

### Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

### **Book Discussion Group**

Please join Kelly Hartz **today** immediately following the service for our next book club discussion on “*The Gifts of Imperfection*,” by Brené Brown (in the Justice Room). Books are available for \$10 on the cabinet under the working cross in the gathering area.

### **Women of Faith Fellowship Night**

Women’s fellowship nights are back! Join us on **Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm** in the Great Room for coloring, conversation, and yummy snacks. Feel free to bring a friend!

### **Faith Family Bowling Outing**

You’re invited to a fun afternoon of bowling with your Faith family! Join us on **Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm** at the Bowl Inn in Jacksonville. We’ll request a lane with bumpers, so little ones are welcome to join the fun. Please sign up at the coffee sales table so we know how many lanes we’ll need. The cost to play is \$5 per person per game, so you can play as many as you’d like. Faith will cover the cost of shoe rentals. Hope you can join us!

### **Discipleship Group**

Join our monthly discussion at **10:00am on Wednesday, April 17**, in the Faith Library. If you haven’t given us a try before, this would be a great time to start. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com).

### **Christian Karaoke Night at Faith**

Warm up your vocal cords, practice your favorite hymn, gospel, praise, Christian song and join us for the first ever Christian Karaoke night at Faith Lutheran Church. Put **Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** on your calendar and get ready for a fun night of sharing and singing. Invite your friends to join the fun! We’ll gather in the Great Room. All the technology will be set up and ready to go! Snacks will be provided by Faith Lutheran Youth for a free-will offering. If you would like to help by providing a snack, please contact Martha Krohe. Questions about the music should be directed to Patty Nelson.

### **Bells in Motion Concert at Faith**

Bells in Motion will be presenting an *Out of this World* concert on **Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 pm**. This is a free concert, but a donation would be appreciated. Some of the music they will be ringing is the Star Trek theme, Star Wars medley by John Williams, music from Lord of the Rings, plus other favorites such as Fly Me to the Moon.

If you want to be entertained and mesmerized by awesome bell ringing, you need to come to this concert. The kids and grandkids will love it as well.

## **Save the date!**

May 5<sup>th</sup> is going to be a day full of joyous reunions, heartfelt gratitude, and meaningful reflections as we welcome back Pastor Adam and the Dichsen family AND celebrate Pastor Paul and Ann Schwartzkopf's contributions to our Faith Family. Also, some members of Faith will share their sabbatical experiences and aspirations for the future.

After the 9:30 service, a potluck lunch will be served. After all, what better way to look ahead than with family, food, and faith by your side? See you all at 9:30 am for the service! Don't forget to **sign up for the potluck on the counter outside the sanctuary.**

## **Godspell, the Musical**

Jacksonville High School will be presenting **Godspell, the Musical today at 2:00pm.** Tickets are available at the JHS office (1211 N. Diamond St.) or at the door; \$5 student/\$10 adult.

## **Announcing Synod-Wide In-Person Listening Gatherings**

**Mark Your Calendars Today** and plan to participate in one of our 4 upcoming **In-Person Listening Gatherings** across the synod as part of our comprehensive synod-wide listening and visioning process. The closest one:

### **Saturday, April 20**

- Peace Lutheran Church, Springfield
  - 2800 West Jefferson Street
  - 12:00-2:00 p.m. (lunch provided)
  - Facilitated by Pastor Peter Reuss,

GSB Consulting, and Bishop Greg Busboom

Please visit [CSIS-ELCA.org/listening24](https://www.csis-elca.org/listening24) to register for this listening session.

**YOUR VOICE** and the voices of **ALL** in our synod are needed! Thank you in advance as we listen together for how the Spirit is calling us to move forward together!

Leading in HOPE †, Bishop Greg Busboom

## **Announcing Synod-Wide Survey**

Help us “PIE” the Bishop and raise \$2,000 for ELCA World Hunger!

*“Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches”  
(Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22).*

YOU are invited to participate in the next phase of our synod-wide listening and vision process through an online survey that will be live through April 17. To access the survey, please go to the following link: [\*\*https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSIS-Survey.\*\*](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSIS-Survey)

*(continued on next page)*

Help us meet our goal of at least 500 completed surveys! If we meet our goal, we will celebrate at our Synod-Wide BBQ and Hymn Fest on Friday, June 7 during Synod Assembly.

At least 300 completed surveys = a pie in the face of Deacon Jason Fisher, Director for Evangelical Mission

At least 400 completed surveys = a pie in the face of both Deacon Jason Fisher AND Pastor Amy Zietlow, Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Leadership

At least 500 completed surveys = a pie in the face of Deacon Jason Fisher, Pastor Amy Zietlow, AND Bishop Greg Busboom

In addition, thanks to a generous CHALLENGE GIFT from disciples of Jesus in our synod, if we reach our goal of 500 surveys, \$2,000 will be given to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

YOUR VOICE and the voices of ALL in our synod are needed! Thank you in advance as we listen together for how the Spirit is calling us to move forward together!

### **Youth Group Help Wanted**

One of the hats worn by Pastor Adam is youth leader. In his absence, we are looking for people willing to lead an event, host a meal, or lead a youth Sunday school class. If you are interested, please let Kelly Hartz know. We have a wonderful group of youth, and you would be blessed by your time with them!

### **Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea**

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

### **Sign-Up Sheets**

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

**Contribution Envelopes for 2024** are available in the office.