



Founded 1860

***Lutheran
Church
Missouri
Synod***

Sunday
April 24th

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Representing God's Love
To our Congregation,
Community, and the World

Divine Service: Setting One

Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Church Bell

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

LSB 474



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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CONFESION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12–32

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." ²¹And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so 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." ²⁴Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

²⁷And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Revelation 1:4–18

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

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

of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

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

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, 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 in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, 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; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but

believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

LSB 469



1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n to - day!” Saints on earth and an - gels say;
2 Love’s re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, re - ply.
Lo! Our Sun’s e - clipse is o’er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Soar we now where Christ has led;
Foll’wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv’n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Tune: French, 13th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Alive Forevermore – Revelation 1:4–18

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Doors Work Both Ways – John 20:19–31

APOSTLES’ CREED

LSB 159

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

LSB 464

Refrain

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

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,
 4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell;
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,

Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
 But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
 He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.
 The bars from heav'n's high por - tals fell.
 From death's dread sting Thy ser - vants free

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.

Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let hymns of praise His tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
 That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

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.

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell
mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will
When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com - mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
faith - ful; doubt - ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!



Thank you, Pastor Franke for leading worship today!

April Bible Verse

But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God."
Psalm 31:14

Our Mission Statement

Representing God's Love to our Congregation, Community, and the World!



Congregation: Deloris Griffin, Al Hafer, the Hayden family, Lathel Norris, Lindsay Rosenbaum, those affected by COVID-19, those recovering from various illnesses, and the Parish Hall Renovation
Shut-ins: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Mary McCoy, James Schoenemann, Lorine Schroeder

Community: Brenham Pregnancy Center, Faith Mission, St. Matthew's (vacancy)

World: The Ukraine

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule

April 24 – May 1

Today:

Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM	Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
10:15 AM	Divine Worship Service
Acolyte:	Confirmand
Guest Register:	Becky Lueckemeyer
Ushers:	Rallin Wellmann Billy Ashorn Blane Ashorn Brian Ashorn

Monday: **10:00 AM** Worship Online

Tuesday: **7:30 PM** Voters' Meeting

Wednesday: **5:00-7:00 PM** Parish Hall Fundraiser at Fairgrounds

Next Sunday: ***Third Sunday of Easter***

9:00 AM	Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
10:15 AM	Divine Worship Service
Acolyte:	Confirmand
Guest Register:	Peggy McDonald
Ushers:	Jason Ashorn Melvin Ashorn Charlie Boggan Daryl Dahman

Serving in April: Elder – Mike Schroeder / Trustee – Melvin Ashorn

Serving in May: Elder – Paul Richter / Trustee – Billy Ashorn

If you have a question or thought concerning spiritual care or the church property, please contact the appropriate elder or trustee.



The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Becky Lueckemeyer.



Voters:

Please note that there is a quarterly Voters' Meeting *this* Tuesday, April 26th at 7:30 pm.

As of **Sunday, April 17th**, the total amount of funds and recent donations allocated to the Parish Hall Renovation Project is **\$360,989.84**. This leaves a **balance of \$39,010.16** to reach the total project budget of \$400,000.00.



*LWML is sponsoring a **Baby Shower for Brenham Pregnancy Center.** Please bring new items for the baby shower to the basket in the narthex **before Mother's Day, May 8th.***

*Monumental VBS registration forms are available on the table in the church narthex. Please complete the registration form and **return it before May 22.***

Monumental VBS will begin Sunday, June 5, at 6:00 pm. On Monday, June 6 – Thursday, June 9, a meal will be served between 5:00 – 6:00 pm. VBS will then begin at 6:00 pm and conclude at approximately 7:45 pm. On **Friday, June 10**, we will have our **closing program beginning at 6:30 pm** followed by a **hamburger meal and ice cream social.**



If you have a small camping tent, child's bike or two small camping stools that can be used with decorations please contact Vickie Ashorn at 979-277-4393 or Lori Schramme at 979-277-5426.

Last Week at Bethlehem

SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
04-14 Maundy Thursday Service	66	General Fund: \$1,066.00 Building Fund: \$1,150.00 Parish Hall Renovation: \$285.00 Phillip Molitor Memorial— Undesignated: \$290.00 Easter Lilies: \$112.00
04-14 Good Friday	48	\$704.00
04-17 Easter Sunrise Service	160	General Fund: \$3,355.00 Building Fund: \$1,000.00 Phillip Molitor Memorial: \$120.00
04-17 Easter Celebration Service	47	General Fund: \$1,140.00 Building Fund: \$100.00 Phillip Molitor Memorial: \$100.00