

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14 & 15, 2012

AS WE GATHER

The joy of Easter continues! The initial appearance of the Lord on the Day of Resurrection now has expanded into a series of appearances by Jesus to His disciples and others. Once again, He is God in person on earth, assuring His faithful that He is with them always. To the disciples gathered together in fear and apprehension, He brings a word of peace and assurance. His presence among them gives a full sense of "shalom" - of complete well-being. Jesus is present among us in our worship this day as well, assuring us that all is well and that we are truly at peace with God and with one another. As we worship, we celebrate that peace which passes all human understanding.

5:00 PRE-SERVICE ANTHEM "Oh, How Good Is Christ the Lord" 4K-2nd Grade

WELCOME

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #487 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

(Please rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: LORD, you were favorable to your land;

People: You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

Pastor: You forgave the iniquity of your people;

People: You covered all their sin.

Pastor: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

People: And grant us your salvation. *Psalm 85:1, 2, 7*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious Lord.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, mighty Judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have not lived up to our calling as your peaceable people. We have not nurtured or encouraged peace in our homes, our neighborhoods, and our communities. We have not done the good you demand and have not been the people you would have us be. We do repent and are truly sorry

for our sins in thought, word, and deed. Have mercy on us Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son. Forgive us. Renew us. Keep us ever mindful that we need your lavish grace. By the power of the Holy Spirit direct us to serve you faithfully all our days through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Pastor: God has promised His merciful forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him in confession. He will revive them and speak peace to His people. In His stead and by His command, therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May our God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you in ways of peace and joy, and finally bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #461 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;

He lives all glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.*LSB*

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

10:30 BAPTISM of Alexis Elizabeth Plumeri

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Please refrain from taking photographs during the worship service.

+ WORD +

FIRST LESSON Acts 4:32-35 *(The very first Christians share with each other.)* All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the

resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

EPISTLE I John 1:1---2:2 (*We walk in the light of the Lord.*) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

5:00 ANTHEM *“Alleluia! Christ the Lord is Risen!”* *4K-2nd Grade*

(Please rise)

GOSPEL John 20:19-31 (*Jesus appears to His disciples behind locked doors.*) 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!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 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.” 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!” 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.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 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.

(Please be seated)

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #478

“The Day of Resurrection”

Rise for last stanza

SERMON

8:00 ADULT CONFIRMATION of Lauren Edwards

(Please rise)

5:00 THE NICENE CREED (*found on the back cover of the hymnal*)

(Please be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Please rise)

PRAYERS

Pastor: Thank you, Lord, for the joy we felt on Easter knowing that Christ has risen, and that we who believe will be able to spend Eternity with our Heavenly Father and your Son.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Help us to spread the joy of Easter to those around us, sharing not only the story of Christ's death and resurrection, but sharing our earthly goods with those less fortunate.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: In prayer, we lift up to you, the many in our congregation who are confined to their homes and the many in our midst suffering from accidents and illness. If it be your will, please bring healing to Susan, Ray, Dolores, Jerry, Gretchen, Elfrieda, Lois, Joe and Samuel. We also ask that you bring comfort to those among us who mourn the loss of a loved one and those remembering their loved ones. Bring peace to their hearts knowing that one day they will be reunited in Heaven. We pray for Anna and Susan. Please protect our loved ones serving in the military, many in harm's way. We pray for Steven, Eric, Eli, Jon, Ryan, Richard, Dan, and Josh. Bring comfort and strength to the many people who have lost so much during the spring storms that have ravaged our

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country. Help us to help them in any way we can. We thank you for those in the mission field bringing your message to lands far away. Thank you, also, for those in our seminaries preparing to shepherd us in the future. We ask that you be with Pastor Bender and his family as they prepare for the move to Wisconsin. Help us to make the move as comfortable and effortless as possible. Today we also celebrate with Henry, Eleanor, Alexis, Lauren, Pat, Kaleb, Adam and Jaydee the many blessings you so freely give.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Help us to remember the words of Jesus. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed". Help us to share that belief with others so that we might all spend eternity with our Heavenly Father.

People: Christ the Lord has risen. He has risen indeed. Thank you Heavenly Father. Amen.

5:00 & 8:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord + be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung to Tune: # 700 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling")

Lamb of God, our risen Savior, All our sins You take away.

Lamb of God, by Your great favor, Lord, with mercy bless us today.

Lamb of God, Your table setting Always let Your mercies come,

And Your Holy Spirit sending, Give us peace till we reach our home.

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(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #469 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

HYMN #490 "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

HYMN #470 "O Sons and Daughters of the King" (Stanzas 1-3, 8 & 9)

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Please rise)

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Grant, O Lord, that the lips which have sung your praise in the sanctuary, may glorify you in the world, that the ears, which have heard the voice of your songs may be closed to the voice of clamor and dispute, that the eyes which have seen your great love may also behold your blessed hope, that the tongues which have confessed your name may ever speak the truth, and that the bodies of all who have tasted of your Son's living body and blood may be restored to newness of life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #465 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

Preacher

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Lectors

Pat Mundstock, Jane Adams, John Ficken

Acolytes

Nick Erdmann, Dana Gall, Ashley Heder

4K-2nd Grade Teachers Ellen Van Dyke, Jo Shemanske, Sue Graf, Barb Heimsoth

Organist Saturday

Roger Gottschalk

Music Coordinator/Organist Sunday

Kim Woller

Next weekend we will have Pastor Bryan O'Connor as our guest preacher.