

April 24, 2022

(C)

Second Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING. Acts 5:27-32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

SECOND READING. Revelation 1:4-8

John 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, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

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

GOSPEL. John 20:19-31

When 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.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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.'

A 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.' Then 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.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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.



Second Sunday Of Easter

Sunday April 24, 2022

In spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe.

Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the Lord Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of the holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

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“In response to God’s love, St. Matthew’s is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone.”

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord’s Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

COVID-19

Although mask mandates are now lifted in most Ontario indoor settings, our Bishop encourages “all congregations to continue using masks for the time being.” For now, we strongly recommend wearing a mask.

If you missed last week’s sermon, it is available on our website.

St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran



Church 57 Griffith Street • Welland, Ontario •

Phone: [289-821-9025](tel:289-821-9025) • Email: stmatts@cogeco.net • website: stmatthewswelland.com

Pastor: Reverend Bart ColemanCell Phone (call or text) 289-821-9025

Home Phone289-820-7713

Emailbartsterc@gmail.com

Council Chairperson: Jennifer Rusk Church Secretary: Jennifer Allcorn ...

905-734-4746 Organist: Lily Jasinskas

This morning's Order of Worship is an alternate Eucharistic setting called "Now the Feast and Celebration", located in the *Hymnal Supplement*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia

Христос воскрес! [khrystos voskres] - Christ has risen!
ALL: Воистину воскрес! [vo-i-sty-nu vos-kres] - Indeed He has risen!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Psalm 150 - Tune 858 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.

Reader: On earth and in heaven, let the Lord be praised!

Praise to the Lord!
Oh, let mortals and angels adore him.

Reader: With trumpets and all kinds of harps, with drums and dancing, with strings and pipes, and with loud cymbals.

All that has life and breath,
Come now with praises before him.

Reader: Let every living creature join the alleluias! Praise the Lord!

Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Dismissal

leader/response

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
Thanks be to God.

As COVID restrictions ease, we are happy to include more participants in Sunday morning worship. Please let us know if you are willing to read scripture or the prayers of intercession. We love having a variety of voices participate in our worship each week!

Open Arms Mission focus of the month: **Peanut Butter**

on page 2. All of the hymns are in the hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran*
Worship **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

leader/response

Dates to Remember
Today - Church Council meeting after the service
April 30 - Confirmation Retreat in Niagara Falls

Hymnal Supplement - Page 2

Prelude and Announcements

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism ...printed in bulletin

Gathering Song**386 O Sons and Daughters,...**

GreetingPage 2

Kyrie**Page 3**

Now the Feast**Page 4**

SalutationPage 7

Prayer of the Day

WORD

First ReadingActs 5:27-32

Psalm 150.....printed on insert

Second ReadingRevelation 1:4-8

Gospel Acclamation Page 8“Glory to you, O Lord.”

Gospel John 20:19-31 “Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day**375 Alleluia! Christ Is...**

Nicene CreedPage 10

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response“hear our prayer.”

Peace (non-contact gestures)

MEAL

Offering PrayerPage 13

Great Thanksgiving.....Page 14

Holy.....Page 15

Eucharistic Prayer

Eucharistic Acclamations**Page 16-17**

Through Christ, With Christ**Page 17**

The Lord's PrayerPage 18

Communion

Lamb of God**Page 18-19**

Communion Hymns**635, 390**

Thanks Be To You**Page 20**

Prayer after communion

SENDING

Blessing Sending Song 548 **Rise, O Church, ... Dismissal as printed in bulletin**