

# The Third Sunday of Easter

April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Order of Service

7:45 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Matins (pg.219)

DSI (pg.151)

Hymns

Hymns

469, 486

469, 486, 470, 468

Wednesday Hymns . . . . . 469 and 486

## Sermon

"Did the Resurrection Really Happen?"

*Pastor Wes Gillaspie*

## Scripture Readings

*Acts 5:29-42:* Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than man! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead, whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." When they heard this, the Sanhedrin was furious and wanted to put them to death. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: "Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing. After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered. Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will

fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God." His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

*1 Peter 1:17-25:* Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, "All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

*Luke 24:13-35:* Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had

happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened

the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

## Serving in Worship Today

Elders . . . . . *Kevin Kern; Ben Bekemeier, Rodney Hecht, Dennis Thurston*  
Organist . . . . . *Pam Bernreuter*  
Usher . . . . . *Ron Spiekerman; Paul Kern*  
Altar Guild . . . . . *Laura Rushford, Becky Solgat*  
Acolytes . . . . . *Brittany Bickel; Milla Thurston*

## Wednesday

Elders . . . . . *Ben Bekemeier*  
Pianist . . . . . *Heiki Palm*  
Usher . . . . . *Paul Kern*

## This week at St. Michael's

Today . . . . . *Worship Service 7:45 a.m.*  
*Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.*  
*Communion 10:30 a.m.*  
Mon . . . . . *Bd. Of Edu. 6 p.m.*  
*LLL 7 p.m.*  
Tue . . . . . *Adult Choir 7 p.m.*  
Wed . . . . . *Worship Service 7 p.m.*  
Thurs . . . . . *Prayer Pal Party 5:45 p.m.*  
Next Sun. . . . . *Communion 7:45 a.m.*  
*Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.*  
*Worship Service 10:30 a.m.*  
*w/ 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Bible Presentation*

*Baptism of Haven Grace Sahr, daughter of Matthew & Madison Sahr, during the 7:45 service.*

*New Bible Study: With our Lenten journey behind us, Pastor's Sunday Bible Study will look*

at the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Gospel of Mark. Please join us!

*Voters Meeting* today after late service to call a music director.

*The 5th-8th graders* will be selling sloppy joes today after both services in the church foyer. You may either buy a meal including sloppy joe, chips, and cookie for \$5 or buy 8 sloppy joe sandwiches only for \$20. Support our 5th-8th graders as they raise money for their spring bus trip.

*Passion Drama Wrap-Up* today at 7 p.m. in the church overflow room.

*Their own Bibles!* Next Sunday we will have our annual Bible presentation to our 1st graders at the 10:30 service.

*Prayer Pal Party* at 5:45 p.m. in the Park Hall. Pizza, desserts, and fun! We hope to see you there!

*Our 175th Continues:* We've hung a new banner in the church as we celebrate our 175th Anniversary. This banner tells how St. Michael's is a "Place to Belong," and compliments our other two banners "The Beginnings" and "A Place to Gather." Please take a moment to read them when you get the chance.

*Gift Card Scam:* Please ignore any text messages or e-mails supposedly from Pastor (or anyone else) requesting help for a needy person or family. This is just another variation of the old gift card scam which has been going around for years.

*Special Parade:* We will highlight our 175th Anniversary at this year's end of school parade. If you would like to enter a float or a classic car or truck, please contact Mr. Rachow at school or Mrs. Powell at Child Care.

*Spring Cleaning Campaign/Project:* Help us make a difference in our community! Take a bucket and fill it with essential cleaning supplies. Your donations will support families in need. All donations will be given to: Franklin Avenue Mission; Vassar Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity and support! – Outreach Team

*St. Michael's Lutheran School* is seeking a 2nd Grade Teacher for the 2026–2027 school year. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please email principal@stmichaelsrichville.org or call 989 868 4809. You may also contact Jason Andrich at 989 992 2093.

*LLL Peat Moss Sale:* It's LLL Peat sale time. For info and to order, call Mark 989-280-1166 or Jim 989-670-1710. 40 lbs. bags \$4.50 ea buy 10 get 1 free. Pickup and delivery days May 1 & 2.

*Jameson Strong Nonprofit* will be hosting a fundraiser May 2nd at the Vassar Eagles Club. There will be a dinner, music, and silent auctions. Contact Josh Doud for tickets 989-325-2059. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Money raised helps us send out faith based care packages to kids with cancer all over the US. We have shipped out over 260 care packages to 42 different states.

*Sisters of Ruth* will meet May 6 at noon. Pizza will be ordered. Please bring a salad or dessert.

*Mother's Day Chicken BBQ* Treat Mom to a delicious meal and let us do the cooking! Sunday, May 10, 2026 Starting at 10:30 AM, Drive-Thru Only St. Michael's Lutheran School, 9444 W. Saginaw Rd. Richville, MI, \$13 Per Dinner, Dinner Includes: ½ Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Dressing, Corn, Cupcake See you there!

*Flower Sale* Orders due May 10<sup>th</sup>, Pickup Sat. May 16<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at church. Sponsored by Mary Martha with additional funding from Thrivent Financial. Proceeds benefit mission projects.

We're looking for volunteers to help run our live stream during the early service. No experience is needed—it's very easy to learn! If you're interested in helping, please reach out to Kevin Sage by call or text at 989-395-5579. We'd love to have you on the team.

*Pastor Call Committee:* The committee has met several times as we prepare to call an associate pastor. If you know of a pastor you would like to suggest for our call list, there is a form you can fill out in the church office.

Dear Members of St. Michael's...

*Thank you to everyone who helped roll silverware—our 16 tubs are officially DONE! We truly appreciate your time, effort, and support. It made a big difference and helped us complete this project together. With gratitude, St. Michael's Outreach Team*

*Our Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success! What a joy it was to see all the kids having so much fun—and enjoying a delicious hot dog lunch too! A very special thank you to Katie Gebhardt and her family for their generous prize donations.*

*We're also so grateful to Vic & Lynn DiBerardino for providing food and candy. A heartfelt thank you as well to all of our amazing volunteers who made the day possible—we couldn't have done it without you! Events like this happen because of all of you—thank you for your support! - The Outreach Team*

*This year's Passion Drama was a great success, just under 400 people witnessed the reenactment of Christ's final days, his crucifixion and resurrection. Everyone was greatly appreciated for volunteering and making this all come together. Thank you and God Bless. Co-chairman, D.J. Weiss and Josh Doud*

Attendance

April 12 <sup>th</sup> .....	362
April 15 <sup>th</sup> .....	45

Other News

*The Lutheran Hour* airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Next Sunday: "Second Chances and First Impressions" Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler; God is the God of second chances, not for Himself but for others. 1 Corinthians 15:47-49

*Richville Legion* 62nd Annual Chicken Bar-B-Q April 26, 11 a.m. \$14/dinner & drive thru take out only. Menu: 1/2 BBQ Chicken; Mashed Potatoes; Dressing; Gravy; Cole Slaw; Cookie.

*Valley Lutheran* is seeking applications for the following positions: Athletic Director; Public Relations Intern (part time); Head Men's Varsity Basketball Coach; Women's Freshman Volleyball Coach. For more information about these positions or for directions to apply, go to [www.vlhs.com/jobs](http://www.vlhs.com/jobs).

# Prayers

## Health

*Bernice Auernhamer; Don Bierlein; Korbyn  
Chinevere; Michelle DeCoe; Ben Dzioba; Don  
Duperon; Amy Goodrow; Kenneth Hecht; Hope  
Hecht; Walt Hecht; Ann Houser; Lynn Koviack;  
Carolyn Navarre; Lorine Nicodemus; Eugene  
Palmreuter; Roy Rodammer; Will Sage; Bev  
Schemm*

## Special Prayers

Safety and Well-being of the Men and Women  
in the Armed Forces; Favorable Weather for  
Spring Planting.

## Mission

Rev. Jordon and Alison Andreasen serve the  
Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri  
Synod as career missionaries in Romania. In  
this role, Jordon works with the Confessional  
Lutheran Church in Romania to plant Lutheran  
congregations in Romania and in the  
surrounding Balkan-Mediterranean subregion.

## Prayer of the Day

"Almighty and eternal God, now that You have  
assured  
us of our redemption through the resurrection  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
give us the will to show forth in lives the faith  
which we profess with  
our lips; through Jesus Christ Your Son our  
Lord, who lives and reigns  
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and forever, Amen."