



Resurrection Lutheran Church

To Live & Share the Love of Christ

Pastor Melissa Pagel

Sunday, April 5th, 2026

Easter Sunday

*Congregational responses are printed in **Bold Type**.*

To Live & Share the Love of Christ

Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran Church where different people come together for the shared purpose of worshiping God and encouraging each other through the inclusive love of Jesus. Whether you are our guest, looking for a church home, or already a member, we want you to feel welcomed by our congregation and inspired by our worship service.

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The Good News is Alive in the World

Christ has risen. **He has risen indeed, alleluia!**

Call to Worship

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.
On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.
On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.
But today, we know the good news is alive and well.
The good news is dancing!
The good news is on the loose!
The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.
Let us worship our good-news Christ.

Gathering Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today!
ELW 365

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

Noisy Offering

The Noisy Offering will move to the first Sunday each month.

The next offering will be May 3rd.

Easter Flower Sponsorships

In honor of Family and Friends by Jean Halloran

In honor of Frances Strickland by Christina Marcin

In memory of Lu Mercier by Christina Marcin

In memory of Diana by Ken Rudie

In memory of the Olson Family by Eleanor Vogl

In memory of the Vogl Family by Eleanor Vogl

Additional flowers provided by Jan Hansen, Jim & Judy Gatske,
John & Jodi Koch and Debbie La Plante

Thank you to all who sponsored our Easter lilies and tulips!

Please take your plants after the service today or stop in during the week. A list of the plants ordered is located in the front pew.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Call to Confession

Friends, on Easter Sunday we remember that the world did its worst to God. The world battered and bruised, betrayed and abandoned, crucified and buried our living God.

And despite it all, Jesus *still* chose to return.

Jesus rose again and immediately went to work spreading God's love to the very people who had hurt him. So hear me when I say, there is *nothing* you can do that could keep God's love at bay.

With that good news mind, let us go to God in prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims, and seeks us.

Friends, let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

we want to be Easter people.

We want to shout your good news from the rooftop.

We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you.

We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we are afraid.

And we don't know where to look.

And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.

So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.

We are best intentions and best laid plans.

We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias."

We are on our way, but we are not there yet.

Show us how to embody your good news in this world.

Show us how to be your Easter people.

With hope for tomorrow, we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith,
even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration: Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Holy One,
all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story.

All over the world, people are gathering to hear how death lost its sting. All over the world, people are gathering together, praying for a glimpse of you. So like our neighbors all over the world, we pray, be here. Speak to us today.

Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia. We bow our heads. We listen for you. Amen.

WORD

First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people

First lecture is 2:30-4:30 PM, entitled, “*Understanding Jesus Means Understand Judaism: How not to introduce antisemitism into your preaching and teaching*”.

The cost is \$30 for the afternoon. \$35 if staying for the supper and evening session. RSVP required if staying for supper.

The second lecture will be 6:00-7:30 PM, entitled, “*How and Why Jews and Christians Read the Same Bible Stories Differently*”.

For information and to RSVP: Call 920-682-6311

Continued Book Study

Please join us for an ongoing bible study on the book, “Life Together” by Dietrich Bonhoeffer on Tuesday, April 7 at 6 PM. The remaining date is April 21.

Lincoln School Drive

We will be accepting donations for Lincoln School as noted below.

If you prefer a donation of cash for us to purchase items, just specify on the envelope and place in the offering plate. Envelopes and flyers will be available in the Narthex. This ministry will be supported all year long.

New or gently used elastic waist pants, joggers, leggings,
Youth sizes 4t-16

New underwear or socks, Youth sizes 4t-16

New or gently used sport bras

Individually wrapped snacks

This Week at a Glance

Monday-Tuesday Office Hours	9-2
Tuesday	
Quilters	9:00 am
Wednesday	
Food Pantry Open	9-11 am
Sunday Worship Service	9:30 am

Upcoming Events

Assisting with Worship	4/5/26	4/12/2026
Usher	TBD	TBD
Communion Deacon	Christina Marcin	Sandy Krakow
Counters	Larry Nelson & Debbie La Plante	Larry Nelson & Debbie La Plante
Lector	John Koch	Open
Altar Guild	Jan Hansen	Jan Hansen
Fellowship	Open	Open

Lecture Series at Lakeshore Church on April 20, 2026:

Dr. AJ Levine will be coming to Lakeshore Church in Manitowoc for 2 lectures on April 20. Dr. Levine is a world-renowned scholar of Judaism and the New Testament.

anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God’s mercy endures forever.
- ² **Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”**
- ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of

the LORD acts valiantly!”

17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

20 “This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter.”

21 I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

23 By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Lesson: Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Thine Is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

Dismissal

Go in peace to live and share the love of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

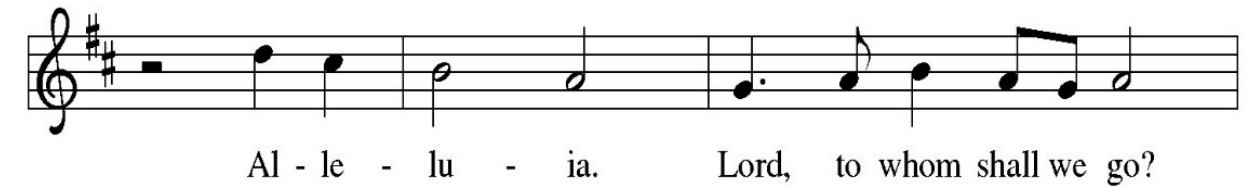
With joy and hope we pray, **amen.**

Blessing

May God, who has brought us from death to life, fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn Thine is the Glory ELW 376

Gospel Acclamation Pg. 151



Matthew 28: 1-10

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 28th Chapter.

Glory to you O God.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook **and** became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met

them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Melissa Pagel

Hymn of the Day Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing!
ELW 385

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpinus, 1570-1615
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Invitation to the Table

On Easter morning, the women went looking for Jesus. The angel said he was not in the tomb, so they ran, afraid yet filled with joy. They sought after him. They hurried to Galilee, looking for their risen Christ. And in their seeking, the text tells us: "Suddenly, Jesus met them".

Jesus met the women in their seeking.
Jesus met them in their moment of fear and grief.
Jesus met them when they felt lost.
Jesus met them and provided hope.
Friends, if like the women you are seeking Christ,
if you have known grief or fear,
if you have ever felt lost, or if you are in need of some hope,
then come to this Table.

All are welcome here.
For just as Jesus met the women in their seeking,
I am confident that Jesus meets us here,
saying, "Do not be afraid."

Prayer after communion

Loving Christ,
thank you for the bread that nourishes our bodies.
Thank you for the cup that quenches our thirst.
Thank you for this community, which reminds us who we are.
Thank you for this Table that brings us together.
Thank you for the music that lifts our spirits.
Thank you for the promise that at this Table, and every table,
you will be there. May this holy meal nourish us to go out into
the world speaking of your good, good news.

We pray for those who find themselves trapped in war-torn areas, especially the Holy Lands, Iran, the Ukraine and Sudan. We pray for our country as she continues to break over gun violence and political difference. We pray for wise decisions on behalf of the world.

We pray for those in our own pews, Ken, Ernie, Marilyn, Scott, Karen, Jason, Russel, Jackie, Neil, Chris, and Jenilyn. Give them strength. Give them healing. Grant them comfort.

We pray for all the saints, today we especially pray for Pam. Bring her to joy on this day of resurrection.

Holy One, so many days feel like Good Friday, but the promise of Easter is that Good Friday does not have the last word. So may we live like that is true. May we speak this hope to our neighbors. May we look for you in our midst. May we see you at this Table, in this ordinary bread and cup.² And may we always remember: alleluias came after the grave. **Amen**

On the night ...do this in remembrance of me.

As we live like Easter people, let us continue to pray the words Jesus taught us to pray, saying...

The 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.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Please rise in body or spirit

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God, thanks and praise.

Risen Christ, good-news God, and ever-present Spirit,
today is a day we've been waiting for.

We've been waiting for the holy mystery of this morning.

We've been waiting for the good news of an empty grave.

We've been waiting for the sound of alleluias.

Today is a day we've been waiting for, and now that we're here,
all we can say is thank you.

Thank you for showing the world what could be.

Thank you for loving us with abandon.

Thank you for facing death and returning with mercy.

Thank you for the empty tomb.

Thank you for morning birdsong.

And thank you for meeting us here, as you always do.

Today we celebrate the good news that you are alive in the
world. The grave couldn't hold you. Death couldn't keep you.

The empire couldn't confine you. Instead, you are here and
everywhere. You are risen. You are on the move in the world.

Your love meets us at this Table¹ and calls us out into the world.
And that is good, good news.

So on this Easter Sunday, this holiest of days, we ask for your
help noticing you in our midst.

When our feet walk beside wildflowers, may we think of you.

When the stars light up the sky, may we see you.

When we break bread with our neighbors, may we feel you.

When a stranger acts with kindness and love, may we recognize
you.

We know that you are out in the world, God, and we don't want
to miss a minute of it.

And while we pray these prayers with gratitude and joy, we also
pray for those who still find themselves

at the foot of the cross. We pray for those stuck in the pain of
Good Friday.

We pray for the earth as creation continues to cry out.