

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Easter Makes a Difference

April 7, 2024



Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have
believed. *John 20:29b*

Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Sunday Service - 9:30am

Sunday Bible Study – after Service

Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am

Rev. Paul Pollatz

(313) 565- 9445

5323 Southfield

Allen Park, MI 48101

(734) 765–3468

Welcome! Members and Guests

We are blessed to have you here today. Please fill out the Guest/Member Attendance Card located in the pew rack in front of you. Guests please include your full address, zip code, and phone number. The cards will be collected by the ushers early in the service. Prayer Requests cards are available in the pew racks and should be handed to the ushers when the attendance cards are collected.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which Jesus' body and blood are given in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-30). When we receive the Holy Communion at a church, we are making a public statement that we agree with the teachings of that church (1 Corinthians 10:14-18). The Bible cautions us against receiving the body and blood of Christ in a manner that is spiritually harmful (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print worship guides are available at the ushers' stand.

Listening Devices

Listening devices are available; our ushers will be glad to assist you in signing one out for today's service.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available; our ushers will be glad to get them for you.

Wheelchair Accessible Seating

Wheelchair seating is located in the fifth row from the front of the church on the left and right side of the center aisle.

Church Nursery

Our Nursery is located in the Parlor, which is the first room next to the stained glass doors. The worship service can be heard in this room. The ushers can direct you to this room.

Our Divine Service, & Bible Studies

Our Divine Service is held on Sundays at 09:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Sundays after Service and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Our Bible studies are held Sep-May.

Our Vision Statement: Revitalize Within—Reach Out!

PRELUDE
THE RINGING OF THE BELLS
PREPARATION

Pastor: Easter made a difference in the lives of so many people! In the core community of believers, it wasn't a matter of something to believe but how to make a difference in the way a person lived. The other disciples had let Thomas stay with them until Jesus reappeared. It must have been a tense time, but uniquely bearable because they had met their Lord, alive. That change, the difference that Easter made, wasn't limited to the apostles; the entire group shared all they had, living testimony of Jesus' presence with them. How will you be different after hearing this great Good News?

(Please stand)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 474 vs 1-4

I Know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everliving 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

**He lives to bless me with His love
 He lives to plead for me above
 He lives my hungry soul to feed
 He lives to help in time of need**

**He lives to grant me rich supply;
 He lives to guide me with His eye;
 He lives to comfort me when faint;
 He lives to hear my soul's complaint.**

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the confession and
absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:5:10; 2:1b-2

Pastor: This is the message we have heard from Him
and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him
is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship
with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do
not practice the truth.

**People: 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 cleanses us from all
sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive
ourselves, and the truth is not in us.**

Pastor: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to
forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we

make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

(Please stand)

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

PSALM *Psalm 148*

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the
heavens; praise Him in the heights!

Men: Praise Him, all His angels;

Women: praise Him, all His hosts!

Men: Praise Him, sun and moon,

Women: praise Him, all you shining stars!

Men: Praise Him, you highest heavens,

Women: and you waters above the heavens!

People: Let them praise the name of the LORD!

Pastor: For He commanded and they were created.

**People: And He established them forever and ever;
He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

Pastor: Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea
creatures and all deeps,

Men: fire and hail, snow and mist,

Women: stormy wind fulfilling His word!

Men: Mountains and all hills,

Women: fruit trees and all cedars!

Men: Beasts and all livestock,

Women: creeping things and flying birds!

Men: Kings of the earth and all peoples,

Women: princes and all rulers of the earth!

Men: Young men and maidens together,

Women: old men and children!

Pastor: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven.

People: He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that our Easter faith not be only a matter of Sunday tradition,

People: but will change how we care for one another and share our joy in active love and service each day;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING *Acts 4:32–35 ESV*

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many

as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 John 1:1—2:2* ESV

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice 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 cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

People: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31* ESV

On 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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are

forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, 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 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.” Eight 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.” Then 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.” 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 believed.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

PRAYER REQUESTS & ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please pass your prayer requests and yellow attendance cards to the individual sitting nearest the aisle and the usher will collect them during the singing of the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia, Let Praises Ring” *LSB 822 vs 1 & 2*

Alleluia

Let praises ring

To God the Father let us bring

Our songs of adoration

To Him through everlasting days

Be worship honor pow’r and praise

Whose hand sustains creation

Singing ringing

Holy holy

God is holy

Spread the story

Of our God the Lord of glory

Alleluia

Let praises ring

Unto the Lamb of God we sing

In whom we are elected

He bought His Church with His own blood

He cleansed her in that blessed flood

And as His bride selected

Holy holy

Is our union

And communion

His befriending

Gives us joy and peace unending

++ SERMON ++

Easter Makes a Difference

Text: Acts 4:32-35

Theme: Easter makes a difference in the lives of those who believe it.

Goal: that listeners be encouraged to demonstrate a response to Easter by responding to the needs of others.

Outline:

- I. Making gods out of ourselves and our possessions ends us in the grave until it doesn't.
- II. Easter changes that by restoring us to the love of God and his free gift of eternal life.
- III. Therefore, Easter also frees us to respond to the needs of others, whatever they may be.

(Please stand)

Nicene Creed

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again

according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel for the prayer)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Acts 4:34–35*

Pastor: We read again a portion of the First Reading:

“There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.”

Let us also respond to God’s Word in song and prayer using the hymn “Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service” as a guide.

HYMN

“O Bless the Lord, My Soul” *LSB 814 vs 1-3*

O bless the Lord, my soul!

Let all in me join

And aid my tongue to bless His name

Whose favors are divine.

**O bless the Lord, my soul,
Nor let His mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness
And without praises die.**

**'Tis He forgives thy sins
'Tis He relieves thy pain;
"Tis He that heals thy sicknesses
And makes thee young again**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we pray that You would use us and the gifts You have given to us to serve anyone in need. Open our eyes to see opportunities near and far in which we may serve Your gracious plans. All that we have and are belongs to You.

People: Risen Christ, grant us to be of one heart and soul, sharing not only our common faith but all that we are and have.

HYMN

**"O Bless the Lord, My Soul" LSB 814 vs 4
He crowns thy life with love,
When ransomed from the grave;
He that redeemed my soul from hell
Have sov'reign pow'r to save.**

Pastor: We pray for people who are homeless, hungry, captive, and in mourning. Surround them, heavenly Father, with people of faith in our risen Savior, brothers and sisters who will tend to them with compassion and love. We pray for those near and dear to us, Wherever Your

plans include us, O Lord,

People: open our hearts and hands, voices and resources to share the difference Easter makes for all who trust in our risen Savior.

HYMN

“O Bless the Lord, My Soul” *LSB 814 vs 5*

**He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'ers rest;
The Lord has judgments for the proud,
And justice for th' oppressed**

Pastor: We pray for those who are rich and those who are poor, those who influence our nation and those who live unnoticed. O Holy Spirit, be among our brothers and sisters—those who have vast resources; all who make, administer, and judge our laws; and parents, teachers, and counselors—all who know Christ as their living Lord.

People: Give them courage and caring hearts so that through them Your will shall be done.

HYMN

“O Bless the Lord, My Soul” *LSB 814 vs 6*

**His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known
But sent the world His truth and grace
By His beloved Son**

Pastor: We pray for our congregation, its programs of outreach and growth, and all who worship here. Lord over all, be with us and enliven us to do Your will in Easter joy.

**People: Give us strength to show forth the difference
Easter makes for us. Guide and protect us,
heavenly Father, that we may serve You and the
people around us in the name of our risen Savior,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be” *LSB 783 vs 1 -3*

**Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise**

**Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy Love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee**

**Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee**

(Please Stand)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should always and everywhere thank and praise You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly do we praise You for the glorious resurrection of our Lord, who not only rose from death but has led the way for us to be with You forever. And so, with all the heavenly host, we raise our voices in thanks, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *(we sing) LSB 195*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory**

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He, Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not spare Your only Son but gave Him into death that we might have life. Though we cannot understand Your love or comprehend eternity, we lift our voices in thanksgiving and pray You to strengthen us through this Sacrament to serve as

Your witnesses.

People: Grant that everyone who hears and sees our daily living and our love for You and the people around us will recognize the difference in our lives due to Jesus' victory over death and the grave.

Pastor: Gathered in Jesus' name, we pray that You would forgive, renew, and strengthen us. Gather us with all who are faithful so that together we may join the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be glory, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of
the world have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Beautiful Savior” *LSB 537 vs 1 & 2*

**Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

**Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.**

(Please stand)

THE POST-DISTRIBUTION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to
life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (we sing) TLH p. 29-30

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face
of all people, a light to lighten the
Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give You thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Sacrament.

**People: We pray that You would strengthen us by it
each day to use all that we are and have to the
good of others and the praise of Your holy name;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Oh, That I had a Thousand Voices” *LSB 811 vs 1 & 2*

**Oh that I had a thousand voices
To praise my God with thousand tongues
My heart which in the Lord rejoices
Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all wherever I might be
What great things God has done for me**

**O all you pow'rs that He implanted
Arise keep silence now no more
Put forth the strength that God has granted
Your noblest work is to adore
O soul and body join to raise
With heartfelt joy our Maker's praise**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor
Marie Brown, Organist
Frank Pignanelli, Elder
Laurie Pignanelli, Reader
Bill Switter, Dave Brown, & Kathy King, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BINGO HAS CHANGED

We will be doing it once a month beginning in April.

VBS is Coming....

Monday May 20- Thursday May 23
from 3:30pm to 4:30pm
More information to come

BINGO!April 10th**Quilting**Every Thursday from 10am to 2pm**Attendance**

Thursday March 28 th	7:00 pm	20
Friday March 29 th	7:00 pm	21
Sunday March 31 st	9:30 am	62

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact Nancy Dajos at 313-254-2437. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary**Birthdays****For the Shut-Ins***Joan Hafkesbrink, at Beaumont Commons**Judy Ohannasian, at home**Dorothy MacTavish, at home**Camell Faulk, at home**Phyllis Witte, at rehab**Melvin Kimbrough, at home**Lynn Mayfield, at home***For Those Who Are Sick or Healing**

Family of Lisa Coddington, Glenn Cairns's cousin wife, hospitalized

Sis Hamilton, Home recovering

Shelly Haise, friend of Paul Utcai, Cancer

Art Superko, Friend of Hamilton's, Illness

Beverly Pinke, Friend of Hamilton's, Illness

Theresa Greenaway, Friend of Pignanelli, Illness

Bently Martin, Cancer

Dorothy Plunkett, Karen Bumgarner's sister, comfort
and healing

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday April 7	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service
Monday April 8	Office Closed
Tuesday April 9	6:30pm Elder's Mtg 7:00pm Council Mtg
Wednesday April 10	10:30 am Bible Study 6:00pm BINGO
Thursday April 11	10am Quilting
Friday April 12	Office Closed
Saturday April 13	5pm Service
Sunday April 14	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service