



St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Warrens, WI
9:15 AM Worship Service via Facebook
Sunday, April 19, 2020 – The 2nd Sunday of Easter

Introduction: In today's service we will focus on three different Scripture passages which all focus on the message and meaning of Jesus' resurrection. Following each passage, Pastor Kory will share a devotion to help us reflect on what we've heard. Thank you for joining us for this service and may the Holy Spirit use this time to draw you closer to Jesus!

Pre-Service Music

Easter Proclamation:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

We Greet One Another

We Sing: "This Easter Celebration" (stanzas 3-5)

(byCarolynn Winfrey Gillette, 2020 – permission granted)

1 This Easter celebration is not like ones we've known.
We pray in isolation, we sing the hymns alone.
We're distant from our neighbors — from worship leaders, too.
No flowers grace the chancel to set a festive mood.

2 No gathered choirs are singing; no banners lead the way.
O God of love and promise, where's joy this Easter Day?
With sanctuaries empty, may homes become the place
we ponder resurrection and celebrate your grace.

**3 Our joy won't come from worship that's in a crowded room
but from the news of women who saw the empty tomb.
Our joy comes from disciples who ran with haste to see —
who heard that Christ is risen, and then, by grace, believed.**

**4 In all the grief and suffering, may we remember well:
Christ suffered crucifixion and faced the powers of hell.
Each Easter bears the promise: Christ rose that glorious day!
Now nothing in creation can keep your love away.**

**5 We thank you that on Easter, your church is blessed to be
a scattered, faithful body that's doing ministry.
In homes and in the places of help and healing, too,
we live the Easter message by gladly serving you.**

Invocation and Opening Verses: (Romans 6:9; John 20:29b)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. **Alleluia!**

We Confess Our Sins: (Psalm 85:1-2. 7)

LORD, You were favorable to Your land;
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of Your people;
You covered all their sin.

Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us Your salvation.

Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious Lord.

Almighty God, in humility and repentance we come before You. With shame and regret we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have not lived up to our calling as Your peaceable people. We have not done the good You desire and have not been the people You would have us be. We are truly sorry for our sins in thought, word, and deed. Have mercy on us, merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son. Forgive us all that needs Your forgiving grace, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, direct us to serve You faithfully all our days through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 Jesus, your sins are forgiven. God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you in ways of peace and joy, and bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Introit – Opening Psalm: *Psalm 105:1-5, 8; refrain: 1 Peter 2:2-3*

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;

make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

Seek the Lord and his strength;

seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

He remembers his covenant forever,

the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

(continued)

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

We Sing: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

New Testament Reading: Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Devotion: *Speaking of Jesus*

We Sing: "The Day of Resurrection" (stanzas 1 & 3)



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
△ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.
All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!
And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Devotion: *Living Hope in Jesus*

We Sing: "O Sons and Daughters of the King" (stanzas 1 & 5-7)



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



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

**5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

¹⁹On 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." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

Children's Message & Devotion: *Jesus, My Lord and My God!*

Prayers for our Neighbors & Ourselves

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.

Closing Prayer:

Faithful God, whose mercies are new to us every morning, we humbly pray that You would look upon us in mercy and renew us by Your Holy Spirit. Keep safe our going out and our coming in, and let Your blessing remain with us throughout this day. Preserve us in Your righteousness, and grant us a portion in that eternal life which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Benediction:

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**

Announcements (see last page)

We Sing: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (stanzas 1 & 4 – see next page)

We Sing: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (stanzas 1 & 4)



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.
heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.
Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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Easter Proclamation:

**Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

St. Matthew Announcements

Church Calendar:

- Sunday, April 19 – 10:30 a.m. Bible Study: Prayer in Times of Distress (Facebook Live)
- Wednesday, April 22 – 6:30 p.m. Devotions (Facebook Live)
- Wednesday, April 22 – 7:30 p.m. Ignite Youth (Zoom Meeting)
- Thursday, April 23 – 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live)
- Thursday, April 23 – 6:30 p.m. Catechism (Zoom Meeting)
- Sunday, April 26 – 9:15 a.m. Mission Festival with Guest Preacher, Rev. Brent Smith
- Wednesday, April 29 – 6:30 p.m. Devotions (Facebook Live)
- Wednesday, April 29 – 7:30 p.m. Ignite Youth (Zoom Meeting)
- Thursday, April 30 – 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Facebook Live)
- Thursday, April 30 – 6:30 p.m. Catechism (Zoom Meeting)
- Sunday, May 3 – 9:15 a.m. Worship (Facebook) & 10:30 a.m. Bible Study (Zoom)

Email Addresses: Do we have your most up-to-date email address? If not, please email stmatthewwarrens@gmail.com so that we can stay in communication with you. Thank you!

Options for Contributing Offerings:

- *Thank you* for supporting St. Matthew's ministry as the COVID-19 pandemic and Safer at Home order continue. To send a check through the mail, please mail to St. Matthew's business address, P.O. Box 432, Tomah, WI 54660, or to our physical address, 4285 US Hwy 12, Warrens, WI 54666.
- If you would like a copy of St. Matthew's automatic withdrawal form, please email stmatthewwarrens@gmail.com.
- E-Giving is now up and running! If you would like the link for our online E-giving, please contact the church office. (It will also be available through our new website.)
- E-Giving is also available through the Give Plus smartphone app. Download the app and type in our zip code (54666) to get started.

Ministry by Mail: We have received a \$250 grant from Thrivent Financial for Ministry by Mail. If you or a loved one would like to receive devotional resources or CD recordings of services through the mail, please contact Pastor Kory at pastorkory.stmatthew@gmail.com.

Under Construction – New Church Website: We continue to work on our new church website in hopes of launching it very soon. This new website will be streamlined and easy to navigate. It will feature audio recordings of services, links to live-streaming, an accessible church calendar, and much more as we continue to add more content to the website. Stay tuned!

Spring Cleaning: Would you like to help out with spring cleaning around the church property? If so, please contact the church office to coordinate efforts. Thank you!

Pedaling for the Pantry: Many families are relying on food banks at this time. Pastor Kory is planning to "Pedal for the Pantry" by riding 50 miles on his bike in support of the Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry in Tomah. His goal is to raise \$500 for the pantry. If you are interested in making a pledge, please contact Pastor Kory. Please make checks payable to Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry. Weather permitting the date for the ride is this Sat., April 25.