

Bulletin Deadline

Please send all information for the Sunday Bulletin and the Weekly Newsletter to Pastor Tim (stmaximos@aol.com). There is no guarantee that information sent after Wednesday will make it in Sunday's bulletin. **Thank you.**

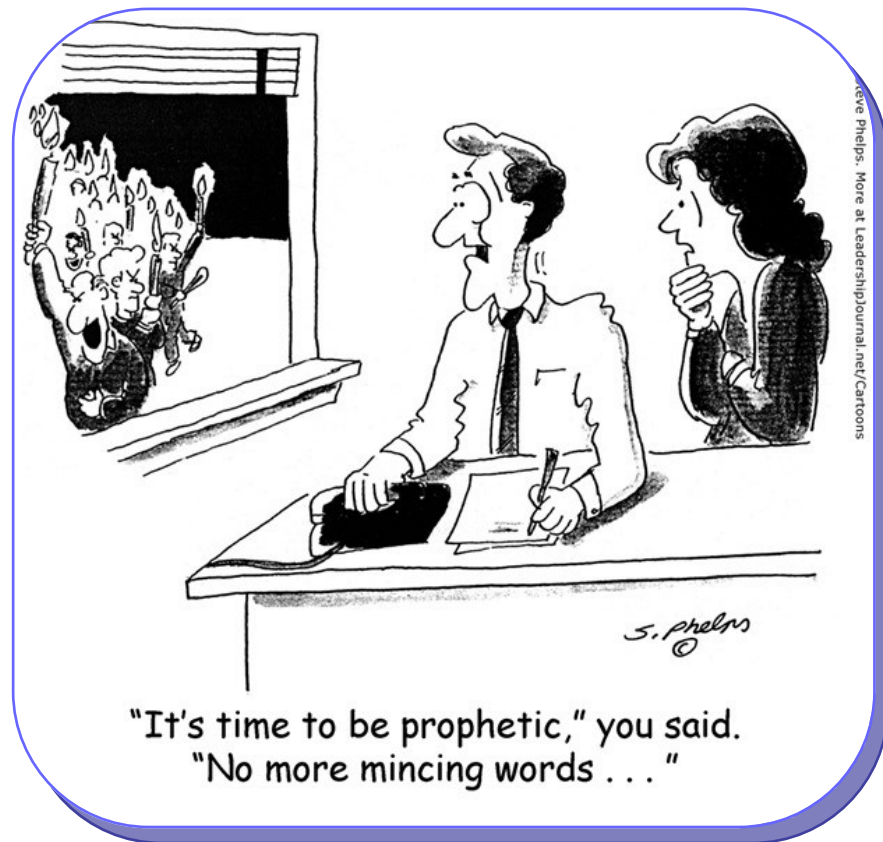
Check out our Web Site (www.giftofgracelc.org)

For more information about Gift of Grace Lutheran Church check our website. Pastor Tim is also available for calls and pastoral visits.

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church

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GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Second Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2020

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

Prelude	
Announcements	
Centering Song..... “He Is Lord”	see next page
Brief Order for Confession.....	Page 77
Gathering Hymn..... “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”	No. 143
Pastoral Greeting/Kyrie.....	Page 78
Hymn of Praise..... “Worthy Is Christ”	Page 81
Prayer of the Day	Page 82
First Lesson	Acts 5:29-42
Psalmody..... Psalm 148.....	Page 288
Second Lesson.....	1 Peter 1:3-9
Alleluia Verse	Page 83
Holy Gospel	John 20:19-31
The Message	The Risen Christ First Appears to His Disciples
Hymn of the Day..... “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”	No. 675*
Nicene Creed.....	Page 84
The Prayers	(Printed in Bulletin)..... Page 85
The Peace.....	Page 86
Offering	
Offertory..... “Let the Vineyards be Fruitful Lord”	Page 86
Offertory Prayer	Page 87
The Great Thanksgiving.....	Page 88
Holy, Holy, Holy.....	Page 89
Lord’s Prayer..... (Traditional).....	Page 91
Distribution	
Lamb of God	Page 92
Communion Hymn..... “Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”	No. 671*
Post Comm. Canticle..... “Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise”	Page 92
Post Comm. Prayer.....	Page 94
Benediction	Page 95
Sending Hymn..... “Earth and All Stars”	No. 558

*WOV - With One Voice (Blue Hymnal)

Announcements

Sunday, 4/19 The Second Sunday of Easter

8:00am Choir Practice-*Not Gathering at this time*
9:00am Divine Service-*Not Gathering at this time*
10:45am Adult Class-*Not Gathering at this time*

Sunday, 4/26 The Third of Easter

8:00am Choir Practice-*Not Gathering at this time*
9:00am Divine Service-*Not Gathering at this time*
10:45am Adult Class-*Not Gathering at this time*

Welcome to Guests and Visitors!

We are so glad you joined us for worship this morning! If you are not familiar with Lutheran Worship it may help to know that page numbers in the bulletin’s order of worship are found at the bottom of the page in the hymnal, while hymn numbers are found at the top.

Concerning Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive the Lord’s Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Anyone else wishing to receive a blessing may also come forward during this time. Simply cross your arms over your chest (heart) as the Pastor and Servers come near you and the Pastor will pronounce a blessing over you.

The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

Take full advantage of the prayer resource we send you each week. Do it with someone else as much as possible. Give the daily Psalms and readings a good workout.

Today's Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister	Tom Rislow
Reader	Jarrold Roll
Crucifer	Dawson Staff
Acolyte	Drew Staff
Ushers	Wendell Halderson
Counters	Heather Roll/Connie Meunier
Communion Assistant	Jarrold Roll
Accompanist	Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship	tba

April 26, 2020 Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister	Mike Meunier
Reader	Connie Meunier
Crucifer	Jed Roll
Acolyte	Asher Roll
Ushers	Tom Kruse
Counters	Jane Kruse/Nikki Hanson
Communion Assistant	Leslie Duesenberg
Accompanist	Tom Rislow
Fellowship	tba

April Attendance And Giving

	<u>Attend</u>	<u>Gen Giving</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Plus/Minus</u>	<u>Building</u>
Apr 03.....0	\$2,305.00	\$2,046.00	\$259.00	\$210.00	
Apr 10.....0	\$3,140.00	\$2,046.00	\$1,094.00	\$600.00	
Apr 17.....					
Apr 24.....					
Running Total.....	\$5,445.00	\$4,092.00	\$1,353.00	\$810.00	
YTD Total.....	\$27,965.55	\$30,690.00	(\$2,724.45)	\$11,515.81	
				\$97,423.26	

He is Lord; He is Lord;
 He is risen from the dead and He is Lord!
 Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord.

First Lesson: Acts 5:29-42

The Apostles will not refrain from the command of their Lord to proclaim the Gospel even if forbidden by the civil authorities.

The First Lesson is from the 5th chapter of Acts...

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 148 (page 288)

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Through Jesus Christ, we now have a living hope and know the promise of God that we will live in him forever. We can face any trial or challenge, knowing that we are safe in his care.

The Second Lesson is from the 1st chapter of 1st Peter...

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31

The once-crucified Jesus appears to his disciples, commissioning them for their work and equipping them with the Holy Spirit. A week later he appears before a skeptical Thomas, who upon seeing Jesus is moved to confess him as Lord and God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter. **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

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.

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

Prayers of the Faithful

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence

Lord Jesus, breathe your Holy Spirit upon the Church, and fill it with your peace. Test and purify the Church, so that you are constantly praised, honored and glorified in all it says and does. Use it to bring many to a sure and joyful faith in you, the Author of salvation. We ask this especially for the Orthodox Church. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Breathe your Holy Spirit upon Christians who are persecuted for naming you as Lord, so that they act and speak in ways that glorify you. Give them the faith of the apostles, who rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor on account of your holy Name. We especially pray for Didi Panzo and the recovery of his sight. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless this congregation with the imperishable inheritance that you have won for all who trust in you. Make our faith genuine and our worship joyful. Increase our love for you and for one another. Let our words be gracious and our deeds be generous. In all things, may our lives be filled with your holy love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We plead on behalf of the many people who are quarantined and isolated because of exposure to the Covid-19, Corona virus; for everyone who is already ill; and for those who are at the greatest risk of severe illness or death. Hide them under the shadow of your wings, and grant them healing and hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your glory is proclaimed in the heavens and throughout the universe. Cause this world, so broken and wounded by sin, suffering and sorrow, to also praise you. Turn every heart, especially of the rulers of the nations, to seek your will. Bestow the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, so that we might accomplish it. We especially pray for our President, Donald Trump and our Governor, Tony Evers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give wings to the words of your missionaries, and bless and guide the teachings of all within our seminaries, colleges, and schools. Help them to speak and to live the Good News of Jesus' resurrection with confidence and charity. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift before you everyone who has been grieved by various trials to body, mind, heart or spirit. We especially pray for Birger Eklov, Cynthia Granger, Carol Halderson, Janet Sisul, Doris Stanke, Marge Wangen, Phil Webber, and those we now name before you... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Moment of silence for individual petitions and intercessions

O risen Savior, we entrust into your care our beloved dead. Comfort all whose grief runs deep. Fill our hearts with hope, joy, and unshakable confidence in the precious inheritance you have stored up for all who trust in you. Breathe your Holy Spirit on us, so that we may forgive one another and live together in your peace. Bring us into your presence, where we may gaze upon your glory and goodness, and may forever adore you, our Lord and our God. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, Merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**