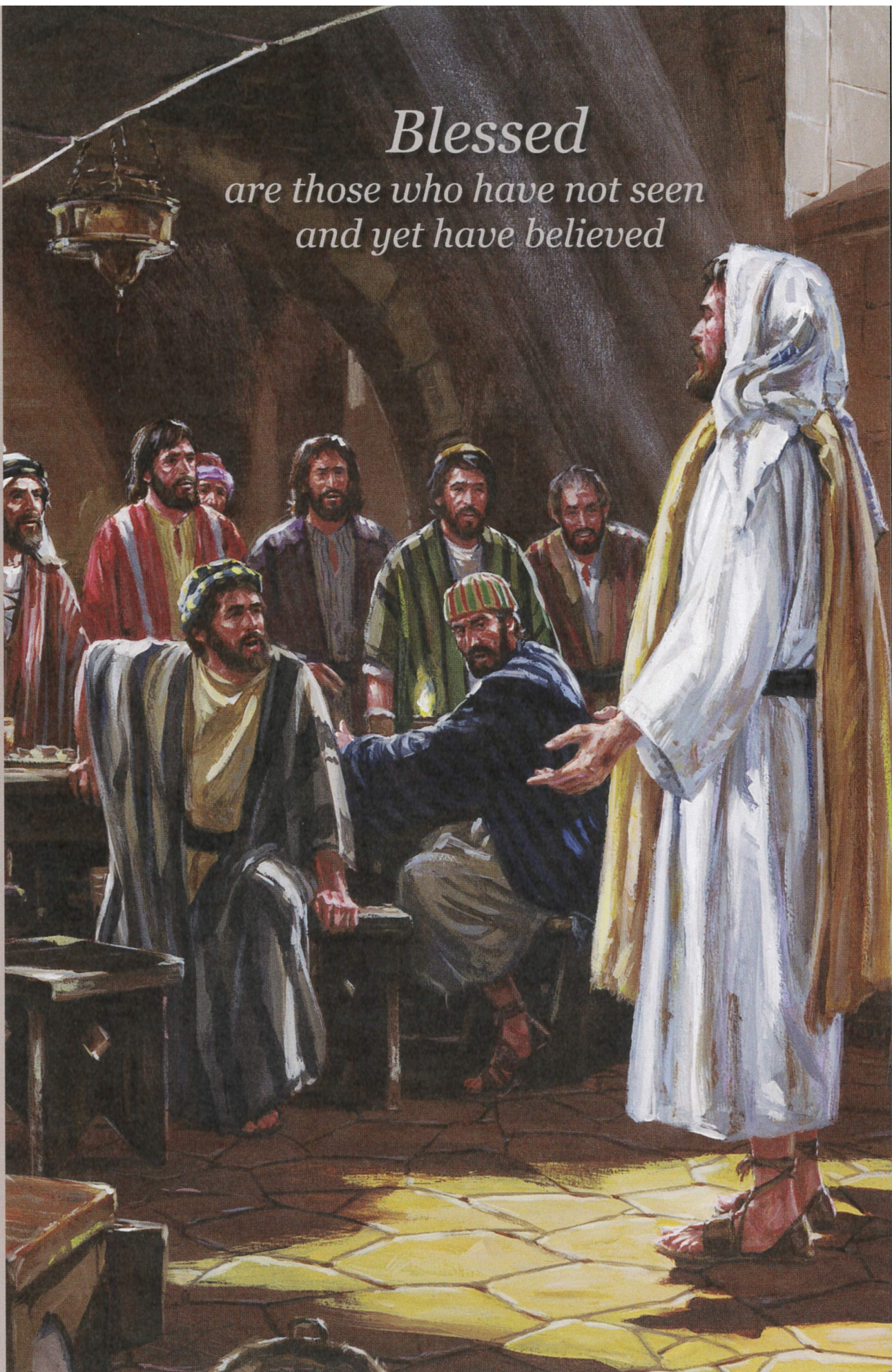


**Lord of Life Lutheran Church  
Plano, Texas**

*Blessed  
are those who have not seen  
and yet have believed*





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## **Lord of Life Lutheran Church**

3601 W. 15th Street, Plano, Texas 75075

Rev. Joel A. Shaltanis, Pastor ([pastorshaltanis@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorshaltanis@yahoo.com))

Scott Peters, Director of Youth Ministry ([speters@planolutheran.com](mailto:speters@planolutheran.com))

(972) 867-5588

[www.planolutheran.com](http://www.planolutheran.com) † [office@planolutheran.com](mailto:office@planolutheran.com)

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### **Our Mission Statement**

Bring people into a living relationship with Jesus Christ by

- † reaching up to God in worship and prayer,
- † reaching in to be empowered by God's Word as members of His family &
- † reaching out at every opportunity with the Gospel of Christ.

### **A Prayer before Worship**

*O Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world, look upon us and have mercy upon us; You are Yourself both Victim and Priest, Yourself both Reward and Redeemer, keep safe from all evils those whom you have redeemed, O Savior of the world. Amen.*  
(St. Irenaeus of Lyons, d. c. 200.)

### **Large Print Bulletin and Children's Bulletin**

Copies of today's bulletin are available in LARGE PRINT. Children's Activity Bulletins are also available. Please ask an usher if you would like to use either of these options.

### **Nursery/Cry Room**

The nursery is available for families with young children ages 2 and under in Room 109. It will not be staffed until further notice. Or, if you prefer, Room 100 also is available as a cry room and/or a room for nursing mothers. Please ask an usher if you need assistance or directions.

### **Education**

Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible Classes are offered at 9:30 am. We encourage all worshipers to choose a class from the listing at the back of our bulletin and actively study God's Word.

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## Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

8:00 AM and 10:45 AM

Divine Service III – *LSB 184*

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### Prelude

*Stand*

### Entrance Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

*LSB 475*



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to  
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:  
strew His way; Let all the world 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!  
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!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd., admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005220

### Children's Talk

*Scott Peters*

### Invocation, Confession, and Absolution

*LSB 184*

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b, [18:20]*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*[Hebrews 10:22]*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Psalms 124:8*

- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Psalm 32:5*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

- C** Amen.

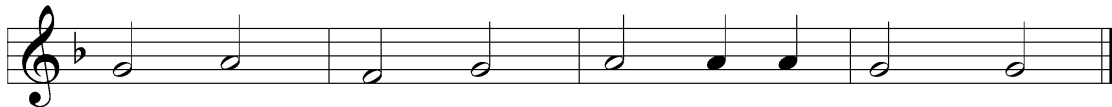
### +++Service of the Word+++

#### Kyrie

*Mark 10:47; LSB 186*



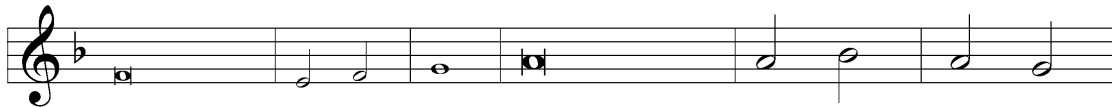
**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

#### Gloria in Excelsis

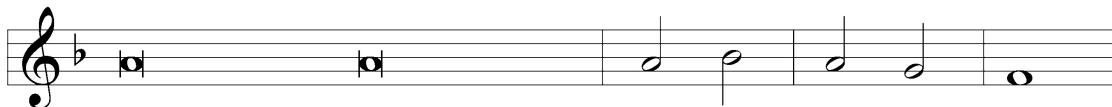
*Luke 2:14, John 1:29; LSB 187*



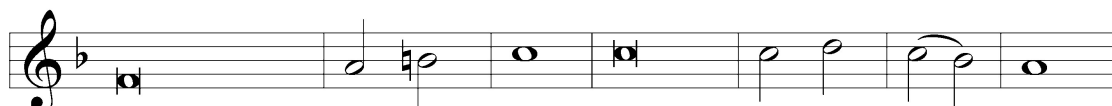
**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

*2 Timothy 4:22; LSB 189*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

*Acts 5:12–20*

<sup>12</sup>Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. <sup>13</sup>None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. <sup>14</sup>And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup>so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. <sup>16</sup>The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

<sup>17</sup>But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy <sup>18</sup>they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. <sup>19</sup>But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, <sup>20</sup>"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Revelation 1:4–18*

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup>and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

<sup>9</sup>I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet <sup>11</sup>saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

<sup>12</sup>Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup>his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.



<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup>and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

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

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>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.”

<sup>26</sup>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.” <sup>27</sup>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.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

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

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

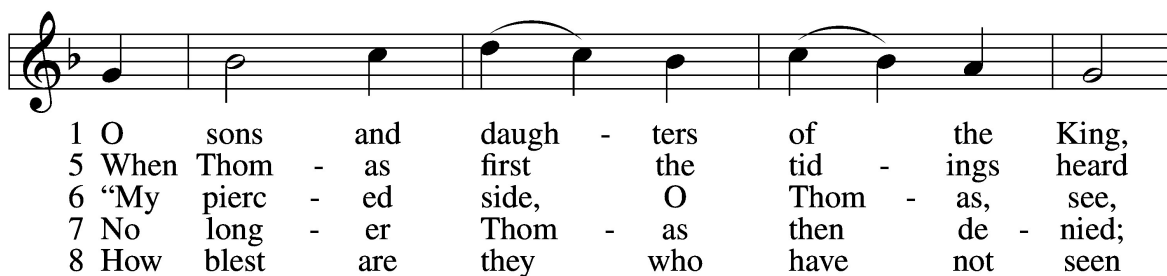
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\text{✝}$  everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

## Hymn of the Day

“O Sons and Daughters of the King”

*LSB 471 sts. 1, 5–7*





*The Refrain is repeated after st. 9.*



grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!  
the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!  
but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!  
Lord and God!" he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!  
ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent.

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Offertory

*Psalm 51:10-12; LSB 192*



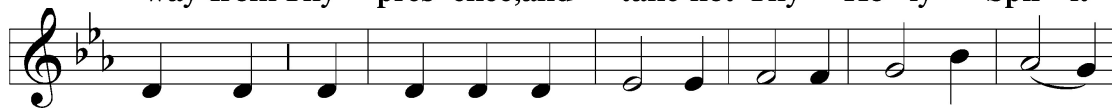
**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

*Sit*

*(Ordinarily, this is the time to collect our offerings. As we are forgoing passing a plate, an offering plate has been placed at the rear of the sanctuary. You may also mail your offerings or contribute online from our website's "Giving" link or with this QR code.)*

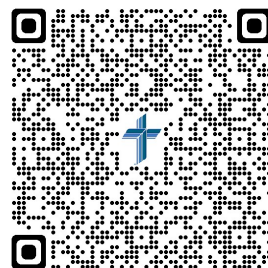
*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13; LSB196*

**C**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.



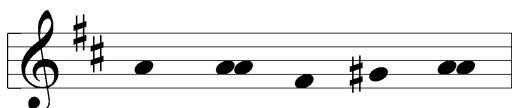
## Collect for Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Salutation and Benedicamus

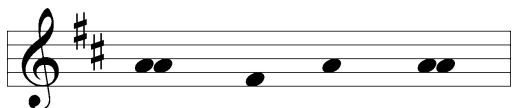
*2 Timothy 4:22; Psalm 103:1*



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



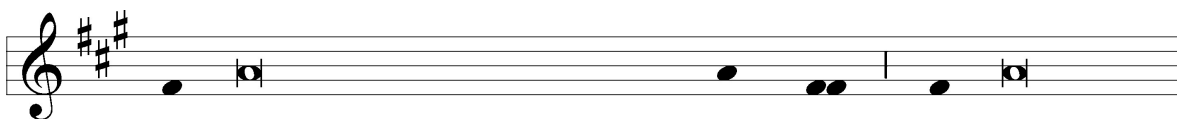
**A** Bless we the Lord.



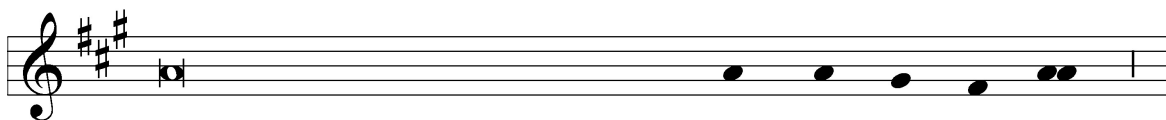
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

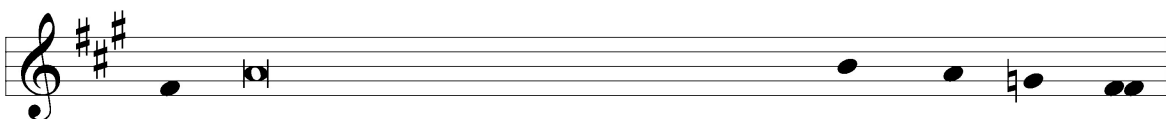
*Numbers 6:24-26*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.



## Recessional Hymn

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

LSB 487



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad-ness!  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,  
4 For to - day a-mong His own Christ ap-peared, be - stow - ing  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry To our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,  
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;  
With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;  
His deep peace, which ev - er - more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark por - tal.



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing  
Comes to glad - den faith-ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion  
Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal  
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
Nor the watch-ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.  
God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547

*Sit*

## Announcements

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

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An offering may be placed in the offering plate as you exit.

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## A Prayer after Worship

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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## Sunday School - Children K - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Sunday school classes begin at 9:25 am in Room 116 for music. At 10:30 am parents may pick up K – 5th graders from Room 113.

## IMPACT Bible Class

Students meet at 9:30 am with Scott Peters in Room 122 for a Bible study, *FUSION*.

## Adult Bible Class

Pastor Shaltanis leads a discussion of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the LCMS in the fellowship hall at 9:30ish. He will continue the study over the Gospel of Mark next week.

## Adult Bible Class Small Group Alternative

Mike Kunschke leads a study on the book of Ecclesiastes. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend this class at 9:30 am in Room 114, just let Mike know.

## Voters' Assembly next Sunday

Next Sunday after the late service, we will hold our biannual voters' assembly. The focus for the May meeting is the election of officers. An agenda and a slate of candidates is available in the narthex and on our website: [planolutheran.com/voters-meeting/](http://planolutheran.com/voters-meeting/).

## IMPACT Youth Ministry Dinner Parties

There are 2 remaining small dinners planned in May and June. A reservation table has been placed in the narthex with the dates and potential dinner menus. Each four course dinner will be a party of 10 on a Friday or Saturday night and take place at the home of Scott and Jonelle Peters.



Registration is now open for the **LWML Texas District 42<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Convention** at the Hyatt Regency Houston West, June 16-18, 2022. All information including the registration, agenda, mission grant proposals for 2022-2024, hotel reservations, is on the LWML Texas District web page, [lwmltxdist.org](http://lwmltxdist.org).

## Life Thought in the Church Year

The patient gentleness of Jesus with Thomas extends joy to him and not judgment. In like manner the Savior's forgiveness embraces also hearts guilty and grieving because of aborting their own children or accelerating their parent's death. "Peace be with you," Jesus says to you who have participated in violence against life, "receive My absolution and My Holy Spirit." Come, praise Him who has made you precious alongside men and maidens, infants and aged (Psalm 148:12)!

## CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org

Begin studying the book of Acts on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study various Psalms on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study Article XVI: Civil Government in the Augsburg Confession (4/30 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and on the KFUE Radio app!

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# CARL FERDINAND WILHELM WALTHER

## *Pastor, Professor and Synod Founder*

BORN: **OCTOBER 25, 1811** *Langenchursdorf, Saxony, Germany*

DIED: **MAY 7, 1887** *Saint Louis, Missouri*

**O**F ALL THE FOUNDERS of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the best known is C.F.W. Walther — and deservedly so. Walther was the Synod's first president; president and professor at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; pastor of the first four Lutheran churches in St. Louis; and the Synod's most prominent and influential theologian.

Walther's story begins in Germany. He was born into a pastor's family, and his formal education equipped him to follow his father's footsteps into the ministry of the Lutheran church. And so he did. He was ordained on January 15, 1837, and installed as pastor of a small rural parish.

By that time, Walther was under the influence of Pastor Martin Stephan, who had given him comforting spiritual advice while Walther was a student. So when Stephan sent word that it was time for everyone to leave the corrupt Lutheran church in Germany for the United States, where they could confess the faith and practice it freely according to the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions, Walther decided to go. There were several other young pastors and would-be pastors, along with members of the congregations they served, who joined the Stephanite migration in 1838–39, about 700 people in all.

By the spring of 1839, they had made it to Missouri, founded the first Lutheran church in St. Louis, and purchased land about a hundred miles south of St. Louis in order to establish communities and congregations committed to pure Lutheranism. Then disaster struck.

A handful of women in the congregation confessed to sexual immorality with Pastor Stephan. Although he denied the charges, the clergy and lay

leadership, including Walther, believed the women and exiled Stephan from their midst.

But now what? Several of the clergy, including Walther, felt very guilty for following a hypocrite and for misleading people into abandoning their homeland. Walther himself fell seriously ill and had to give up his ministry.

During his convalescence, however, Walther devoted himself to studying the Scriptures, the Confessions and Luther himself, so that, about two years after Stephan's fall, Walther began providing biblical answers about the situation of the Saxons. At just about the same time, the St. Louis congregation called him as their pastor. A few years later he began publishing a church paper, *Der Lutheraner*, with a motto that summarized Walther's theology: "God's Word and Luther's doctrine shall never pass away." These twin commitments summarize his preaching, teaching and writing.

By the time the Missouri Synod began in 1847, Walther was already recognized as a gifted theologian. The Synod chose him to be its first president and a few years later to lead the seminary.

**For more information about the 175th anniversary of the LCMS, visit [lcms.org/175](https://lcms.org/175).**



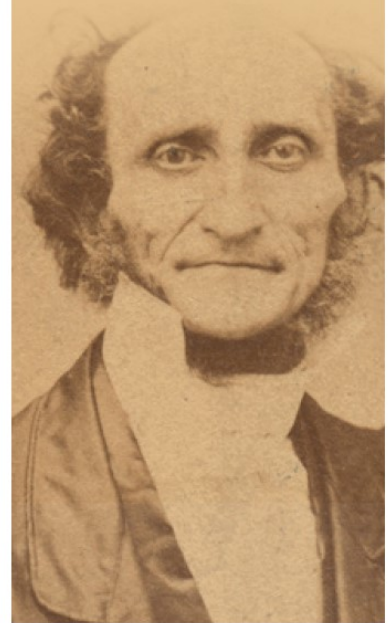
### DISCOVER MORE

Lewis W. Spitz, Sr.  
*The Life of Dr. C. F. W. Walther.*

August R. Suelflow.  
*Servant of the Word: The Life and Ministry of C. F. W. Walther.*

Walter O. Forster.  
*Zion on the Mississippi: The Settlement of the Saxon Lutherans in Missouri 1839–1841.*

**Walther Exhibit**  
at Concordia Historical Institute,  
Clayton, Missouri.



1847  2022

**ONLY JESUS**  
NO OTHER NAME

– 175 YEARS –

# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



## What is a “steward”?

A steward is someone who has been put in charge of something. For example, if you are a babysitter, you are a steward for the parents of the child you are watching. We have been entrusted as stewards, or keepers, of God’s creation. That means that He has given us everything we have, and out of love for Him, we use all things for His will. This includes giving of our time, talents, money and all that we have in service to Him.

## Why do Christians give?

Like everyone else, we belong to God because He created us and sustains us. As Christians we belong to His kingdom of salvation through our Baptism. God’s love motivates us to give of what we have. We don’t give because we owe God for all He has done for us in Jesus. Instead, we give because of the powerful Gospel that is working within us! Wow! God really strengthens us for wonderful service!



**Parents:** Before or after the service, discuss stewardship with your children. Remind them why we give. Help them to discover how they might give of what they have. Encourage them to set aside a certain portion of their own money each week to give. They will experience the joy of giving first-hand.





## Serving Our Worship Today:

Pastor:	Pastor Joel Shaltanis
Organist:	Paul Grabow
Greeters:	Phaedra Shaltanis, Mark and Kathy Plagens
Elder:	Tim Ozlowski, Greg Moudy
Ushers:	David Messinger, Sam Carter
Sound:	Brian Wolf, Randy Rippey

## This Week at Lord of Life-Today, April 24, 2022

8:00 am	Early Worship Service
9:30 am	Children's Sunday School (K-5 <sup>th</sup> Gr, Room 113) IMPACT Class (Room 122) Adult Bible Class (Fellowship Hall) Adult Bible Small Class (Room 114)
10:45 am	Late Worship Service
12:00 pm	College Bible Study

Tuesday, April 26

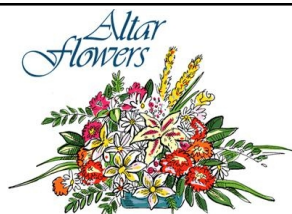
12:00 pm	Women's Bible Study
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Wednesday, April 27

10:00 am	Midweek Bible Study
7:00 pm	Adult Choir

## Next Sunday's Readings May 1, 2022

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 9:1-22  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Rev. 5:(1-7) 8-14  
Gospel: John 21:1-14(15-19)



The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Ben and Melanie Scarth in celebration of Rix's birthday; and by Charis Bennett in memory of Francis Buckmeier.



Easter

**About the Cover:** Thomas and the other disciples saw, believed, and gave their eyewitness testimony concerning the resurrection of Christ. While we may feel at a disadvantage today in comparison to those first disciples who saw Jesus, nothing could be further from the truth. Jesus says that those who have not seen but believe are blessed. His Word, by the power of the Holy Spirit, has worked faith within us to trust in Christ as our Lord and Savior. As such, we receive all the benefits and promises of Christ!