

**We must
OBEY
GOD
rather than
— ANY —
HUMAN
AUTHORITY.**

ACTS 5:29, NRSV



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

“WHO MATTERS MORE?”

REV. PETER C. WILLIAMSON

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025 IN THE SANCTUARY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
“WHO MATTERS MORE?”
REV. PETER C. WILLIAMSON
7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025

AS WE GATHER Proof is surely what we want, but instead of the kind of proof that would remove the need for faith, God gives us His own marks of suffering to satisfy our fears. We find our refuge in the wounds of Christ. Thomas found them and the doubter became a believer. All of us find answers to the troubles and trials of this mortal life in the wounds of Christ, and from these wounds we confess to the world, “My Lord and my God!” Don’t let your doubts and fears drive you away from Jesus. Go to Him with them all, and He has promised to build us up in faith.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC “I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” *Haan*
“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” *Hopson*
“O Sons and Daughters” *Bender & Leavitt*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen” *LSB 474*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk-ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep-ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen-dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break-ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: “O grave, be
ru - sa-lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -

ever! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - don us in light.
 an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:
 Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - - ia!

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INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

KYRIE

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Gloria in Excelsis"

LSB p.204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-32

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.¹³ None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem.¹⁴ And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,¹⁵ 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.¹⁶ The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.¹⁷ But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy¹⁸ they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison.¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said,²⁰ "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."²¹ And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought.²² But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported,²³ "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside."²⁴ Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to.²⁵ And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people."²⁶ Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them,²⁸ saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us."²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree.³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Revelation 1:4-18

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,⁵ 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 blood⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.⁷ 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.⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”⁹ 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.¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet¹¹ 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.”¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands,¹³ 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.¹⁴ The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire,¹⁵ his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.¹⁶ 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.¹⁷ 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,¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that
Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
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 Glory to You, O Lord.

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.”²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”²² 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 anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ 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.”²⁶ 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.”²⁷ 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.” 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

C 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 worshipped 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.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF THE DAY

"He's Risen, He's Risen"

LSB 480



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
△ 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.
The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.
For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.
With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811-87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867-1941, alt. Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811-87 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005874 Tune: Public domain

SERMON

"Who Matters More?"

Rev. Peter C. Williamson

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Krapf

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (After each petition, the following is said...)

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB p.208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him. Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI HYMN

LSB p.210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God, Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, us Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Christ invites all repentant sinners to partake in His feast of forgiveness – the Lord’s Supper. LCMS communicant members are invited to examine their faith using pages 329-330 in the hymnal and receive the Savior’s body and blood. Grape juice is available in the center of the trays in lieu of wine. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Visitors wishing to commune should see a pastor or an elder before service. We ask this because we love you.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

LSB 549

DISMISSAL

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB p.211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the be - gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is -

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENDICAMUS

- A** Let us bless 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 on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and  give you peace.
- C** Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

Blersch

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Peter C. Williamson, Associate Pastor*

ORGANIST: *Adele Bluhm*

ELDERS: *7:30am—Bob Zimmerman, Tim Rock; 9am—Ted Gruhn, Jerry Rhoden*

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

TRADITIONAL/BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY—

7:30am & 9am Sunday

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER (SLC)—

5pm Saturday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 10:15am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 10:15am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School and our Childcare (infant through 13 years).
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

Automated Giving Options




Trinity Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL

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MISSION & VISION STATEMENT: *Teach the Faith—Love the Lost—Connect all to Christ*

