



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

“NEVER BEYOND A DOUBT”

REV. DR. DENNIS W. PEGORSCH

8AM & 9:30AM SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021 IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

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FOCUS We tend to look for things to make faith easier. Signs, wonders, or just little hints here and there would help. But the disciples had all these things and heard Jesus promise His resurrection, and still they gathered behind the locked doors of their fears. What we do have is Christ, His Word that bestows and sustains our faith, and His Holy Sacrament wherein He feeds us with His body and blood. Though we have not seen with our eyes, we see with faith and join with doubting Thomas to confess, “My Lord and my God!”

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives” *Callahan/Rotermund*
“The Strife Is O’er” *Lohmeyer*

RINGING of the BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

LSB 464

Refrain

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

1 The strife is o’er, the bat - tle done;
2 The pow’rs of death have done their worst,
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,
4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell;
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,

Now is the vic - tor’s tri - umph won;
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.
The bars from heav’n’s high por - tals fell.
From death’s dread sting Thy ser - vants free



The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.

Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let hymns of praise His tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
 That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

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INVOCATION

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

- L** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:6-10

- L** If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,
C **we lie and do not practice the truth.**
L But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,
C **and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**
L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
L If we say we have not sinned,
C **we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.**
L Almighty and everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy, You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**
L Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

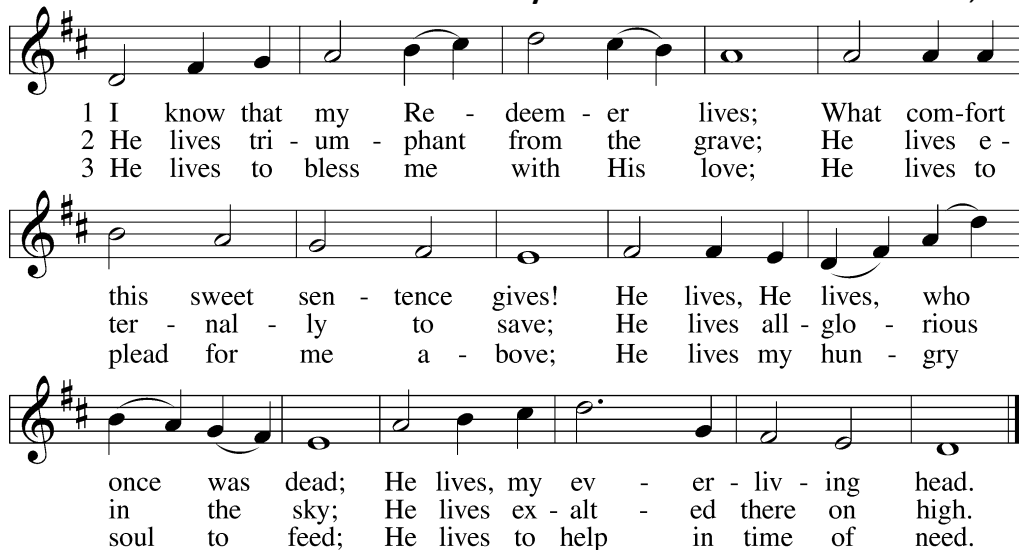
L Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

HYMN of PRAISE “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” *LSB 461, v.1-3*



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry

once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.

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SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L 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 4:32-35

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.³³ And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.³⁴ 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 sold³⁵ and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING "The Day of Resurrection"

arr. Larkin

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,

The passover of gladness, The passover of God.

From death to life, From sin's dominion free, Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright

The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light

Hear His voice, so calm and plain, His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Let the heav'ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,

Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.

Let all things, Their notes of gladness blend; Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!

Praise we God the Father, praise we Christ the Son, With the Holy Spirit Eternal Three in One!

Till all the number Fall down before His throne Honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!

Christ is risen!

EPISTLE

1 John 1:1-2:2

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—² 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—³ 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.⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.⁵ 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.⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.⁷ 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.⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 2 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.² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-29

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

L On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said:

C Peace be with you!

L After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. [Again Jesus said:]

C Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.

And with that he breathed on them [and said:]

C Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.

L Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him:

C We have seen the Lord!

L But he said to them:

C Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.

L A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said:

C **Peace be with you!**

L Then he said to Thomas:

C **Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe. “My Lord and my God!”**

L Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

A SPECIAL MESSAGE for the CHILDREN

HYMN of the DAY

“Were You There”

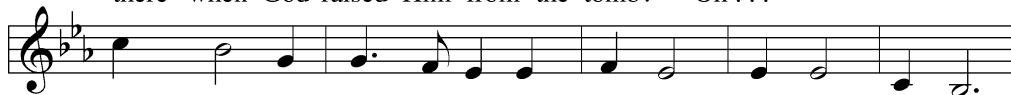
LSB 456



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you
3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you
4 Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb? Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh ...
there when they nailed Him to the tree? Oh ...
there when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh ...
there when God raised Him from the tomb? Oh ...



Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

SERMON

“Never Beyond a Doubt” Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Pegorsch

John 20:28-29—“Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’”

Have you ever had _____? (*Genesis 3:1-24*)

I. Our text today brings us to _____, a disciple of Jesus who, like _____, was a _____ and a _____. (*Luke 20:29*)

II. It has been said, “_____ your _____ and _____ your _____. (*Luke 20:25b & 28*)

III. Do you and I daily _____ in our lives?

IV. Yes! There are times we have relied on _____ like _____ and _____ leave _____ behind. (*Job 23:10*)

V. Faith is a _____ of _____!

Romans 10:17—“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

How Often!

How often we trust each other, and only doubt our Lord. We take the word of mortals, and yet distrust His word; But, oh, what light and glory would shine o'er all our days, If we always would remember God means just what He says.

—Selected

CREEDAL HYMN

“We All Believe in One True God”

LSB 953



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

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PRAYER of the CHURCH

L Merciful Father, at Your bidding we come to You in prayer, trusting in Your mercy to supply us with all that is needful and beneficial to us and for all for whom our prayers have been requested.

Silence the doubts that plague us and deliver us from fear, that believing in You we may know the full comfort of Your gracious presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

L Deliver us from pride and humble us by Your Spirit so that, confessing all our sins, we know the peace of a clear conscience and serve You with all our heart, mind, body, and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

L Make Your Church bold in the confession of Your name before the world and give Your blessing to all pastors and church workers as they accomplish Your bidding in their service to us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

L Give comfort, healing, patience, and strength to the sick, to those suffering a troubled mind, and to those carrying the heavy burden of grief, that they may know Your presence in their hour of need, [*especially . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

L Accept the praise and thanksgiving of our lips, the tithes and offerings we bring, and our labors for Your glory, that we not suffer from ingratitude or the pride that believes all we have is the fruit of our own work. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

L Remembering blessed Thomas and all the disciples, the saints and the martyrs, and those who taught us the faith and now rest from their labors, bring us with them through the day of trouble into the dawn of peace and the place of everlasting life and light through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

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.

PRAYER

- L** Almighty Father, Your patience toward us is great, and Your love is without limit. Grant to us grace that we, by the forgiveness of our sins, be kept holy and pure to the day of Christ's coming again, when we shall stand before the judgment seat on high; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICTION

Hebrews 13:20-21; Numbers 6:24-26

- L** Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.
- C** Amen.
- L** 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.

DISMISSAL

- L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

LSB 477



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic-tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—
Once He died, and once was bur-ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir-it, Fount of love and sanc-ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor-ship and a - dore.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

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POSTLUDE

“Hymn to Joy”

Costello

Acknowledgements

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Pegorsch, Pastor Emeritus*

LITURGIST: *Rev. Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor*

ORGANIST: *Mr. Rod Riese*

SOLOIST: *Mr. Matthew Hoehne, Director of Music*

ELDERS: *8am—Chad Schwantes; 9:30am—Skyler Lynn*

ACOLYTES: *8am—Sophia Goetsch; 9:30am—Jaidyn Calmes*

TECH: *8am—Sophia Blaser; 9:30am—Leah Dodson*

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 WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

8am & 9:30am Sunday

BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday & 11am Sunday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. 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 9:30am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 9:30am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School, our Childcare (infant through 13 years), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.
- **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.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.

VISION STATEMENT:

To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.