



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 7, 2024, Second Sunday of Easter

Pastor Erik Rundquist

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ’s love with each other and our community”

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Welcome to Worship this morning!

To receive Holy Communion, you may come to the front and receive the bread and wine or grape juice, you may ask an usher to have the pastor bring the elements to you in the pew, or you may pick up the cup/wafer in the narthex before the service and commune yourself at your seat.

Reminder: We are videoing “live”.

If you need a hearing device, they are on the usher’s table.

Please sign the pew pad and pass down the aisle. Thank You.



The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ’s presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

Prelude

Joanne Richards

Welcome

Hymn

“Great Is the Lord”

Screen

Verse: Great is the Lord He is holy and just By His power we trust in His love Great is the Lord He is faithful and true By His mercy He proves He is love

Chorus 1: Great is the Lord And worthy of glory Great is the Lord And worthy of praise Great is the Lord Now lift up your voice Now lift up your voice Great is the Lord

Chorus 2: Great are You Lord And worthy of glory Great are You Lord And worthy of praise Great are You Lord I lift up my voice I lift up my voice Great are You Lord

Ending: Great are You Lord Great are You Lord Great are You Lord Great are You Lord

CCLI Song # 1149

Deborah D. Smith | Michael W. Smith

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Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35

Carole Lahti

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Psalm 133

Carole Lahti

L: How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

C: It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

L: It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore

Second Lesson: 1 John 1:1-2:2

Carole Lahti

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}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; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia....."

Red Worship Book pg. 142

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord (Spoken)

Red Worship Book pg. 143

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven

them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt 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 come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of Our Lord

Red Worship Book pg. 143

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

Children’s Sermon
Sermon

Pastor Erik Rundquist
Pastor Erik Rundquist

Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

TOSB #55

Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness Great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning New mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me
Verse 1: Great is Thy faithfulness O God my Father There is no shadow Of turning with Thee Thou changest not Thy compassions they fail not As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be
Verse 2: Summer and winter And springtime and harvest Sun moon and stars In their courses above Join with all nature In manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness Mercy and love
Verse 3: Pardon for sin And a peace that endureth Thy own dear presence To cheer and to guide Strength And bright hope for tomorrow Blessings all mine With ten thousand beside

CCLI Song # 18723

Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan

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Prayers of Interecession

P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

P: Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain (*Craig, David, Larry Jerry, Bradley, Lana, Judy, and Marsha*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you (*especially Dietrich Bonhoeffer and all whose lives have been given in faithfulness to the gospel*). Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

Offering/Song

“Easter Song”

Screen

Verse: Hear the bells ringing they're singing That we can be born again Hear the bells ringing they're singing
Christ is risen from the dead The angel up on the tombstone said He is risen just as He said Quickly now go tell
His disciples That Jesus Christ is no longer dead

Chorus: Joy to the world He is risen alleluia He's risen alleluia He's risen alleluia alleluia (Alleluia)

CCLI Song # 12279

Anne Herring

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Offering Prayer

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

Nicene Creed

Red Worship Book pg. 104

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Red Worship Book pg. 145

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

“For Those Tears I Died”

Screen

Verse 1: You said You'd come And share all my sorrows You said You'd be there For all my tomorrows
I came so close To sending You away But just like You promised You came here to stay I just had to pray

Chorus: And Jesus said come to the water Stand by My side I know you are thirsty You won't be denied
I felt ev'ry teardrop When in darkness you cried And I strove to remind you That for those tears I died

Verse 2: Your goodness so great I can't understand And dear Lord I know That all this was planned I know
You're here now And always will be Your love loosed my chains And in You I'm free But Jesus why me

Verse 3: Jesus I give You My heart and my soul I know that without God I'd never be whole Savior You
opened All the right doors And I thank You and praise You From earth's humble shores Take me I'm Yours

Communion Hymn

Freely, Freely“

Screen

Verse 1: God forgave my sin in Jesus' name I've been born again in Jesus' name And in Jesus' name I come to
you To share His love as He told me to

Chorus: He said freely freely You have received Freely freely give Go in My name And because you believe
Others will know that I live

Verse 2: All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His pow'r as He told me to

Prayer after Communion

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

Hymn "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Red Worship Book 389

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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Dismissal

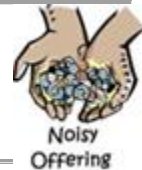
Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia

the worship is ended ... let the service begin...



****The Noisy offering for the month of April is for the Altar Guild, there will be a bowl as you exit the church.****



Prayer Concerns and Sympathy ~ ~ Craig Moline (son of Sharol Huggett), David Shober, Larry Edin, Jerry Shober, Bradley Fairbanks, Lana Jensen, Judy Smith, and Marsha Skoog (friend of Patty Sweeney).

For Health Care Workers, Firefighters, EMT's, those who serve to protect Policemen and women and military.

For world peace. For our companion synods.

For our missionaries: Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke

Announcements/Calendar

Sun. 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship; 9:30 am Sunday Worship/HC; Taste of New Orleans Meal-10:30-12:30 after Worship proceeds go to Youth Mission Trip.

Mon. NO 4 pm Women's Bible Study; 2 pm Kathy/Donna -Church Office Retreat at Camp Onomia- 2 pm Tues.; 5:30 pm All Boards.

Tues. 9:30 am Women's Bible Study; 2 pm-Church office retreat-Kathy/Donna done.

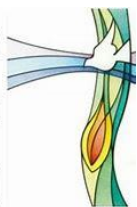
Wed. 4:30 pm FiA Choir; 5-6:30 pm FiA; 5:30-6 pm Confirmation Dinner; 6 pm Large Group Confirmation; 6:30 pm Worship Service/HC; 7 pm Confirmation Meeting-Parents and Youth.

Thurs.; 7 am Men's Coffee; 6:30 am Men's Text Study; 9 am Quilting; Mindy Youth Ministry training.

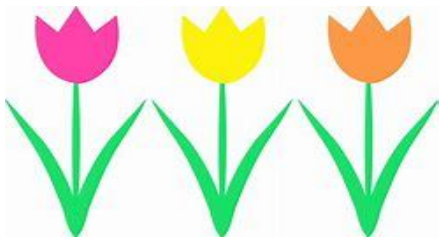
Sat. 8:30 am Kettle River WELCA Spring Gathering-Dell Grove Lutheran Church, Sandstone; 8 pm AA mtg.

Sun. 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship; 9:30 am Worship Service/HC/Bells; 2 pm Zoom mtg. for Synod Assembly.

Confirmation
Information
Meeting



7 pm Confirmation meeting
Parents and Youth
after Worship on April 10th



Kettle River Conference Spring Gathering

8:30 am Registration, Saturday, April 13th

Dell Grove Lutheran Church, Sandstone

8:30 am with suggested donation of \$10 to cover lunch and Conference expenses.

Theme: Reflecting God's Light Through Justice"

Verse: Isaiah 1:31 "And the strong shall be as a wick and the maker of it as a spark. And they shall both burn together and none shall quench them."

Program by Wendy Reaner Johnson, "It only Takes a Spark."

In-kind-gifts will be accepted for LWR Health Care Kits, Silent Auction, Offerings will go ½ shipping costs for LWR kits and quilts and ½ to Churchwide. Penny offering from local units is for Family Pathways Food Shelf. Love offerings and other Synodical Fund offerings can be brought to this gathering also.

Many thanks for all the prayers and cards that are helping me recover from my fall.

You've helped me so much!

Friends in Christ,

Pat (Richard) Anderson



Tuesday, April 16th at 11:15 am (after Bible Study)
Evangelism/Stewardship Board work meeting.



If you are the last one to leave the church,
PLEASE TURN *the thermostat to 65 degrees in heating season, and 75 degrees for air conditioning. Make sure all lights are turned off and the doors are locked.*

Thank You!