

Welcome to Tree of Life!

The members of Tree of Life extend to you a hearty welcome!

We are a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS: www.wels.net). As congregation of this synod, we are striving to be a family where God is glorified and his saving message is shared with all people. We don't claim to be the only saving church, but we do strive to preserve and pass on the truth as it's found in the Bible. We at Tree of Life believe and teach that...

1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, with no mistakes and no errors, his unchanging message to all people of all times:
"Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)
2. God created people holy and without sin, but by their own choice they disobeyed God and brought sin upon the whole human race: **"Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned." (Romans 5:12)**
3. The final result of sin is not only the end of our earthly life, but eternal death and separation from God in the agony of hell: **"The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23)**
4. The main and central message of the Bible is the gospel - the good news that: **"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but has eternal life." (John 3:16)**
5. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life in the place of every human being, and Jesus suffered the punishment of hell for the whole human race when he died on the cross:
"The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)
6. God the Holy Spirit creates and strengthens saving faith in Jesus Christ through the message about him in the Bible, in Baptism, and in the Lord's Supper: **"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the words of Christ." (Romans 10:17)**
7. Christians do good works, not in order to earn a place in heaven, but out of love and thanks to God who has already given them eternal life as a free gift through Jesus: **"I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free." (Psalm 119:32)**
8. Christians will want to gather together regularly around the Word of God for the strengthening of their own trust in Jesus and for encouraging each other in the faith: **"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the (final) Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)**
9. Christians want to carry out the Lord's great commission to spread the good news about Jesus to others: **"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." (Mark 16:15)**
10. When the Lord returns in judgment on the last day, he will raise all the dead and give the full glory of everlasting life in heaven to all who trusted in him as Savior: **"When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." (Colossians 3:4)**

*We invite you to worship with us again and we sincerely hope that you will accept this invitation.
If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.*

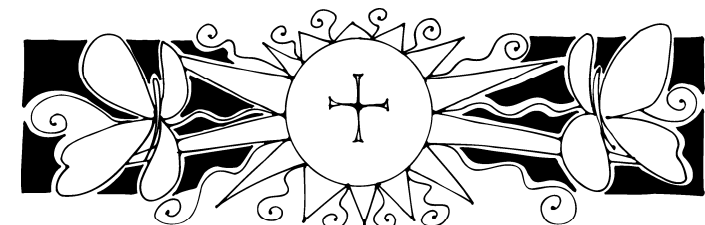


TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
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J O H N 2 0 : 2 7



Second Sunday Of Easter

Good Morning!

Today our opportunities to join in worship expand to two services! We are reminded of the glorious resurrection of Jesus which binds us all together in true faith. As we focus this week and next on the disciples after the resurrection, we see how the reality of Christ's resurrection changes doubt to faith.

Be blessed as you worship today!

Opening Hymn “At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing”
Christian Worship Hymn 141

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from his piercé side.
Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie.
You have conquered in the fight;
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days,
Three in One, your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And your saints in you shall rise.
Alleluia!

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*Setting: c 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

M: We begin our time of worship this morning in the name of the Living God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

M: Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Halleluiah!

Closing Hymn “May the Peace of God”
Christian Worship Supplement Hymn 745

Verse 1

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

Refrain

And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth
to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name
of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.

Verse 2

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his Communion
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

Refrain

And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth
to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name
of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.

“Thank The Lord” *Christian Worship page 36*

Thank the Lord and sing his praise.
Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re-joice
and proud-ly bear his name.

He re-news his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth
in joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

BLESSING

M: Let not your heart be troubled Let not your soul be sad
Today is a day of joy When God makes all our hearts glad,
Glad to know that Jesus Christ Died and rose so all men
might have their sins forgiven And, like Him, to live again . . .
So on this joyous Easter Day May the wondrous Easter Story
Renew our Faith so we may be Partakers of "His Glory!"

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: (sing) Amen. Amen. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: The Scripture says, “He was delivered over to death for our sins...”
Recognizing that it was our sins that caused him to die, let us confess to him.

C: Lord Jesus, we know that it was for our sins that you came to this earth to live and die. With a humble heart I seek the forgiveness you won through your death on the cross. Forgive me Lord for my sins of denial. Like Peter, when I am faced with persecution, I deny knowing you. Forgive me Lord for my sins of doubt. Like Thomas, I desire to walk by sight, not by faith. Forgive me Lord for my sins of persecution. Like Saul, I can be a hindrance to the spread of the Gospel versus an asset. For these and all other sins of thought, word and deed, I pray, "Lord have mercy on me, a sinner."

M: The Scripture also says, "[He] ...was raised to life for our justification".
(Romans 4:25). Jesus' resurrection proves to you and me that the payment for our sin was enough. Indeed it was finished, "paid in full!" For the sake of Jesus, God declares us not guilty and our sins washed away. "Death has been swallowed up in victory! Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Receive with believing hearts this promise of forgiveness is yours in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

M: In the peace of forgiveness let us with the angels and all creation sing praise to the Lamb who was slain and with his blood purchased us for God.

Song of Praise “Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won”
Verses 3 & 4 *Christian Worship Hymn 145*

Jesus lives! For me he died;
Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide,
Praise to him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense;
This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! I know full well
Nothing me from him shall sever,
Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell
Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be a sure defense;
This shall be my confidence.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* AMEN.

BE SEATED

**FIRST LESSON
ACTS 26:19-29**

“Paul takes the opportunity before Festus to witness to the truth of the resurrection.”

¹⁹So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. ²⁰First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. ²¹That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. ²²But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen— ²³that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles."
²⁴At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. "You are out of your mind, Paul!" he shouted. "Your great learning is driving you insane."
²⁵"I am not insane, most excellent Festus," Paul replied. "What I am saying is true and reasonable. ²⁶The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner. ²⁷King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do."
²⁸Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"
²⁹Paul replied, "Short time or long—I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."

“Holy, Holy, Holy” *Christian Worship page 34*

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo-ry.

You are my God, and I will ex-alt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have be-come my sal-va-tion.

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo-ry.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: *(sing)* Amen.

“O Christ, Lamb Of God” *Christian Worship page 35*

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

A-men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

The Celebration of Holy Communion*Christian Worship* pages 33-36



At Tree of Life, we desire to have all commune with us at the Lord's Table. However, since the Scripture encourages us to "recognize the body and blood of the Lord," "examine ourselves," and join together as "one body," we ask those who are visiting with us this morning to take the time to understand these teachings and establish a unity of beliefs with us before partaking of this act of fellowship. By this practice of close communion, we are in no way judging your personal faith and relationship with Jesus, we just ask for an opportunity for us to share our beliefs with you so that together we can make a true expression of oneness at the Lord's Table.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sing)* **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: *(sing)* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: *(sing)* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 16 *Christian Worship* page 68

Refrain: *I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.*

Keep me `safe, O God,
for in you I take `refuge.*

because you will not abandon me `to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One `see decay.*

I said to the Lord, "You `are my Lord;
apart from you I have `no good thing."*

You have made known to me the `path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your `presence.*

I have set the Lord always be`fore me.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be
`shaken.*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen**

Refrain

My heart is glad and my tongue re`joices;
my body also will `rest secure,*

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-22

"Our faith is based on the certain reality of Christ's resurrection."

¹²But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

²⁰But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²²For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

Hymn “O Sons And Daughters Of The King”
Verses 1, 4-9 *Christian Worship Hymn 165*

<p>O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing, Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> <p>That night th' apostles met in fear; Among them came their Lord most dear And said: "Peace be unto you here." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> <p>When Thomas afterwards had heard That Jesus had fulfilled his word, He doubted if it were the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> <p>"Thomas, behold my side," said he, "My hands, my feet, my body see; And doubt not, but believe in me." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p>	<p>No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God," he cried. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> <p>Blessed are they that have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been; In life eternal they shall reign. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p> <p>On this most holy day of days To God your hearts and voices raise In laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</p>
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KID'S CHURCH

“Jesus Appears to His Disciples”
11:00 AM Service- Children ages 3 years to 2nd grade

**JESUS LIVES TO CHANGE
 DOUBT TO FAITH!**

John 20:19-31
Pastor Mike Geiger

Statement of Belief Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is,
 seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one being with the Father.
 Through him all things were made.
 For us and our salvation, he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
 and became fully human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

- Friendship Registers**
- Offering**
- Prayer of the Church**