

**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.**

Benediction

Hymn “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” ELW#619

Go in peace. Serve the risen one.
Thanks be to God.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Pastor: Karen Sparling; Organist: Kirstin Arndt; Reader: Carolyn Dougherty

CALENDAR

Apr. 19	Confirmation	6:30 pm-8:00 pm
Apr. 23	Sunday School	9:00 am
	Worship	10:15 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lois Reineke has now moved to Schmidt Woodland Nursing Home, 1400 West Seminary St., Room 267, Richland Center, 53581.

We forgot to thank Linus Arndt for his help as the lighting stage hand on both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Thank you Linus!!



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
Second Sunday in Easter
April 16, 2023
**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.
(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)

Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.
In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
Amen.

***Hymn "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright" ELW#384**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

**Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and
the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have
faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

(Hear us O God,
Your mercy is great)

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

*Offertory Hymn **"Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil" ELW# 512**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of good gifts,
**receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

ELW p. 220

(For your Word of Life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

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 the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Karen Sparling

***Hymn**

“Thine is the Glory”

ELW #325

***Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God’s plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,

or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;

you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the

Messiah, saying,
'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'
³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all
other."
²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**
³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**
⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand
are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships
and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by*

*blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection
even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great
mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that
is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who
are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation
ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for
a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuine-
ness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perish-
able, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and
honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him,
you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in
him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are
receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia"

ELW p. 151

GOSPEL READING

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a
commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is
missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

The holy gospel according to John 20:19-31

Glory to you, O Lord.

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