



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 23, 2023

**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.*

***\*(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.



## IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Gloria Meltesen, Darlene Babbitt, John Acker, Lois Reineke, Judy Bever, Mary Leis, Tracie Herman, Debra Welch, Patrick Reardon, Denny Robinson, Mike & Bea Dwyer, Bob Weibel, Pete Nelson, Tom Murray.

## IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton.

## CALENDAR

Today	Council Meeting	11:30 AM
Wed., April 26	Confirmation	6:30 PM—8:00 PM
Thurs., Apr. 27	Quilting	9:00 AM
Fri., April 28	Newsletter Deadline	Noon
Sun., Apr. 30	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Social Ministry	11:30 AM

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP

Brochures with regard to summer events are located in the narthex. Don't forget the church helps with the registration fee and, if you are sending multiple children, additional arrangements can be made.

### SOCIAL MINISTRY

You're invited to help make the May and June birthday/anniversary cards on Sunday, April 30, immediately following worship.

### CHICKEN DINNER

Many thanks to all those who contributed, in any fashion, to the success of the drive-up chicken dinner.

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

**O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### **Word**

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

## **First Reading**

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

### **Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], <sup>36</sup>"Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." <sup>40</sup>And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup>So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

**Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**  
<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the  
grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.  
<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**  
<sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the LORD  
for all the good things God has done for me?  
<sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**  
<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God’s people.  
<sup>15</sup>**Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**  
<sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed  
me from my bonds.  
<sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the LORD.**  
<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God’s people,  
<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the LORD’s house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

**Second Reading**

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

**1 Peter 1:17-23**

<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Come and know Christ,  
broken and poured out for you.

Distribution

***Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ’s table.***

“Lamb of God”

ELW p.191

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Gracious God,  
**in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus’ name.  
Amen.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

\*Benediction

\*Hymn “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” **ELW#674**

**Dismissal**

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God’s People; Presiding Minister: Dennis Hallemeier;  
Preacher: Chris Hallemeier; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Kirstin Arndt

## Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 190

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, .... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

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### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

### \*LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

**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.**

exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

**"Alleluia. Lord,"**

**ELW p. 188**

### GOSPEL READING

*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

#### **The holy gospel according to Luke 24:13-35**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup>He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the

people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Reverend Chris Hallemeier

**\*Hymn** **“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!”** **ELW #377**

**\*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.**

**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**

Generous God,  
**in this meal you offer your very self.  
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.  
In the breaking of this bread  
reveal to us the Risen One.  
In the pouring of this wine  
pour us out in service to the world;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**