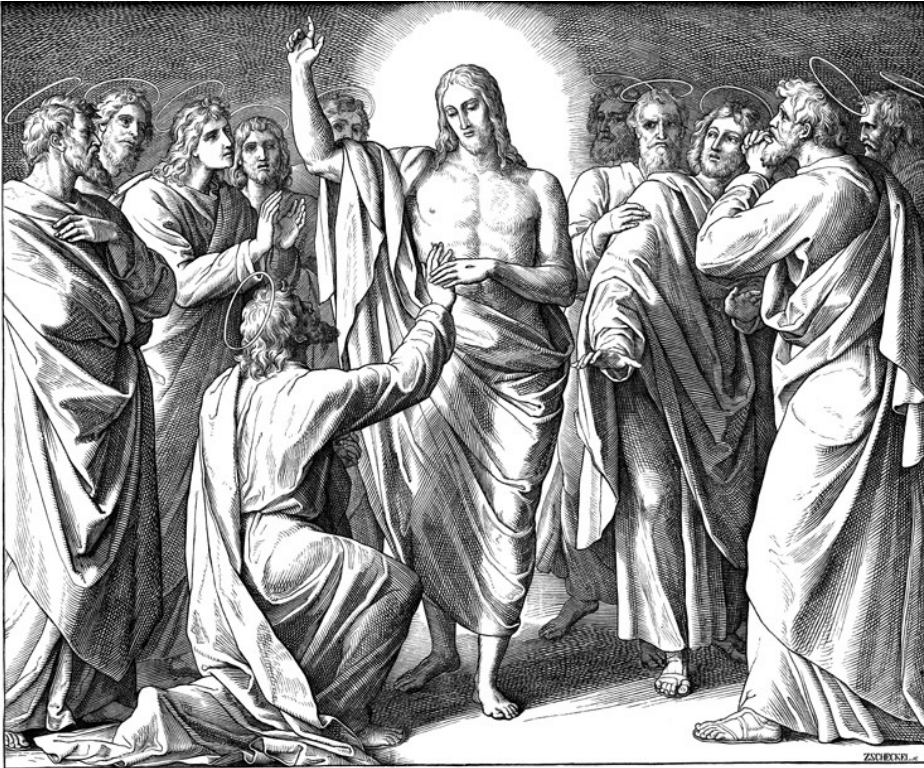


# THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27th, 2025



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MARTIN LUTHER  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
St. Louis, MO  
Pastor Seth Georgson  
314-914-6457

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*Cover: “Jesus Appears to the Assembled Disciples” by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld  
(1794-1872)*

## THE COMMON SERVICE

### Hymn ----- Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

CW 167

1. Jesus Christ, my sure defense And my Savior, now is living!  
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope he's giving,  
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an anxious thought.
2. Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; I, too, unto life shall waken.  
Endless joy my Savior gives; Shall my courage, then, be shaken?  
Shall I fear, or could the head Rise and leave his members dead?
3. No, too closely am I bound Unto him by hope forever;  
Faith's strong hand the rock has found,  
Grasped it, and will leave it never.  
Even death now cannot part From its Lord the trusting heart.
4. I am flesh and must return Unto dust, whence I am taken;  
But by faith I now discern That from death I shall awaken  
With my Savior to abide In his glory, at his side.
5. Glorified, I shall anew With this flesh then be enshrouded;  
In this body I shall view God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;  
In this flesh I then shall see Jesus Christ eternally.

*Stand.*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

*Lord, Have Mercy*

*Kyrie*

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

The musical notation consists of two staves in C major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in C major. The melody for the word 'Amen' is written above the staff, and the lyrics are written below the staff.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

*Glory be to God*

*Gloria in Excelsis*



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



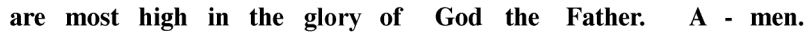
sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



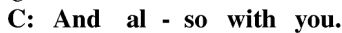
God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



M: The Lord be with you.



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.



## THE WORD

**First Lesson ----- Genesis 15:1–6**

offspring, so a servant born in my house will be my heir.”

Just then, the word of the LORD came to him. God said, "This man will not be your heir, but instead one who will come out of your own body will be your heir." The LORD then brought him outside and said, "Now look toward the sky and count

the stars, if you are able to count them.” He said to Abram, “This is what your descendants will be

like.” Abram believed in the LORD, and the LORD credited it to him as righteousness.

**Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 16**

CW p.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.

I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord;\*

apart from you I have no good thing.”

I have set the LORD always before me.\*

Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

*Refrain*

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the grave,\*

nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

You have made known to me the path of life;\*

you will fill me with joy in your presence.

**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*

## Second Lesson ----- 1 John 5:4-12

Everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith. Who is the one who overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. He did not come by the water alone but by the water and by the blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. In fact, there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and these three are one.

If we accept the testimony of people, God's testimony is even greater, because it is the testimony that God gave about his Son. The one who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in him, but the one who does not believe has made God out to be a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God gave about his Son. This is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. The one who has the Son has life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

### *Verse of the Day*

*John 20:29*

M: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia.



*Stand.*

## Gospel ----- John 20:19-31

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands

and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." After saying this, he breathed on them and



said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to

Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### *Nicene Creed*

**C: 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 for 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.*

**Hymn of the Day ----- O Sons and Daughters of the King**

CW 165:1–4

1. O sons and daughters of the King,  
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,  
Today the grave has lost its sting!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. On that first morning of the week,  
Before the day began to break,  
The Marys went their Lord to seek.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. An angel bade their sorrow flee,  
For thus he spoke unto the three,  
"Your Lord will go to Galilee."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. That night th' apostles met in fear;  
Among them came their Lord most dear  
And said, "Peace be unto you here."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Sermon ----- John 20:19–31**

*Blessed Are Those Who Believe*

*Stand.*

**Hymn of the Day ----- O Sons and Daughters of the King**

CW 165:5–9

5. When Thomas afterwards had heard  
That Jesus had fulfilled his word,  
He doubted if it were the Lord.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
6. “Thomas, behold my side,” said he,  
“My hands, my feet, my body see;  
And doubt not, but believe in me.”  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
7. No longer Thomas then denied;  
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
“You are my Lord and God,” he cried.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
8. Blessèd are they that have not seen  
And yet whose faith has constant been;  
In life eternal they shall reign.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
9. On this most holy day of days  
To God your hearts and voices raise  
In laud and jubilee and praise.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Be seated.*

*Offering*

Online giving option:  
[mluther.org/give](http://mluther.org/give)



Offerings support the spread  
of the Gospel here and around the world.

*Stand.*

*Prayer of the Church*

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with “hear our prayer.”*

- M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- M: O God, our Father, You have raised Your Son, and He has bestowed the Holy Spirit on His apostles. Believing Christ’s resurrection, help us also to trust the forgiving words of His servants. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, You sent Your Spirit upon Your people of old and brought them back from exile. Breathe on Your Church again to renew our faith and fellowship, that we may stand as Your holy army and have hope. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Merciful God, remember those who have wandered from the household of faith. Faithful to Your promises, work all things in their lives to remind them of their need for Your unending grace and steadfast love, that they might return to the faith and delight in Your Son, crucified and raised for them. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Heavenly King, You promise that the faith of Your people will overcome the world. Let it be so! By the testimony of the Word and Sacrament, overcome the powers of this world. Turn its evil to good, and enliven many to follow Christ in faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord God, we praise Your Son’s resurrection from the dead and draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Show Your kindness to all who suffer in body or in mind [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Graciously receive our prayers of intercession and hear them for Christ’s sake. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Holy Father, Your Son greets His disciples with peace despite their sins against Him. Make us confident in His mercy toward us, and gladden our hearts as He comes to us in His body and blood with forgiveness and renewal. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace, for the sake of Your Son, You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the blessed Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*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.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: **And al - so with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Sanctus*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### *Words of Institution*

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

*O Christ, Lamb of God*

*Agnus Dei*

C: 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

*In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.*

*During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:*



Hymn ----- He's Risen, He's Risen

CW 143

1. He's risen, he's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;  
He opened death's prison, the incarnate Word.  
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song  
And earth, sea, and mountain the praises prolong.
2. The foe was triumphant when on Calvary  
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.  
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,  
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.
3. But short was their triumph; The Savior arose,  
And death, hell, and Satan he vanquished, his foes.  
The conquering Lord lifts his banner on high;  
He lives, yes, he lives, and will nevermore die.
4. Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.  
For all our transgressions his blood does atone;  
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are his own.
5. Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;  
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.  
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain,  
Who now sits in glory and ever shall reign.

Hymn ----- I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again

CW 158

1. I am content! My Jesus lives again, In whom my heart is pleased.  
He has fulfilled the law of God for me; God's wrath he has appeased.  
Since he in death could perish never, I also shall not die forever.  
I am content! I am content!

2. I am content! My Jesus is my head; His member I will be.  
He bowed his head when on the cross he died With cries of agony.  
Now death is brought into subjection For me, too, by his resurrection.  
I am content! I am content!
  
3. I am content! My Jesus is my light, My radiant sun of grace.  
His cheering rays beam blessings forth for all: Sweet comfort, hope, and  
peace.  
This Easter sun has brought salvation And everlasting exultation.  
I am content! I am content!
  
4. I am content! Lord, set me ever free And wake me from the dead  
That I may rise forevermore to be With you, my living head.  
The chains that hold my body, sever; Then shall my soul rejoice forever.  
I am content! I am content!

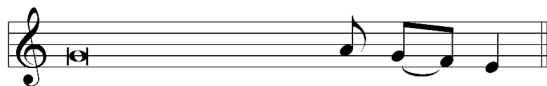
*After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:*

*Song of Simeon*

*Nunc Dimittis*

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Be seated.*

**Hymn ----- At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

CW 141

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

2.   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!
3.   Now no more can death appall,  
      Now no more the grave enthrall;  
      You have opened paradise,  
      And your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!
4.   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!
5.   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!

