



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)

W156 N5436 Bette Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI | 262-781-3520 | office@pilgrimcares.org

He Lives to Give Me Proof and Peace

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” We know that keeping little children occupied for an entire church service can be a challenge. Don’t worry; most of those worshipping around you have been in your shoes at one time. If you feel that you need to take your child out of church at any time, we have a Children’s Room to the right as you exit the worship area. The first parking space in front of church is designated for **expectant mothers and families with small children**.

Restrooms are located to your left as you exit the worship area. There are **changing tables in both restrooms**.

LARGE PRINT copies of worship materials are available from the ushers. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to ask an usher.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Preacher
Organist

Pastor Collin Vanderhoof
Pastor Aaron Winkelman
Amy Balza

Service of the Word

This Joyful Eastertide

CW 449



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide a - way with sin and
2 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the
3 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill
slum - ber till trump from east to west



has sprung to life this mor - row.
my pass - ing soul de - liv - er.
shall wake the dead in num - ber.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on,



our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934 Tune: Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Easter Acclamation

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

Confession of Sins

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

Prayer and Praise

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

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by 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: A - men.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of a single staff of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 2:14a,22–32

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

²²“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵David said about him:

“ I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.

³¹Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

This Is the Day

Psalm 16B

Refrain

This is the day the LORD has made.
Let us re-joice and be glad in it.

The musical notation for the Refrain is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Tone

The musical notation for the Tone is written on two staves in G major. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The notation consists of several chords and melodic fragments, typical of a hymn tune.

LORD, you alone are my portion / and my cup;
you make my / lot secure.
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant / places;
surely I have a delightful in- / heritance.
I keep my eyes always / on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be / shaken. *Refrain*

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue re- / joices;
my body also will / rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the realm / of the dead,
nor will you let your Holy One / see decay.
You make known to me the / path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at / your right hand.
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Dale A. Witte Setting: Dale A. Witte Music: © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O Sons and Daughters of the King

CW 456 sts. 1–4



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, whom heav'n - ly
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, the faith - ful
3 An an - gel bade their sor - row flee, for thus he
4 That night th' a - pos - tles met in fear; a - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, to - day the grave has lost its sting!
wom - en went their way to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
spoke un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
came their Lord most dear and said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Gospel Reading

John 20:19–31

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord!



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

O Sons and Daughters of the King

CW 456 sts. 5-9



5 When Thom - as af - ter - wards had heard that Je - sus
6 "Thom - as, be - hold my side," said he, "my hands, my
7 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied; he saw the
8 Bless - ed are they that have not seen and yet whose
9 On this most ho - ly day of days to God your



had ful - filled his word, he doubt - ed that it was the Lord.
feet, my bod - y see; and doubt not, but be - lieve in me."
feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God," he cried.
faith has con - stant been; in life e - ter - nal they shall reign.
hearts and voic - es raise in laud and ju - bi - lee and praise.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615; Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Be seated

Offering

Offering boxes are available in the back of church. If you wish to give an electronic offering, you may use the QR code located at the end of the bulletin or you may go to pilgrimcares.org/giving. We present the offerings before the altar as a reminder that our giving overflows out of the Gospel and is itself an act of worship.

Offering Hymn

CW 749 st. 2



2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom,
rac - es joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone; born with
tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006 Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844 Text: © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co.
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Prayer of the Church

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy this day, for you have risen and conquered the grave. Imprint the message of victory on our hearts and implant it in our minds. Through the good news of your resurrection renew our hope and revive our faith. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you, so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love. Direct their eyes to your empty tomb and ease their pain by reminding them that their loved ones will one day rise again. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts. Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Stay by the side of all who are suffering. In your wise mercy, heal those who are sick, receiving treatment for illness, recovering from illness or surgery, or hurting in body or mind. Remind them that your victory over death is a fact, and comfort them with your promise to raise them and give them and all believers new, glorified bodies like yours. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and in the feast of your Sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

CW 462 sts. 1–2, 5



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 See the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry to our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en;
who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal.



loosed from Phar - aoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
God has brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Benediction

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



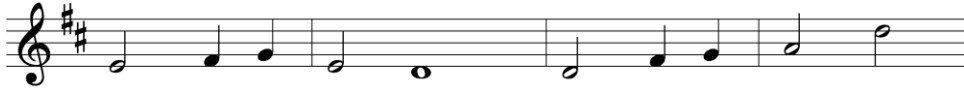
Be seated

With High Delight Let Us Unite

CW 467



1 With high de - light let us u - nite in songs of
2 True God, he first from death has burst forth in - to
3 Let prais - es ring; give thanks and bring to Christ our



sweet ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, each
life, all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my shall
Lord ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed by



take your part, sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion.
van - quished be; his death has been death's un - do - ing.
word and deed to ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion.



To set us free for - ev - er, he is ris'n and sends to
"And yours shall be like vic - to - ry o'er death and grave," said
So shall his love give us a - bove, from mis - er - y and



all earth's ends good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
he, who gave his life for us, life re - new - ing.
death set free, all joy and full con - so - la - tion.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–1599, abr.; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976, alt. Tune: Cinquante Pseaumes, Geneva, 1543, alt. Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872 Tune: Public domain

News & Notes

Confirmation will be held during the 10:30am service on Sunday, April 26. We will have the 8:00am service as usual, with Bible Class held in the Gathering Space. Please keep our Confirmands in your prayers!

Building Project Listening Sessions As part of the building project planning process, the Steering Committee will be hosting a series of small group listening sessions in April and May. These gatherings are designed to give members an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas about the future of Pilgrim's worship space, classrooms, fellowship areas, and overall campus needs. Each session will include 8–12 participants and last about 60–90 minutes. We are currently looking for members who would be willing to host a listening session in their home or another location. If you are interested in hosting, or would like to learn more about the sessions, please contact LaVonne Kirchner at lavonnekirchner@gmail.com. Your participation will help ensure that the congregation's input continues to shape the planning process.

The WELS Youth Rally is being held in Bowling Green, Ohio July 14-17. Pilgrim is blessed to have six teens that have signed up to attend. The cost is \$450 per person. We are hoping to find donors who would like to help out with that cost for our families. Are you able to give \$50? \$100 or half - \$225 to help out? Please put your donation in an envelope labeled youth rally and drop it in the offering box or in the school office. You can also donate online through the website, click on the "other" tab and indicate that it's for the Youth Rally. Thank you for considering helping out our youth!

We Got This You may notice some extra plants growing in the gathering space! For this semester's service project, students in grades K3–8 planted more than 300 seedlings to donate to We Got This, a community garden in Milwaukee. We Got This provides local youth with the opportunity to learn gardening basics while developing skills in communication, collaboration, and problem-solving. Their work transforms physical spaces and provides healthy food to the community. Feel free to check out our seedlings and watch them grow.

All women of Pilgrim are invited to attend the LWMS Rally on Saturday, April 25, at Garden Homes Lutheran Church (2450 W. Roosevelt Drive, Milwaukee) from 8 A.M. until noon. Pilgrim belongs to the Milwaukee Metro-North Circuit of LWMS. So, if you are a member of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, you are a member of LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society). The morning begins with a delicious breakfast, followed by an opening devotion and a short business meeting. The guest speaker is Pastor Philip Hunter from Citrus Grove Lutheran Church, a mission congregation in Wesley Chapel, Florida. There is no cost to attend, but a freewill offering will be collected. We will plan to carpool from church. If you'd like more information or encouragement, talk to Joan Meier or Irene Lape.

Anchored: Practical Parenting for Today. Biblical Wisdom for Always. We are raising children in a loud and distracted world—one that is quick to define who they are and what they should believe. And if we are not intentional, culture will disciple them for us. But what if our homes became the anchor point? Anchored is an initiative designed to strengthen families—rooted in Scripture, grounded in wisdom, and focused on practical tools you can actually use. Join us for the Anchored Kickoff Event, an interactive experience where parents will be equipped to lead their homes with clarity, confidence, and conviction. **Saturday, April 25 KML High School Atrium** Featuring guest speaker Pastor Ben Sadler with real-life, practical insight for today’s families. **Childcare available | RSVP by April 18** Registration Link: <https://rb.gy/zlphpo> Questions? Contact Stefanie Sward at stefanie.sward@kmlschools.org

The Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee Presents: Ponder Anew Sunday, April 26 at 4 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church ~ [N108W14290 Bel Aire Ln, Germantown](#) Sunday, May 3 at 4 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church ~ [6802 W Forest Home Ave, Milwaukee](#) Please join the Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee, under the artistic direction of Levi Nagel, for their spring concerts entitled “Ponder Anew,” featuring music from classical composers of the past and newer music from the American tradition. We hope you will join us for this free concert. A freewill offering will be collected. For more information and to make an online donation, visit LutheranChorale.org.

Erika, the Yoga Instructor, will be away and asked us to share that there will not be Yoga on Monday, April 13.

KML Family Music Fest 2026 Please plan to join us for **A Night at the Movies** on Friday, April 17, from 5:00-9:00 pm. Monies raised at this event will go toward the improvement of technology within the KML Music Department. Join us for a night of music, food, and family fun! Adult admission is \$5. Children/students get free admission. If you would like to donate or would like to volunteer to help with the event, please contact Angela Hohenstein (angela.hohenstein@kmlhs.org). You can also visit www.kmlhs.org/fmf for donation forms, volunteer signup forms, the prepay link, and for more information. We hope to see you for **A Night at the Movies** on April 17!

KML Spring Play: Almost, Maine Join us at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School for KML Theatre's production of the play *Almost, Maine* by John Cariani on Friday & Saturday, May 1 & 2, at 7:00 PM and Sunday, May 3, at 2:00 PM. Tickets will be sold at the door beginning 30 minutes before each performance. All tickets are general admission and \$5 each. *Almost, Maine* is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC.

8:00am

10:30am

Ushers

4-12

Glen Kuphall
Mike Delvaux

Dave Chmielewski
Adam Chernohorsky

4-19

Phill Lepple
Keith Gennerman

Bryan Giesenschlag
Alec Delvaux

Wednesday evening ushers are Patrick Renner and Jason Marten.

Worship Hosts

4-12

Bill & LaVonne Kirchner

Marge Ekstowicz & Elke Warren

4-19

Pete & Amy Kuske

Ann Wood

Attendance

3-29

371 (Palm Sunday)

4-2

185 (Holy Thursday)

4-3

162 + 167 = 329 (Good Friday)

4-5

48 + 179 + 224 = 451 (Easter Sunday)



Pilgrim Lutheran Church can receive offerings electronically through a secure website. Scan the QR code with your smart phone (you might need to download a free QR scanning app) to be directed to Pilgrim's giving page or visit pilgrimcares.org/giving. Save the check – give online!

Acknowledgments

Service of the Word

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Pilgrimcares.org

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