



"I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 14, 2017*



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WELCOME

God welcomes you no matter who you are – and so do we. Thank you for joining us in God's house today. Whether you are a first-time guest, a friend or relative of a member, or a curious observer from a different religious background, we are delighted to be with you in worship.

A NOTE ABOUT WORSHIP

We believe that Jesus is the Savior of all. By his life, death, and resurrection Jesus saves all sinners simply because he loves us. That is called the gospel, and it's the good news on every page of God's Word. Therefore, the Bible is not just information about God or rules from God, but the saving power God uses to create and strengthen faith in our hearts and restore our lives. Lutheran worship places this good news at the center of the worship service with an order called *liturgy*. In both the Word and sacrament (Means of Grace), in specifically selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted and often ancient songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news of Jesus from start to finish.

Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out entirely. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red hymnal located in front of you. Parts marked **L** are spoken or sung by the worship leader, and the parts marked **C** and printed in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

- **Quiet Bags** are for any parents with small children. They are on a stand in the back of church.
- **Weekly News & Notes** are printed in the back of this worship folder.
- **Restrooms** are to the left as you walk out the back of church or in the basement.
- **Website:** oursaviourwels.org

OUR CHURCH BODY

Our Saviour's proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (wels.net). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod, as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

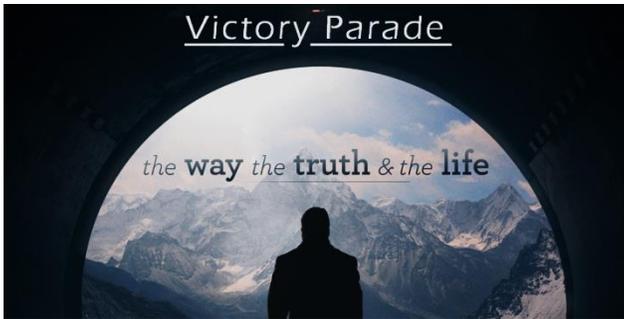




THE SEASON OF EASTER

After forty days, the Church bursts out in excited praise at the Resurrection of our Lord. The alleluias and Glorias, which were absent from Lent, now ring out again as the Bride of Christ welcomes her Bridegroom back from the dead. Easter is as the pinnacle of the Church Year, the oldest festival and season observed by the worshipping Church. The celebration of Easter victory lasts 49 days culminating on the 50th day, Pentecost.

WORSHIP SERIES



April 23 – Forgiveness through faith

April 30 – Hope from promises kept

May 7 – Full life through the gate (Confirmation)

May 14 – The only way to the Father (Mother’s Day)

May 21 – The fruit of the Spirit

May 28 – A hidden but heavenly reality (Ascension)

June 4 – One lasting gift (Pentecost)

For forty days during Lent, we followed our Savior in his battle against sin. Easter is the celebration of his victory over death, the devil, and hell for us. This triumph lasts a lot longer than one day; it lasts for eternity. We spend fifty days rejoicing on the victory parade that Jesus leads, showing the spoils of his war that are ours through faith in him. Today, Jesus says something that can divide this world. He says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” That is the most comforting message because we have all that we need in Jesus. He provides the way to heaven. He speaks the truth when there is so much debate about truth in our world today. He is life for us even when we worry about death. That is the good news from our risen Lord. It may be exclusive in this world that clamors and calls for inclusiveness and acceptance of all creeds, but Easter means this good news will never change or die out. We can boldly point to Christ as the only way, truth, and life.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding & Preaching

Pastor Tom Moldenhauer

Organist

Jim Fors

Ushers

*LeRoy Humann, Dave Gross, Dexter Demaray, Chad Keech,
Aaron Cook – Elder*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



ORDER OF SERVICE

PASTOR'S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

I Know that My Redeemer Lives | #152 v 1,3

Please stand.

GATHERING

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son **+** and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

L Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed!**

CONFESSION OF SINS

*2 Corinthians
5:14,15*

L We are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

C **Christ died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.**

L The living Savior is with us who gather in his name, so in humble faith, believing in his living forgiveness of sins, let us confess that we have often lived for ourselves.

C **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

*1 Corinthians
15:17,20*

L If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

C **But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

*1 Corinthians
15:21,22*

L After his resurrection, Christ commanded his church to proclaim the forgiveness of sins to all nations, promising them that their words were as certain as his. Therefore, it is by Christ's command and with his authority that I say to you: In the name of Jesus **+** your sins are forgiven.

L Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

HYMN OF PRAISE

I Know that My Redeemer Lives | 152 v 2, 6

***2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save.
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.***

***6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end.
He lives, and while he lives I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.***

Samuel Medley's incredible Easter hymn uses the familiar words of the Old Testament patriarch, Job.

"I know that my Redeemer lives" is a sentence to treasure above all else every day in our lives as God's people. Only through a living Savior do we have life in heaven.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray.

Pastor says the Prayer of the Day (at the bottom of page 3).

C (spoken) **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited up front for a brief devotion with Pastor.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 18:16-45

¹⁶ So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?"

The epic showdown on Mt Carmel makes it clear that there is only one God.

¹⁸ “I have not made trouble for Israel,” Elijah replied. “But you and your father’s family have. You have abandoned the Lord’s commands and have followed the Baals. ¹⁹ Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

²⁰ So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. ²¹ Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

But the people said nothing.

²² Then Elijah said to them, “I am the only one of the Lord’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³ Get two bulls for us. Let Baal’s prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴ Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—he is God.”

Then all the people said, “What you say is good.”

²⁵ Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.” ²⁶ So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

²⁷ At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.” ²⁸ So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹ Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. ³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, “Your name shall be Israel.” ³² With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³ He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.”

³⁴ “Do it again,” he said, and they did it again.

“Do it a third time,” he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵ The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command.

³⁷ Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

³⁸ Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

³⁹ When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!”

⁴⁰ Then Elijah commanded them, “Seize the prophets of Baal. Don’t let anyone get away!” They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there.

⁴¹ And Elijah said to Ahab, “Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a heavy rain.” ⁴² So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees.

⁴³ “Go and look toward the sea,” he told his servant. And he went up and looked. “There is nothing there,” he said.

Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.”

⁴⁴ The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea.”

So Elijah said, “Go and tell Ahab, ‘Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.’”

⁴⁵ Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain started falling and Ahab rode off to Jezreel. ⁴⁶ The power of the Lord came on Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

HYMN OF PRAISE

I Know that My Redeemer Lives | # 152 v 4, 5

**4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with his eye.
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.**

**5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears.
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.**



*The only way to
be built into
God's spiritual
family is through
Jesus, the living
Stone.*

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

***I Know that My Redeemer Lives* | #152 v 7,8**

***7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.***

***8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
“I know that my Redeemer lives!”***

Please stand.

GOSPEL

John 14:1-12

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

L The Gospel of our Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are the Way; through You Alone | #356

SERMON

John 14:1-12

Please stand.



*Jesus is the way,
the truth, and
the life.*

The Creed summarizes the Biblical teaching of our Triune God and the message used by the Apostles as they spread the Word.

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.

Please be seated.

THANK OFFERING

1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

The members of Our Saviour's Lutheran join together to do the Lord's work in Bismarck and throughout the world in our church body, the WELS. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

*Please help us be a friendly church by taking a moment to fill out the **Friendship Register** located at the end of the pew.*

As the offering is brought to the altar, please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Please be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Christ Be My Leader | #367

Please stand.

Timothy Dudley-Smith served in the church of England from 1950-1991. During that time over 120 hymns came from his pen. This one, from July, 1961, is based on John 14:6.

PRAYER

- L** Lord Jesus, we thank you for not just showing us the way, but being the way to heaven for us. Your life, death, and resurrection gives us new life forever with you. We pray that you would continue to bless us through your Word so that we are strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE LORD'S BLESSING

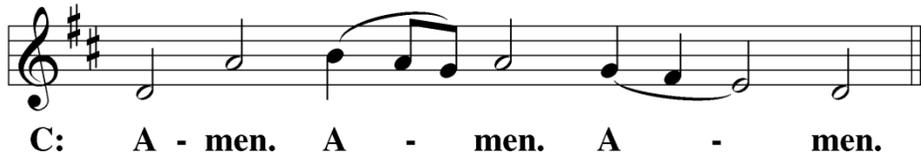
Numbers 6:24-26

- L** 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.



NEWS & NOTES

THIS WEEK

Today – Choir Practice 8:15am

Worship @ 9am

Bible Hour @ 10:15

Wednesday – Bible Night @ 6pm

(An adult and women's study, Catechism class, and childcare at the Redeemer campus in Mandan)

Sunday – Choir practice @ 8:15am

Worship @ 9am (Lord's Supper)

Bible Hour @ 10:15

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study continues today; we will pick it up in 1 Peter chapter 1:6.

CHURCH LEAGUE VOLLEYBALL

A roster is on the bulletin board. Please indicate which games you WILL PLAY. We want to have 7-8 players for each game. Games take place between 6-8:30 pm on Sundays. First game is June 4.

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY

At our last congregational meeting, the voters approved beginning this program in September. This ministry is designed for stay-at-home moms and daily childcare givers to bring their children to Our Saviour's twice a month for a Bible story, social playtime, games, songs, and more. It also gives moms a chance to connect. Finally, Mornings with Mommy is another way we can put Our Saviour's on the map in Bismarck. If you want to learn more or would like to help, talk to Pastor.

GRADUATION

If someone is part of the graduating class of 2017 from high school or college, we'd like to print that in the news. Please let Pastor know or email oursaviourwels@gmail.com

MOVIE NIGHT

Return to Grace: Luther's Life and Legacy.

Carmike 8 Theater (AMC Classic 8)

Wednesday, May 31 @ 6:30pm

IMPORTANT: The event was upgraded to a larger theater so there are still 79 tickets available for the next 17 days. Tickets are \$9 each and can be purchased at a special website set up for the screening:

www.tugg.com/events/a-return-to-grace-luther-s-life-and-legacy-srm7

LUTHER MOVIE TICKETS DONATED

A kind gift has been offered by one of our members. 20 tickets have been purchased to be given out on a first come, first served basis. There is a sign-up sheet for those who may not be able to afford the tickets or if you want to invite a friend to come with you for free.

LUTHER MOVIE POTLUCK

We will be hosting a potluck before the Luther movie from 5:30-6:15 on Wednesday, May 31. Sign up to bring a dish. Those from area WELS congregations who are attending the movie have been invited to join us, as well.

BIRTHDAYS

Courtney Kershaw – May 14

Cori Hammerschmidt – May 18

Maria Jensen – May 20

Alan Kemmet – May 20