



**St. James Lutheran Church  
2040 Oakwood Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505**

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**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer  
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**The Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 16, 2023**

**Divine Service 4 (pp. 203ff. in LSB)**

**The Preservice Music, The Call to Worship & Welcome**

**The Opening Hymn: 480 “He’s Risen, He’s Risen”**

**The Invocation, Confession and Absolution** *LSB 203*

**The Old Testament Reading** *Acts 5:29–42*

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.” <sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. <sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>Then

they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Epistle Reading

*1 Peter 1:3–9*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**A Song:** "This is our God" (The Quartet will Sing)

### Verse 1

Remember those walls that we called sin and shame  
They were like prisons that we couldn't escape  
But He came and He died and He rose  
Those walls are rubble now  
Remember those giants we called death and grave

They were like mountains that stood in our way  
But He came and He died and He rose  
Those giants are dead now

### **Chorus**

This is our God this is who He is  
He loves us  
This is our God this is what He does  
He saves us  
He bore the cross beat the grave  
Let heaven and earth proclaim  
This is our God King Jesus

### **Verse 2**

Remember that fear that took our breath away  
Faith so weak that we could barely pray  
But He heard every word every whisper  
Now those altars in the wilderness  
Tell the story of His faithfulness  
Never once did He fail and He never will **(Chorus)**

### **Bridge 1**

Who pulled me out of that pit  
He did He did  
Who paid for all of our sin  
Nobody but Jesus **(repeat)**

### **Bridge 2**

Who rescued me from that grave  
Yahweh Yahweh  
Who gets the glory and praise  
Nobody but Jesus  
Who rescued me from that grave  
Yahweh Yahweh  
Who gets the glory and praise  
Nobody but Him **(chorus)**

### **Chorus**

## Ending

He bore the cross beat the grave  
Let heaven and earth proclaim  
This is our God King Jesus

CCLI Song # 7211413

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## Alleluia and Verse

p. 205

## The Holy Gospel

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.” <sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” <sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your

finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;<sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **The Apostles’ Creed**

**The Hymn of the Day:** 470 “O Sons and Daughters of the King” (All: 1, 2, 7-9; Women: 3, 5; Men: 4, 6)

**Sermon** (During the sermon, children who are ages 3 through grade 2 are invited to participate in KIDZ Time. Children can make their way to the back of the sanctuary where the KIDZ Time teacher is waiting. The children will return to the service following the sermon.)

**Offering** (Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)

## **The Prayer of the Church & The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn:** 633 “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” (All: 1, 2, 7-8; Men: 3, 5, Women: 4, 6)

## **Announcements & Blessing**

**The Service of the Sacrament (pp. 208ff.)**

**A Distribution Song: "Come as You Are" (The Quartet will Sing)**

**Verse 1**

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been  
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin  
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

**Chorus 1**

So lay down your burdens lay down your shame  
All who are broken lift up your face  
O wanderer come home  
You're not too far  
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart  
Come as you are

**Verse 2**

There's hope for the hopeless  
And all those who've strayed  
Come sit at the table come taste the grace  
There's rest for the weary  
Rest that endures  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure **(Chorus)**

**Chorus**

So lay down your burdens lay down your shame  
All who are broken lift up your face  
O wanderer come home  
You're not too far  
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart  
Come as you are **(Bridge)**

**Bridge**

Come as you are  
Fall in His arms  
Come as you are **(Verse 3)**

### Verse 3

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal  
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal **(Chorus)**

### Ending

Come as you are  
Come as you are  
Come as you are **(Chorus)**

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**A Distribution Hymn: 469 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”**

**The Closing Hymn: 482 “This Joyful Eastertide”**

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book  
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### Events of the Week: April 17 – April 23, 2023

Monday	6:30 p.m. Communion Service
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Discovery Class
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. Darrell’s Bible Class 5:15 p.m. Deacons Meeting
Thursday	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir 7:15 p.m. Adult Choir
Friday	Pastor’s Day off
Saturday	9:00 a.m. Friends In Faith Drop Off 9:00 a.m. LWML Spring Rally
Sunday	8:00 a.m. Gizmo on FB 9:30 a.m. Worship ISJ will be Singing 11:00 a.m. Bible study



**FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: April 9, 2023**

General Fund	\$5,412.10
Building Fund	\$0.00
ISJ Academy	\$0.00
Tessaro Ministry	\$10.00
Memorials	\$225.00
Evangelism	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,647.10</b>

**Those Who Serve Today April. 16th.**

**Officiant:** Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

**Lector:** Cindy McAuliffe

**Organist:** Beth McKay

**Deacons:** Craig Popma / Jerry Talen

**Ushers:** Orlin Bowman / Caleb Butler / Craig Popma

**Video/Sound/Recording:** Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

**April Altar Guild:** Deb, Kelsey, and Lynelle Butler

**Those Who are Serving Next Week: April 23rd.**

**Officiant:** Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

**Lector:** Craig Popma

**Organist:** Beth McKay

**Deacons:** Jerry Talen

**Ushers:** Jim and Nancy Spears

**Video/Sound/Recording:** Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

**April Altar Guild:** Deb, Kelsey, and Lynelle Butler

## Announcements

**Dear friends in Christ** Thank you for all the words of encouragement you offered especially through cards, phone calls, and personal visits over the course of my dad's illness and ultimate entry into the Church Triumphant. They were a source of comfort for him and us too. Warmly, Suzanne Nacke for all the family.

**Thank you everyone who assisted** with the Easter Carnival. We had a wonderful time and we were able to share the joyous and triumphant Easter message!

**The ISJ Children will sing** two songs at the beginning of our service next Sunday! Please come and welcome the children and their families.

**New Member Welcome Sunday – May 21<sup>st</sup>!** Mark this date on your calendar We will have a special celebration following the service in the gathering room.

**Portals of Prayer:** extra copies are available on the table in the church lobby.

**Lectors Needed:** Sign up to read the Old Testament and Epistle Lessons during Sunday morning services. The sign-up sheet is on the table by the church office.

**Knit / Crocheted Together in Love:** Please join us today after church from 10:45am to 1:00pm.

**LWML Grand Rapids Zone Spring Rally:** “Raising Christian Children/Grandchildren in Today’s World” You are invited to attend the LWML Spring Rally being held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Caledonia on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00am- noon. We are excited and blessed to have Jo Fleming and her daughter Amy Nuttleman, both wives of Lutheran pastors in the Grand Rapids area as our speakers

on the topic *“Raising Christin Children/Grandchildren in Today’s World”*. The admission fee will be \$10.00 which includes breakfast. More information and a sign-up sheet will be coming soon but be sure to make your calendars now!

**Help Stock NECM’s Pantry with Meijer “Simply Give”**

**Campaign:** If you wish to help Meijer in their Simply Give campaign, please grab a \$10 Food Pantry Donation Card on the table in the lobby. It is very easy to use and a simple to help NECM stock the pantry. Simply scan the card when you buy your groceries. Beginning April 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> at both Plainfield and Walker Meijer locations. On Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> your \$10.00 becomes \$30.00 on “Double Match Day”.

**WML Spring Plant Sale:** If you love plants and flowers what a better way to help support our only Lutheran High School in West Michigan. All selections are in 10” plastic hanging baskets with wire hangers. The deadline for all orders is Friday, April 28, 2023. For Order forms and more information please see the table in the lobby.

**ISJ Golf Outing:** Please join us for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing on June 3, 2023, at Arrowhead Golf Course in Lowell, MI. If you would like to play as an individual or as a team please fill out the Registration Form found on the table in the lobby.

**Second Best Sale** Friends in Faith is having **DROP-OFF** dates of **Saturday April 22 and 29** at the church from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are asking for all large items to be brought on April 29 due to the inability to store them. We cannot accept mattresses, box springs, analog (tube type TVs), nursery furniture, medical items or any items that are not usable and saleable. Members of Friends in Faith will be here to unload your car and take everything into church for you! How great is that!?! We also ask that clothing be clean and gently used. Smaller items can be brought to the church any time the church is open. Please call the Church Office before you

come. If items need to be brought sooner or if you have any questions please contact Walt at 970-7407 or Dale Rosema 262-1390 Set-up for the Sale will begin on Sunday, April 30. VOLUNTEERS are needed on Sunday after Church to set up tables and sorting the items for the sale. Volunteers are also needed on Monday and Tuesday for sorting and pricing. Volunteers are needed for Thursday through Saturday to assist customers and clean-up on Saturday. It's a great time to get to know each other and help support our Youth and Church functions. Work for an hour or enjoy the 9-4 day with everyone. A sign-up sheet will be at the entrance by the office. If you have any questions please see Walt Kryzanowski or Dale Rosema **(May 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> is the sale)**  
**(Thursday, 9:00am-4:00pm) (Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm)**  
**(Saturday, 9:00am-12:00pm)**

**Newsletter** it is that time again! If you would like information placed in the newsletter, please send it to the church office email in "word" form. Ashley is in need of your information no later than Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## A Statement on Holy Communion

**We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper** as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

**NOTE:** We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcohol grape juice. Just let Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.