

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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## The Second Sunday of Easter ~ April 7, 2024

*Color of the Day: White - the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.*

Opening Hymn .....#596 - All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

Confession and Absolution ..... Page 151

### ✠ ✠ ✠ Service of the Word ✠ ✠ ✠

Introit ..... Page 152

*Ps. 105: 1-5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2-3*

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—\*

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;\*

make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;\*

tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;\*

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

Seek the Lord and his strength;\*

seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done, \*

his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

He remembers his covenant forever, \*

the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

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.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—\*

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Kyrie ..... Page 152

Hymn of Praise (This Is the Feast) ..... Page 155

Salutation & Collect of the Day ..... Page 156

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.

First Reading. .... Page 156

*Acts 4:32-35*

<sup>32</sup>Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. <sup>33</sup>And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold <sup>35</sup>and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Gradual ..... Page 156

*adapt. From Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8:6*

Christ has risen | from the dead.\*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor,

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands,\*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle Reading. .... Page 156

*1 John 1:1-2:2*

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—<sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup>He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse (Common) ..... Page 156

*John 20:19-31*

<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.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day. . . . . #471 – *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

The Sermon . . . . . *He Is the Atoning Sacrifice ~ 1 John 1:1 - 2:2*

*Check out Pastor Bogs' blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez's blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.*

Introduction

There is a story \_\_\_\_\_.

That is a nice story, \_\_\_\_\_.

From the Beginning

John reminds us \_\_\_\_\_.

The Word of Life is also \_\_\_\_\_.

The Word of Life is the One \_\_\_\_\_.

God Is Light

John uses two extremes \_\_\_\_\_.

The symbolism of light \_\_\_\_\_.

Light overcomes \_\_\_\_\_.

To Claim or Not to Claim Sin

If we claim to be without sin, we claim \_\_\_\_\_.

How sinful do we need to claim to be? \_\_\_\_\_.

If we confess our sins \_\_\_\_\_.

My Dear Children

The reason John is writing \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus is our \_\_\_\_\_.

All this Jesus does because \_\_\_\_\_.

What does this mean? \_\_\_\_\_.

Finally this means \_\_\_\_\_.

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Creed . . . . . Page 158

Offering & Prayer of the Church . . . . . Page 159

Offertory . . . . . Page 159

*Our First Fruits and Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God's love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.*

☩ ☩ ☩ *Service of the Sacrament* ☩ ☩ ☩

Preface . . . . . Page 160

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus & Prayer of Thanksgiving . . . . . Page 161

Lord's Prayer & The Words of Our Lord . . . . . Page 162

The Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini. . . . . Page 162

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei . . . . . Page 163

Distribution . . . . . Page 164

*Before partaking of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.*

Distribution Hymns . . . . . #676 – *Behold a Host, Arrayed in White*

#411 - *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

#563 - *Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness*

#606 - *I Lay My Sins on Jesus*

Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) . . . . . Page 164

Post-Communion Collect & Benediction . . . . . Page 165/166

Closing Hymn . . . . . #851 - *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*