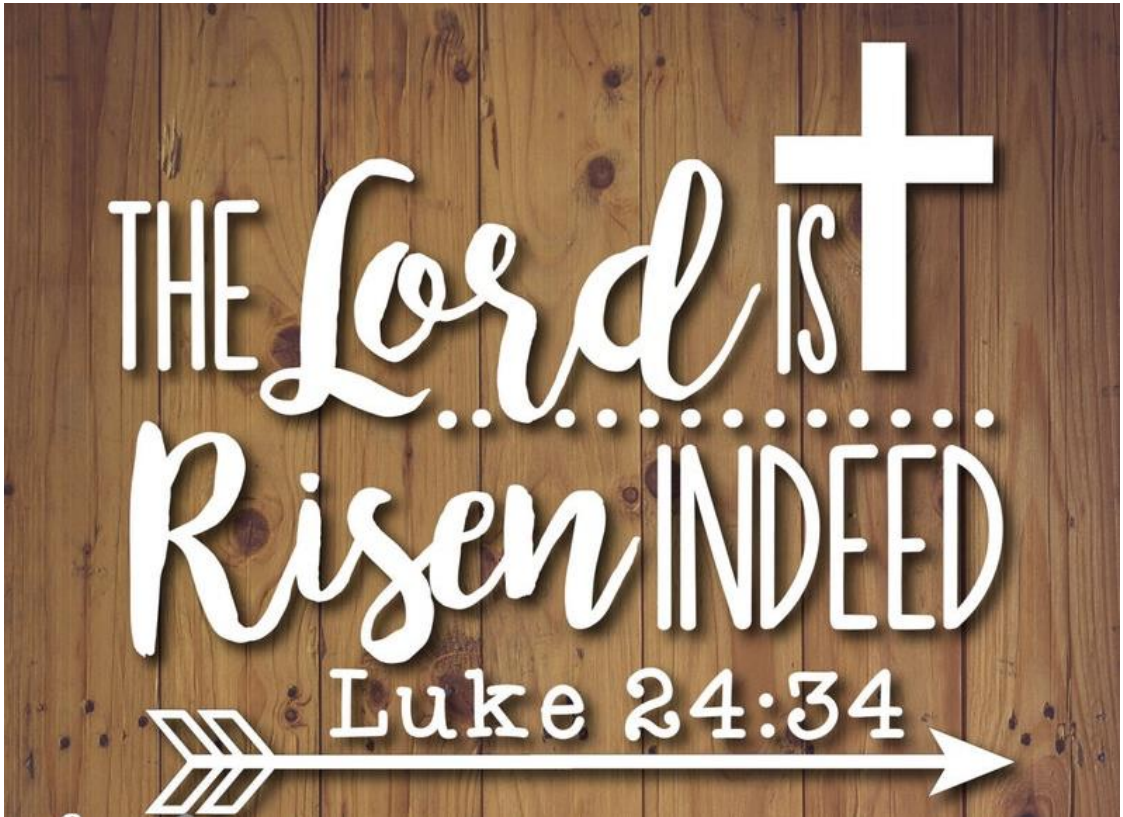


May 4 & 5, 2024 | 6:00 & 8:15
Sixth Sunday of Easter



Preacher: Rev. Carlton Andersen

St. Luke's Lutheran Church & Preschool/4K
2011 10th Street South | Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494
715.423.5990 | mail@stlukeslutheran.com
Website: www.stlukeslutheran.com

We at St. Luke's dedicate ourselves to grow in faith and love, to serve together, and to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING HYMN ~ 'Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love' (v. 1-3, 5-6) LSB 900

- 1 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev'ry knee
Bow in deep humility.

- 2 Jesus! Name decreed of old,
To the maiden mother told,
Kneeling in her lowly cell,
By the angel Gabriel.

- 3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth
To the fallen of the earth
For the promise that it gave,
"Jesus shall His people save."

- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

All: Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

P: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

All: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

P: How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever will be forever. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of Your great mercy You have promised forgiveness of sins to all those who come to you in true faith looking for forgiveness. Have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us into the joyous and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. May He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you to greater joy in your faith, and bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen. I love the Lord because He has heard my voice and my prayers. Because He has inclined His ear to me; therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God and everlasting God, You bind together Your faithful people of all times and all places into one holy communion, which is the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to follow Your blessed saints in godly living so that, together with them, we can come to the great joys You have planned for all those who love you.

C: We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit on God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING ~ Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. ²⁷God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

²⁹"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone--an image made by man's design and skill. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C:(sing) Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING ~ 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ¹⁵But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, ¹⁹through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison ²⁰who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C:(sing) Thanks be to God.

6:00 Solo

P: This is the Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

All:(sing) Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING ~ John 14:15-21

¹⁵"If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--
¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All:(sing) Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN ~ 'Son of God, Eternal Savior' (v. 1-3)

LSB 842

1 Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory,
For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity,
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

- 2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,
So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted;
Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty
Held in solemn trust will be.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling,
By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

Text: Public domain

SERMON ~ Reason for Hope

THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS & WE CARE CARDS

OFFERTORY

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

All: hear our prayer. (after final petition: Amen.)

HOLY COMMUNION

Guests, please note: As Lutheran Christians we believe in the *Real Presence* of Christ in Holy Communion; that as we participate in the sacrament we receive His body and blood. If you are confirmed and trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord and accept this understanding of communion you are invited to commune with us. There is a choice of individual or common cup. Gluten free wafers are available; ask elder as host served.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C:sing Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest. (Isaiah 6:3 and Matthew 21:9)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ..... This do in remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

DISTRIBUTION AND HYMNS

'Drawn to the Cross'

LSB 560

- 1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in Thee my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come.
- 2 Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears,
Christ crucified, I come.
- 3 Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain,
Christ crucified, I come.

4 And then for work to do for Thee,
Which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me,
Christ crucified, I come.

Text: Public domain

'Christ is Made the Sure Foundation'

LSB 909

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever
And our confidence alone.

2 To this temple, where we call You,
Come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
Come with all Your loving-kindness,
Hear Your people as they pray;
And Your fullest benediction
Shed within these walls today.

3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faithful
All the gifts they ask to gain;
What they gain from You, forever
With the blessèd to retain;
And hereafter in Your glory
Evermore with You to reign.

4 Praise and honor to the Father,
Praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one:
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run!

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN ~ 'Son of God, Eternal Savior' (v. 4)

LSB 842

4 Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing
That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:
Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Public domain

THE BENEDICTION

P: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to the Lord and praise His name.

C: For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

P: The Lord Bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C:(sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

P: Go in peace and serve the Living Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POST-SERVICE MUSIC