

**Second Sunday in
Easter**

**April 12th
10:30 am**

Preacher:

- *Pastor Steve Hulke*

**St. Luke's Lutheran
Church**

& Preschool/4K

2011 Tenth St. South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI
54494

715.423.5990

mail@stlukeslutheran.com

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 & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lutheran Schools Preview

- *Director Kathy Wenger, St. Luke's Preschool & 4k*
- *Principal Brian Betts, Immanuel Lutheran School (up to 8th-grade)*
- *Principal Paul Gnan, Central Wisconsin Lutheran High School (9th- & 10th-grades for 2026-2027 school year)*

Opening Hymn ~ 'Because He Lives'

Verse 1: I believe in the Son
I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood

Chorus: Amen, amen. I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives.
Amen, amen. Let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives.

Verse 2: I was dead in the grave;
I was covered in sin and shame.
I heard mercy call my name;
He rolled the stone away! (**Chorus**)

Bridge: Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life, my future in His hand. (**Chorus**)

Ending: Because He Lives.

CCLI Song # 7027887 Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Gloria Gaither | Jason Ingram | Matt Maher | William J. Gaither © 2014 Alletrop Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C: **Amen.**

Kyrie *LSB 152*

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Exhortation *LSB 151*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins *LSB 151*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution *LSB 151*

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray... 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.

C: Amen.

(Be Seated)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

First Reading ~ New Testament History *Acts 5:29–42*

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But 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. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For 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. ³⁷After 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. ³⁸So 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; ³⁹but 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, ⁴⁰and 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. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading ~ New Testament Epistle *1 Peter 1:3–9*

³Blessed 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, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Though 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, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

Verse of the Day *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

P: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

C: Alleluia.

Third Reading ~ Holy Gospel *John 20:19–31*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On 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.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.”

²⁶Eight 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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)

CHILDREN'S TIME

MESSAGE SONG ~ 'Evidence'

Verse 1- Solo

All throughout my history
Your faithfulness has walked beside me
The winter storms made way for spring
In every season from where I'm standing

Chorus 1-Congregation

I see the evidence of Your goodness
All over my life, All over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment
All over my life, All over my life

Verse 2-Solo

Help me remember when I'm weak
Fear may come but fear will leave
You lead my heart to victory
You are my strength and You always will be

Chorus 1-Congregation

I see the evidence of Your goodness
All over my life, All over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment
All over my life, All over my life

Bridge-Congregation

See the cross the empty grave
The evidence is endless
All my sin rolled away
Because of You oh Jesus *(Repeat)*

Chorus 1-Congregation

I see the evidence of Your goodness
All over my life, All over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment
All over my life, All over my life

Chorus 1-Congregation

I see the evidence of Your goodness
All over my life, All over my life
I see Your promises in fulfillment
All over my life, All over my life

Chorus 2-Congregation

Why should I fear
The evidence is clear
Why should I fear
The evidence is clear

MESSAGE ~ "Greater Worth Than Gold" (1 Peter 1:3-7)

THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS & WE CARE CARDS

(Rise)

Offertory ~ 'Shout to the Lord' - Duet

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with the following prompt from the Pastor and response from the Congregation:

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.** (*After the final petition: Amen.*)

THE SERVICE OF 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 and Savior and Lord and accept this understanding of communion you are invited to commune with us. There is a choice of individual or communion cup. You may choose a Gluten free wafer from the brass container as the host is served.

WORDS OF INVITATION

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

Psalm 136

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

PROPER PREFACE

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. 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into

heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

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.

DISTRIBUTION SONG ~ 'Man on the Middle Cross'

Verse 1 - Praise Team

I heard the preacher talking
About three wooden crosses
Upon a hill for everyone to see
Two sinners on the outside
Couldn't save themselves if they tried
All I could think is man that sounds like me

Chorus - Congregation

I've been the one on the left
Full of guilt and regret
Long-gone on the wrong side of living
I've been the one on the right
Always looking for a fight
Thinking I could never be forgiven
I'm standing here today overwhelmed by grace
'Cause I know who paid my cost
Thank God for the Man on the middle cross

Verse 2 - Praise Team

He didn't have to do it
But for me He went through it
A love like that I'll never understand
Lord knows I don't deserve it
And I know I couldn't earn it
Let mercy rain down on this desperate man

Chorus - Congregation

Bridge - Praise Team

The cross is where He went
Oh but that ain't where He stayed
He brought me back to life
When He rose up outta that grave
Someday I'll stand before Him
And I'll see Jesus face to face
I'll worship and adore Him
For a life forever changed

Chorus - Congregation

End - Thank God for the Man on the middle cross.

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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

C: Amen.

Benediction *LSB 166*

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: Amen.

(Be Seated)

Sending Hymn ~ 'I'm So Blessed'

Intro - Praise Team

I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed
I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed

Verse 1 - Praise Team

Trouble knocking at my door today
I ain't gonna let it in
Worry wanna steal my joy away
I ain't gonna let it win

Pre-Chorus - Congregation

On my best day I'm a child of God
On my worst day I'm a child of God
Oh everyday is a good day
You're the reason why

Chorus - Congregation

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
Got this heartbeat in my chest
No it doesn't matter about the rest
If I got You Lord I'm so blessed

Interlude - Congregation

I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed
I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed

Verse 2 - Praise Team

When I count the problems that I see
Hope looks all but gone
But when I count the ways You're good to me
You got me counting all day long

Chorus - Congregation

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
Got this heartbeat in my chest
No it doesn't matter about the rest
If I got You Lord I'm so blessed - **Repeat**

On my best day I'm a child of God
On my worst day I'm a child of God
Oh everyday is a good day
You're the reason why

Chorus - Congregation

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
Got this heartbeat in my chest
No it doesn't matter about the rest
If I got You Lord I'm so blessed

On my best day I'm a child of God
On my worst day I'm a child of God
Oh everyday is a good day
You're the reason why

Ending

I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed
I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed
No it doesn't matter about the rest
If I got You Lord hallelujah I'm blessed

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Sending Instructions & Dismissal

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**