



Williams Bay Lutheran Church Worship

April 12, 2026

Service of the Word & Holy Communion

8:00 AM

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives.

Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

Please silence your cell phone. Thank you.



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

Greeting: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WORD

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²²“Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.⁷

²⁹ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³² “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and

into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Rev. Lynn Peterson

Silence for Reflection

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions conclude with: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Words of Institution for Holy Communion

Lord's Prayer

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.

All are Welcome to receive the Lord's Meal at His table.

Table Blessing

Prayer

Sending Blessing

Sending Hymn

Thine is the Glory

ELW 376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

Dismissal

Thanks be to God.

Let us share the peace of the Lord with one another.



In Our Prayers: *All our military men and women:* Clayton Kelley (Pennsylvania), Collins Nash (Africa), Nick Valques (Middle East), and Jakob Franklin. *New prayer requests for April:* Please send any new prayer requests to Pastor Tom.

Grace Notes

April 12 Simplified Service, 8 AM
 Traditional Service, 9:30 AM
 Sunday School, 9:45 AM
April 13 Office Closed
April 14 Pastor Tom Worship at Sherwood, 10 AM
 Coffee Club, 9:30 AM
April 15 Handbell rehearsal, 6:30 PM
 Confirmation, 7 PM

Join us for a **Beloit Sky Carp** baseball game outing for June 23! Sign-up in the narthex.
\$20/ticket

Worship Servers

Service		April 12	April 19
Usher	9:30 AM	Monroe Putnam	Chad Beth
Lector	8:00 AM	Dori Freundt	Natalie Reno
	9:30 AM	Marilyn Carlson	Marilyn Carlson
Cantor	9:30 AM	Marilyn Carlson	Marilyn Carlson
Acolyte	9:30 AM	Luke Galvin	Olivia Beth
Communion Assistants	9:30 AM	Deena Putnam	OPEN
		OPEN	OPEN
Refreshments		Nancy Swatek	OPEN
Altar Flowers		OPEN	OPEN
Altar Guild		Jorine	Jorine
Sunday School			
Offering Counters		Dinah & Jack	Dottie & Connie

Thank you to Reverend Lynn Peterson for leading worship today.