



# **Williams Bay Lutheran Church Worship**

**April 12, 2026**

**Service of the Word & Holy Communion**

**9:30 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.*

## Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements

### Gathering

The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God.

### Confession and Forgiveness

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters.  
We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.  
We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).  
Blessed are you.

### **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.  
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.  
Blessed are you.

### **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.  
Fill us with the breath of peace.  
Blessed are you.

### **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Gathering Hymn**

*The Day of Resurrection!*

**ELW 361**

## **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**

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup>“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 <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> 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;

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

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

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “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. <sup>30</sup> 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. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’  
<sup>32</sup> “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**

- <sup>1</sup> 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.”
- <sup>2</sup> **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- <sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- <sup>4</sup> **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names up on my lips.**
- <sup>5</sup> O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who hold my lot.
- <sup>6</sup> **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- <sup>7</sup> I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.
- <sup>8</sup> **I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- <sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.
- <sup>10</sup> **For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
- <sup>11</sup> 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**

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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,<sup>9</sup> 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 Acclamation



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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### Gospel

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### Gospel: John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup> 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.” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup> 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 any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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.”

<sup>26</sup> 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.” <sup>27</sup> 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.” <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 come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in

this book.<sup>31</sup> 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**

*Reverend Lynn Peterson*

**Silence for Reflection**

**Hymn of the Day**

*We Walk by Faith*

**ELW 635**

**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**

*Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.*

*Petitions conclude with:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Offering**

## MEAL

### Offering Hymn

*"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"*

ELW 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### Offering 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.

**Hymns during Communion**

*"Lamb of God"*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lamb of God". It consists of four staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have". The second staff continues with "mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the". The third staff continues with "world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -". The fourth staff concludes with "way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*



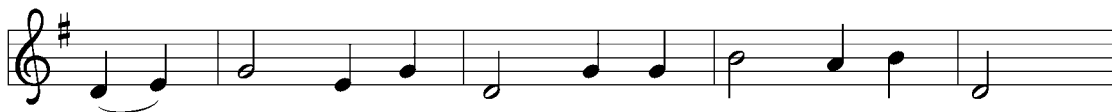
This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

## Table Blessing

## SENDING

**Sending Prayer and Blessing**

**Sending Hymn**

*Let All Things Now Living*

**ELW 881**

**Dismissal**

**Thanks be to God!**



**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 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.**

### Life Together as God's People

Ministers	Williams Bay Lutheran Church Members
Pastor	Rev. Thomas Dowling
Council President	Allen Filloon
Council Vice President	Mike Reno
Treasurer	Bruce Hildner
9:30 Organist	Marianne Peterson
8:00 Pianist	Susan Gali, Chris Groth, and Sandra Johnson
Custodian	Mary Mock
Landscaping	Gunnar Olsen
Parish Secretary	Sandra Johnson