

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24 / 27, 2025

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

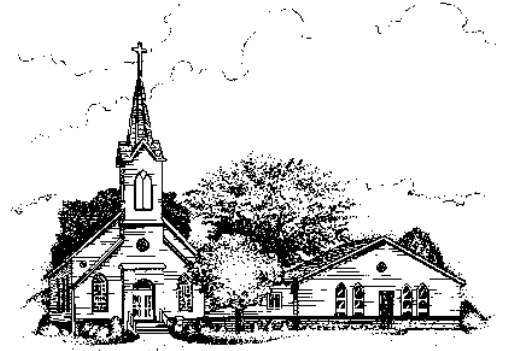
6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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Welcome to God's House

If Jesus remained dead, all he would provide is an example of a beautiful life. Therefore, if Jesus remained dead, the mission of his followers would simply be to share advice. “Here is how Jesus would want us to love one another. Or “Jesus would want us to think about money like this.” Or “This is how Jesus would pray.” But because he lives, his followers now have a meaningful mission. It is not to share advice, but to testify to what we have seen and know to be true. Christ has risen!



Thus, Jesus is not a standard, but our Savior. Jesus is not primarily an example for this life, but the doorway into eternal life. His resurrection to glory will be the resurrection of all who put their faith in him. Sharing that good news—that's our mission.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia #442

Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!

Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!

see the place where he was laid; Alleluia!

praise him for the ransom paid. Alleluia!

For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!

sinless in the sinners' stead. Alleluia!

“Christ is ris’n,” today we cry; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
while, in strange and awe-full strife, Alleluia!
met together death and life. Alleluia!

Christ, who once for sinners bled, Alleluia!
now the firstborn from the dead, Alleluia!
throned in endless might and pow’r, Alleluia!
lives and reigns forevermore. Alleluia!

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins,
asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
for sins of habit and sins of choice,
for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
you should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord is gracious and righteous!

When I was in great need, he saved me.

The Lord is my strength and my song.

He has become my salvation.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For faith to believe the resurrection of Christ and to trust the forgiving words of his servants, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the spread of the Easter gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be raised to faith and newness of life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For holiness of life, that joined by baptism to Christ's death and resurrection, God would set our mind on things above, let us pray to the Lord.

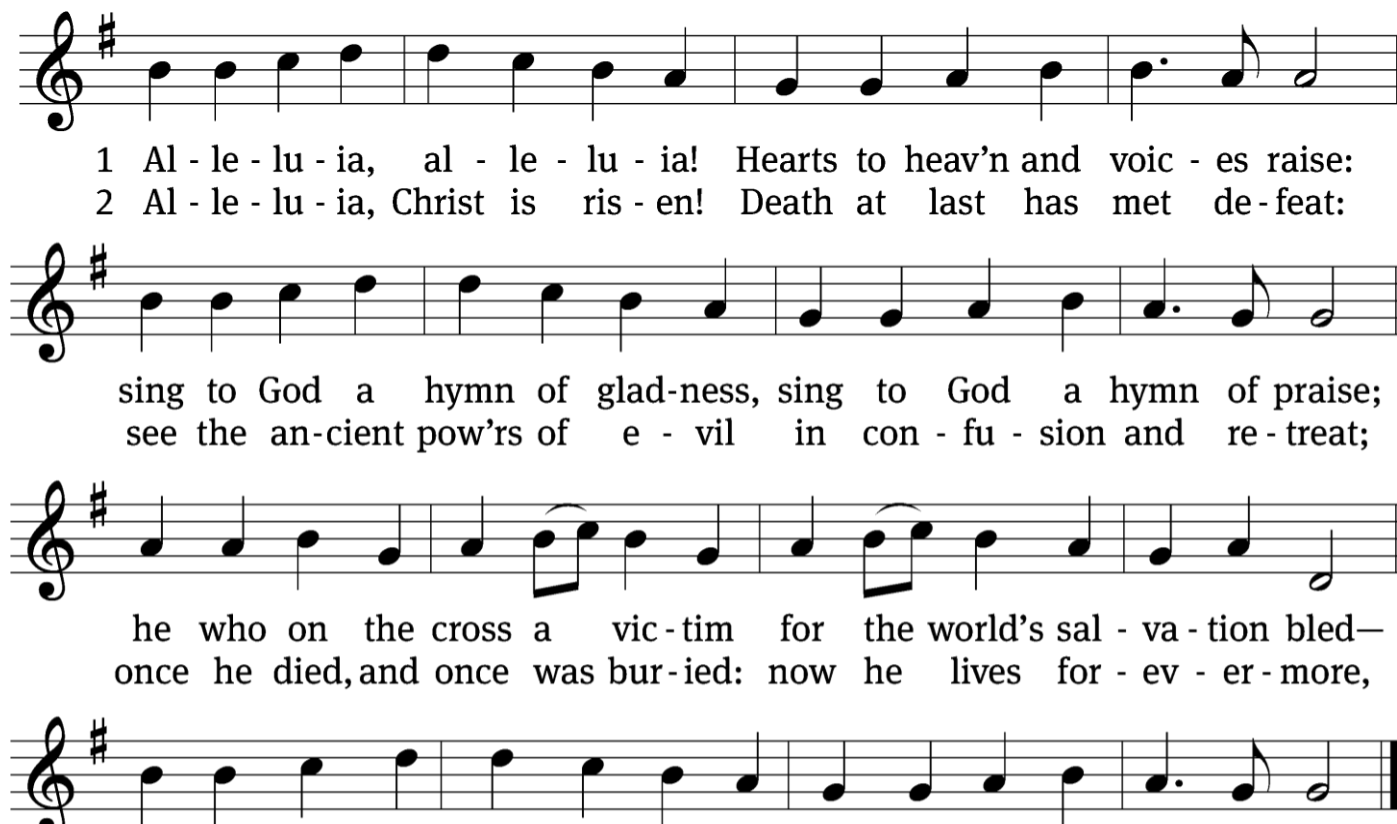
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, risen Lord.

Amen.

Gloria

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven #460:1-2



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:

sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
see the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil in con - fu - sion and re - treat;

he who on the cross a vic - tim for the world's sal - va - tion bled—
once he died, and once was bur - ied: now he lives for - ev - er - more,

Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, whom we wor - ship and a - dore.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live

and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First Reading

Acts 5:12,17-32

¹² The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade...

¹⁷ Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. ¹⁸ They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. ²⁰ "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life."

²¹ At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people.

When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. ²² But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, ²³ "We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." ²⁴ On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to.

²⁵ Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." ²⁶ At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them.

²⁷ The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸ "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings! ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. ³² We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! - Psalm 150B

Refrain



Tone



Praise God in his sanctu- / ary;
praise him in his mighty / heavens.

Praise him for his acts of / power;
praise him for his surpassing / greatness. *Refrain*

Praise him with the sounding of the / trumpet,
praise him with the / harp and lyre,
praise him with timbrel and / dancing,
praise him with the / strings and pipe,

praise him with the clash of / cymbals,
praise him with resounding / cymbals. *Refrain*

Let everything that has breath / praise the Lord.

Praise / the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Revelation 1:4-18

⁴John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

⁷“Look, he is coming with the clouds,”

and “every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him”;

and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”

So shall it be! Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

⁹I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a

trumpet, ¹¹ which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to

Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

¹² I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. ¹⁵ His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

**Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
Alleluia.**

Gospel

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen #454:1-4



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es; life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent: death put a -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; break - ing our bread, giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Sermon

Acts 5:12,17-32

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness and the firstborn from the dead. To you be glory and power forever. Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! You hold the keys to death and hell! Give us a bold and confident faith, built on the testimony of our risen Savior. Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! **You hold the keys to death and hell!**

Many in our world live in doubt and fear because they do not know you. Raise them up. Lead them to repentance and give them forgiveness of sins that they may know your peace.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! **You hold the keys to death and hell!**

Ruler of the kings of the earth, govern and guide the leaders of the nations, especially in our country, as well as all federal and state legislatures, that they may maintain civil peace and security, and we may continue to worship you in peace.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! **You hold the keys to death and hell!**

Bless those who proclaim your Word and lead your churches in worship. Open their lips to declare your praise for the joy and edification of your holy people.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! **You hold the keys to death and hell!**

You have loved us and have freed us from our sins by your blood. By your love, calm the doubts and fears of those who suffer with pains of mind or body [especially...]. Give them patient endurance and confidence in your power.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! **You hold the keys to death and hell!**

Silent prayers and special intercessions may follow

Lord Jesus Christ, true God and truly human, you do not change, and you are holy in all your works. Remove all our unbelief and doubt and fill our hearts with the gifts of your grace that we may believe and know you as our Lord and our God; you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

The Sacrament

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

LANCASHIRE CW 1027

♪ Sing, “Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts on high,
your everlasting glory fills earth and sea and sky.”

**Our voices cry, “Hosanna!” Lord, hear our humble plea:
in mercy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.**

**Hosanna in the highest! How blest is Christ our King,
who died as our Redeemer, eternal life to bring!
How blest are you, Lord Jesus, now coming in God’s name!
“Hosanna in the highest!” our grateful hearts proclaim.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

♪ O Lamb of God, once lifted high
upon a cross to bleed and die,
in perfect love you took our place—
bestow on us your saving grace.

O Lamb of God, your sacrifice
has cancelled sin, has paid its price;
your perfect love will never cease—
have mercy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn

O Sons and Daughters of the King #456

O sons and daughters of the King, whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

That Easter morn, at break of day, the faithful women went their way
to seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

An angel bade their sorrow flee, for thus he spoke unto the three,
“Your Lord will go to Galilee.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

That night th' apostles met in fear; among them came their Lord most dear
and said, “My peace be with you here.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

When Thomas afterwards had heard that Jesus had fulfilled his word,
he doubted that it was the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

“Thomas, behold my side,” said he, “my hands, my feet, my body see;
and doubt not, but believe in me.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God,” he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Blessèd are they that have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been;
in life eternal they shall reign. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days to God your hearts and voices raise
in laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving
gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and
increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story #746:1-3

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,

of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story because I know it's true;

it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do. **Refrain**

***Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.***

O wonderful redemption! The price for sin is paid,
salvation is accomplished, my heart is unafraid,
for God has raised Christ Jesus to show the work was done;
his glorious resurrection declared the vict'ry won! **Refrain**

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. **Refrain**

Copyrights / Acknowledgments

460 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven *CW 460 sts. 1-2*

Text (st. 1): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885; (st. 2): rev. Jubilate Hymns Ltd.

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796-1867

Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

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150B Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! *Psalm 150B*

Tune: Walter L. Pelz

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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454 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen *CW 454*

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Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987

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This Week at Zion

Today:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
	4:00 p.m.	Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee concert at St. Lucas, MKE
Mon:	10:00 a.m.	OWLS meeting at Peace, Hartford
	7:00 p.m.	Building committee meeting
Tue:	8:30 a.m.	KM Pastoral Conference at St. Paul, Cedar Lake
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Catechism Instructions
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Fri-Sat:	7:00 p.m.	KML Spring Play
Sat:	4:00 p.m.	Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee concert at Crown of Life, Hubertus
Sun:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	KML Spring Play

In Our Prayers Kim Hartmann, undergoing shoulder replacement surgery this Thursday; Rhea Schmidt, hospitalized at St. Agnes in Fond du Lac; also Herbie Justman, at Cedar Lake Campus for PT after a hip replacement.

Lord's Supper As a church concerned with upholding all the truths of Scripture and encouraging faithful Christian living, we practice "member communion" with those who have confessed a unity of faith with us. If you are not a WELS or ELS member and you would like to commune with us in the future, please speak to the pastor after the service.

Work Day For those reading this on Thursday night, a reminder about our work day this Saturday morning beginning at 8 a.m. We could use as many people as possible for our spring cleaning inside and sprucing up the grounds outside.

Easter Lilies If you didn't pick up your lily on Easter, you're more than welcome to take yours home after church today.

We thank our organists this weekend: Jared Peterson on Thursday and Barb Olsen on Sunday.

Please pick up the new church calendars and newsletters for May and the new *Forward in Christ*, available on the entryway cabinets.

KML Spring Play Join us for Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School's production of the play *Radium Girls* this coming Friday & Saturday (May 2 & 3) at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door beginning 30 minutes before each performance. All tickets are general admission and \$5 each.

Upcoming Concerts at KML Please join us at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School as KML band and choir students praise God using their talents in these upcoming concerts:

- Jazz & Echoes Concert - Wednesday, May 7, 6:30 PM
- Percussion Concert - Saturday, May 10, 6:30 PM
- Spring Band & Choir Concert - Saturday, May 17, 6:30 PM

All concerts will be livestreamed at kmlhs.org/stream for those unable to attend in person.

Golf Outing Join us for our 9th annual charity Golf Outing on Friday, May 16, 2025, at the Ironwood Golf Course in Sussex, WI. This event benefits the ministry of Christian Life Resources. To register, go to www.christianliferesources.com and scroll down to click on the link.

Lutheran Chorale Concert Please join the Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee, under the artistic direction of Levi Nagel, for their spring concerts entitled "In Charity and Love." This concert centers around the extraordinary message of God's love shown through Christ, and our privilege to display that love to others. See the poster on the bulletin board for places and times.

WELS 175th Anniversary Dinner The WELS Historical Institute cordially invites you to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod at a dinner at Salem Lutheran Church and School. The original constitution for the WELS was adopted on May 26, 1850. That adoption took place at the first synod convention, held in a small log cabin church at Salem Lutheran Church in Granville (about 30 miles SE of here). We invite you back to birthplace of the Wisconsin Synod on May 28th to celebrate God's grace to our church body. The WELS Museum will be open beginning at 4:00 p.m. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church with a program on the history of the WELS to follow. Tickets for the event are \$50 / person. Go to www.welshistoricalinstitute.org and click on the 175th Anniversary dinner link.