

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Holstein, IA

April 12, 2026

9:00 A.M.

Second Sunday of Easter

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 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.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving For Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

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 of grace and baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Thine is the Glory

#376

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.

Prayer of the Day

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

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.' 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.**

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 ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The first system of musical notation for the children's message. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics: "Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!". The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation, identical to the first, providing a second reading of the children's message.

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁹When 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." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus 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.

Message Vicar Millie Anderson

Hymn of the Day *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #855 st. 1, 3, & 5

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, the one who comes before us and goes behind us, creating life and opportunities to love and care for the world.

We believe in Jesus Christ who walks with us into real life each day. He is God, yet human like us and experienced all life's joys and pains and challenges like we do. But his love is so great that not sin nor suffering nor even death could stop it. Today the love of Jesus lives and continues to bring new life to the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who comes like the wind and blows in and through us to bring God's power and light to all the world. The Spirit breathes life into us, the body of Christ we call the church, and enables us to follow the way of Christ.

We believe in God, who goes before and behind, with, in and through us, bringing hope and life and newness to the world.

Julie Kahl, from The Journey © 1992 Dakota Road Music
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RESPONSE

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Children's Offering / Offering

Offering Hymn

Touch That Soothes and Heals

(see insert)

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. Just as you stood among your disciples and breathed your Spirit upon them, breathe your life into these offerings. Use them to bring your peace to a troubled world and to strengthen our witness to your resurrection. In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.**

SENDING

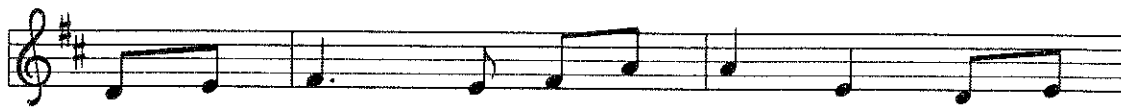
Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Offering Hymn

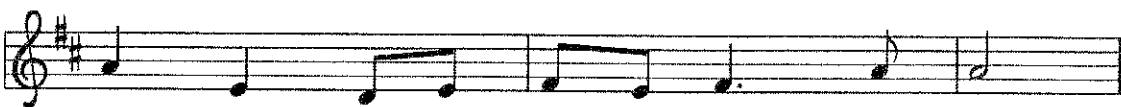
Touch That Soothes and Heals *See My Hands and Feet*



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

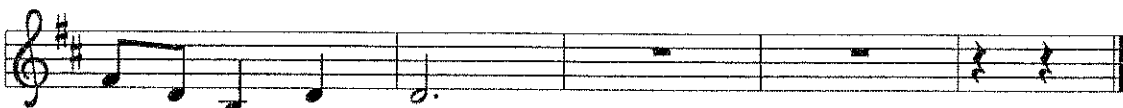
Refrain



"See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. "Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as



ones I died to save."

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972

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Closing Song

Send Us Out

We have been called by the Lord. We have been saved by the Word.
Now let the Word be restored. Now let the Gospel be heard.
Send us out to teach what God has done. Send us out to reach ev'ry single one.
Send us out. Send us out.

We who were bound by our shame, ruled by our fears within,
Stand and declare by the name, freedom from all of our sin.
Send us out to teach what God has done. Send us out to reach ev'ry single one.
Send us out. Send us out.

Teach what God has done. Reach ev'ry single one.
Teach what God has done. Reach ev'ry single one.

Send us out to teach what God has done. Send us out to reach ev'ry single one.
Send us out. Send us out.

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Amy Peuse
Deacons:	Reuben De La O and Susan Endrulat
Greeters:	Dave & Liz Kistenmacher
Acolytes:	Beau Butcher and Lincoln Rasmus
Sound & Video:	Kelby & Joy Wulf
Coffee Hour:	Deb & Thad Bagenstos Jan Grell

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, April 12 ~ Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM	Worship
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship

TUESDAY, April 14

6:30 PM	Painting Through Liturgy with Vicar Millie
7:00 PM	Trustees Meeting

WEDNESDAY, April 15

5:00 PM	LOGOS ~ "Sun & Surf"
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THURSDAY, April 16

6:00 PM	Parish Education Meeting
7:00 PM	Congregation Council meeting

FRIDAY, April 17

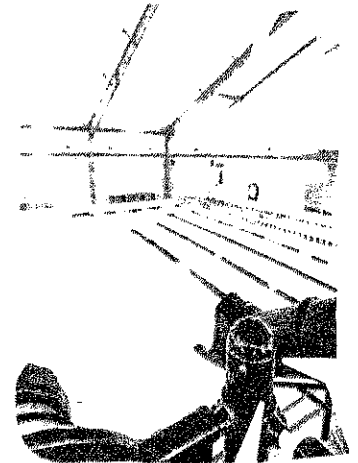
4:00 PM	Western IA Synod Assembly in Sergeant Bluff
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SATURDAY, April 18

7:45 AM	Western IA Synod Assembly in Sergeant Bluff
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SUNDAY, April 19

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship
1:00 PM	Wellness Day at Cherokee Wellness Center
5:30 PM	Shepherd's Table Meal - All Are Welcome!



◆ **ST. PAUL** ◆
Wellness Day

Sunday, April 19th, 2026

All are welcome for a fun afternoon at the:
Cherokee Fitness Center
300 Sioux Valley Dr. Cherokee, IA

Swimming & other
activities from
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Fees & Snacks
covered by
St. Paul

DOORS OPEN AT 1:00 PM

If there is a cancellation due to weather,
we will post it on the St. Paul Facebook page.