

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 4 & 7, 2024

The Living God Gives Proof and Peace

Opening Hymn 438, “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Order of Service..... Setting One, Page 154

Prayer of the Day: O 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.

FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (*On Insert*)..... Psalm 17A

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Page 161

Gospel Acclamation Verse: Alleluia. *Blessed are those who have not seen */ and yet have believed.* Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day 456 vv. 1-7, “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

SERMON..... “The Risen Christ Gives Power to His Church” John 20:19-31

Offering Hymn 717 v. 2, “What Is the World to Me”

Nicene Creed Pages 162-163

Communion Liturgy Page 165

Communion Hymn..... 668, “Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

Closing Liturgy Page 170

Closing Hymn 456 vv. 8 & 9, “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

FIRST READING: Acts 18:1-11

The promised presence of the living Lord gave Paul the courage to keep on speaking the gospel, even when Paul was facing harsh persecution.

After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them. Because he had the same occupation, he stayed and worked with them, for they were tentmakers by trade. Every Sabbath he led a discussion in the synagogue, trying to persuade both Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul was entirely devoted to preaching the word, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. But when they opposed Paul and slandered him, he shook out his clothes and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on, I will go to the Gentiles!”

He left that place and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshipper of God, whose house was next door to the synagogue. Crispus, the synagogue leader, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians, when they heard, believed and were baptized.

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid, but keep on speaking, and do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, because I have many people in this city.” He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1-4

St. John reminds us that there were witnesses who saw and touched Jesus raised from the dead. This resurrection serves as proof that eternal life is ours.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have observed and our hands have touched regarding the Word of Life— the life appeared, and we have seen it. We testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We are proclaiming what we have seen and heard also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. We write these things to you so that our joy may be complete.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The risen Savior offers proof and peace to his disciples.

On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION: Because of the confessional nature of the Lord's Supper which is offered today, we invite forward those who are members of a WELS or ELS congregation. If you have questions about the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor.

HEAD USHERS THIS WEEK: Dean Ebert/Rob Stern; next week: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart.

BAPTISM: Sophia Susan Keller, infant daughter of William (Chaz), IV, & Ashley Keller, will be baptized in a private service immediately following Sunday's (TODAY's) worship service. We rejoice at Sophia's rebirth through water and the Word! Sophia was born June 27, 2023.

CALL MEETING: Our next call meeting to fill our 4K/5K teaching vacancy next year will take place on **Wednesday, April 10**, immediately before that evening's Church Council meeting which begins at **7:00 PM**. All voting members are invited and encouraged to attend!

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY: No one has signed up to host the fellowship hour which would take place immediately following the worship service on **Sunday, April 28**. If this is something you or a group of you would be willing to do, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the church bulletin board or speak with Pastor Mose today. Thank you!

LWMS SPRING MISSION RALLY: We will be hosting the LWMS Spring Mission Rally right here at St. Matthew's on **Saturday, April 13**, from **8:30 AM – 12:30 PM**. It will be co-hosted by St. John, Woodland. **We can still use help for this!! If you would be willing to do something, please check out the sign-up sheet located on the SCHOOL bulletin board or speak with Becky Schulz today!** The speaker and topic will be: **Juan Escobar** who is a seminary student from Doral, Florida. Originally from Colombia, Juan will present on Latin American missions and Academia Cristo. He will also talk about how a basketball camp at Divine Savior changed his life. Registration for the day will begin at **8:30 AM** with the rally beginning at **9:00 AM** and concluding at **12:30 PM**. Those planning on attending are asked to bring non-perishable food items or cash as a donation for the *Seminary Food Pantry*. Donations will also be taken at registration for the *Working Fund*. If you would like more information about this rally, please speak with **Becky** or **Abby Schulz**.

QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING: The next Quarterly Voters' Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 17**, at **7:00 PM**. A big topic of discussion will be the budget for the 2024 - 2025 fiscal year. All voters please note this date and time on your calendars as we urge you all to participate!

FYSH GROUP: The next meeting of the FYSH group will be on **Sunday, April 21**, at **6:00 PM** at our church/school. There will be several activities to participate in! There will be building of birdhouses, some cooking/baking, and a sewing craft. All students ages 13 and up are invited to attend!

SERVICE GROUP MEETING: The next meeting of the Service Group will be held immediately following the fellowship hour on **Sunday, April 28**. All confirmed members are invited to join us!

WLA – HOT LUNCH: St. Matthew's has been assigned the dates of **April 29 – May 3, 2024**, to help serve hot lunch at WLA. The hours of service are from **9:30 AM – 1:30 PM**. If this is something you would be willing to do, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the church bulletin board. If you would like more information about helping, please contact **Wayne Schultz (920-948-1978)**. Thank you!

WELS NIGHT AT THE BREWERS: Back and better than ever, WELS Night at the Brewers is returning for 2024! Plan to join thousands of WELS members for an evening at the ballpark on **Friday, July 12**, to watch the Brewers take on the Nationals. Tickets for WELS members and guests continue to receive a discount of up to 50% and are reserved together in all three seating categories. Ticket prices are **\$23** (Field Outfield Box), **\$17** (Loge Outfield Box), and **\$10** (Terrace Infield). Individual tickets are available **NOW** and can be purchased online at brewers.com/wels.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Maundy Thursday: 51/46; Good Friday: 174; Easter Sunday: 65/186

Offerings: Maundy Thursday: \$979.00; Good Friday: \$2,216.00; Easter Sunday: \$10,036.00

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$7,239.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$10.00



We invite you to support this ministry through financial offerings out of thanksgiving for the Gospel you have received here. Offerings may be placed in the plates located on the tables at the back of church, or you may scan the QR code to give electronically.

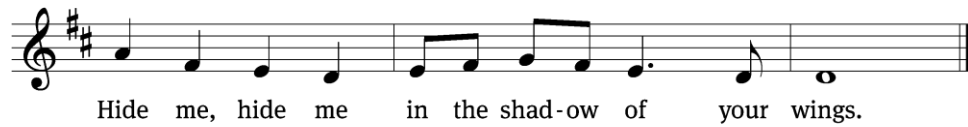
OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

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| Sunday: | Communion Worship Service 9:00 AM |
| | Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School..... 10:15 AM |
| Monday: | School Board Meeting 7:00 PM |
| Wednesday: | Elders' Meeting..... 6:30 PM |
| | CALL MEETING!! – IMMEDIATELY BEFORE CHURCH COUNCIL!! |
| | Church Council..... 7:00 PM |
| Thursday: | Worship Service 7:00 PM |
| | Adult Choir..... 8:00 PM |
| | SCRIP ORDERS DUE |
| Saturday: | <i>LWMS SPRING RALLY (We Host!!)..... 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM</i> |
| Sunday: | Worship Service 9:00 AM |
| | <u>NO</u> Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School |

17A Keep Me As the Apple of Your Eye

Psalm 17A

Refrain



Tone



Hear me, LORD, my plea is just; listen / to my cry.

Hear my prayer—it does not rise from de- / ceitful lips.

Let my vindication / come from you;

may your eyes see / what is right. *Refrain*

I call on you, my God, for you will / answer me;

turn your ear to me and / hear my prayer.

Show me the wonders of / your great love,

you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you / from their foes.

As for me, I will be vindicated and will / see your face;

when I awake, I will be satisfied with seeing your / likeness.

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*

Tune: Jane Marshall

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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