

## St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Easter Worship Service

### Opening Hymn

455, "Alleluia! Jesus Lives"

**M:** Alleluia, Christ is risen!  
**C:** **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**  
**M:** We celebrate this festival day in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**C:** **Amen.**  
**M:** Upon the hill the cross stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb.  
**C:** **Christ is risen, Alleluia!**  
**M:** Within us, new life is awakened. God has given new hope to a dying world.  
**C:** **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia! Amen!**

### Confession of Sins

**M:** Lord, prepare us for worship as we confess our sins.  
**C:** **Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in your presence, to hear your Word, and to worship you by celebrating the resurrection of your Son.**  
**M:** But who may appear in your presence, heavenly Father, and who may call on you for help?  
**C:** **The one who has clean hands and a pure heart shall receive blessings from the Lord.**  
**M:** O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and are worthy to receive only your wrath and condemnation. But your mercies never end; they are new every day. With your command and promise in mind, therefore, we come to you to confess our sins.  
**C:** **O holy and merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But at your gracious invitation I come to you, and for the sake of my risen Lord Jesus Christ, I plead: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

### Absolution

**M:** Having heard your confession, I as a called minister of Christ assure you that our gracious Father in heaven has heard your prayer, and by the command of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C:** **Amen.**

### The Old Testament Lesson

**Job 19:23-27**

By faith Job knew that because the redeemer lives, even though Job would die and his body would decay, he would see his God with his own eyes in the resurrection.

*Oh how I wish that my words were written down. Oh how I wish that they were inscribed in bronze, that they would be engraved in rock forever with an iron tool and letters filled with lead. As*

*for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the end of time he will stand over the dust. Then, even after my skin has been destroyed, nevertheless, in my own flesh I will see God. I myself will see him. My own eyes will see him, and not as a stranger. My emotions are in turmoil within me.*

### The Psalm of the Day (*In Hymnal*)

**Psalm 118**

### The Epistle Lesson

**1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

Christ gives us hope in this life. But Christ's resurrection gives us hope also for the eternal life that is to come.

*If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." Death is the last enemy to be done away with.*

**Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!**

### In response to the verse of the day, the congregation will sing Hymn 466 v. 1

1. Christ has arisen, alleluia.  
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.  
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,  
even from death, dispelling its gloom. (Refrain)

Refrain: Let us sing praise to him with endless joy;  
death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.  
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!  
Jesus is living, alleluia!

### The Gospel Lesson

**Mark 16:1-8**

Early Easter morning, an angel explains to the women why they won't find Jesus' corpse in the tomb.

*When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the*

tomb for us?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. He said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

**Sermon Hymn** 441, “I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

**Sermon:** “Vindication” Mark 16:1-8

**The Offering Hymn** 467 v. 3, “With High Delight Let Us Unite”

**The Confession of Faith** (*The Apostles’ Creed, p. 163*)

**The Easter Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn** 465, “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

**Prayer:**

**M:** Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in the newness of life and always rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**The Benediction**

**C:** Amen (*sung by the congregation*)

**The Closing Hymn** 824, vv. 1,4,5 “This is the Threefold Truth”

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HEAD USHERS THIS SUNDAY:** Ronald Kneueppel/Randy Sellnow; next Sunday: Dean Ebert/Rob Stern

**EASTER FLOWERS:** Those of you who ordered lilies for today’s church services should make arrangements to pick up your flower(s) immediately after our 9:00 AM worship service. If you plan on getting your lily at another time, please inform Wayne or Bonnie Schultz of this. Payment for your lily (or lilies) should be made to Wayne or Bonnie Schultz. The cost for each lily is **\$12.00**. If you are paying by check, make it payable to: **St. Matthew’s Service Group.**

**THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES** begin once again this coming **Thursday, April 4, at 7:00 PM.** This will be a communion worship service.

**CALL RETURNED:** The call which we extended to Mrs. Lori Andrews to teach Gr. 4K/5K has been returned. Because of this, we have scheduled a new call meeting to take place on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10,** immediately prior to the Church Council meeting which is set to begin at **7:00 PM.** All voting members are encouraged and invited to be present for this call meeting!

**ORGANISTS:** The **April** schedule is hanging on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please look at your calendars in the near future and sign up for the date(s) you are willing to play for us. 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. 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.

On the LWMS bulletin board in the hallway by Mr. Lorge’s classroom there is a sign-up sheet to attend the rally. On the **SCHOOL** bulletin board in the main hallway there is a sign-up sheet to help set up, greet, serve, and clean up, as well as to donate baked goods. 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.**

**WE THANK** everyone who donated to last week’s LWMS free-will offering! A total of **\$356.00** was collected!

**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!

**SPRING RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE:** St. Matthew’s PTL will be holding its second annual Rummage and Bake Sale on: **Saturday, May 4, from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM.** As you start your spring cleaning, please set aside items which you would like to donate to this sale. We will let you know when you can start bringing items to the school. Watch the bulletins for further details! As the time draws closer, please watch for a sign-up sheet for baked goods which can be donated as well. This event is being coordinated by **Mrs. Ruth Callies,** so if you have any questions about it or would be able to lend a hand in any way, please feel free to reach out to her!

**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.**

**WE THANK** the Adult Choir for beautifying our Easter service with their song today!

**WE THANK** Dean and Suanne Ebert for organizing today’s Easter breakfast! We also thank everyone who helped in any way for this breakfast, including set up, serving food, clean up, and donation of food items!

## OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

**Attendance:** Lenten Services (3/20): 47/30; Palm Sunday: 146

**Offerings:** Lenten Services: \$791.00; Palm Sunday: \$4,061.20

**Tuition:** \$942.75; **4K Tuition:** \$306.00

**Special Funds:** Debt Retirement: \$100.00



*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

Sunday: **EASTER – Worship Services** .....7:00 AM/9:00 AM  
*(Breakfast served between services)*

Monday: **NO SCHOOL – EASTER MONDAY**

Tuesday: *School - Classes Resume*

Thursday: Communion Worship Service .....7:00 PM  
**NO** Adult Choir

Sunday: Communion Worship Service .....9:00 AM  
Adult & Teen Bible Class & Sunday School..... 10:15 AM