



HOPE
is
ALIVE

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – Hamburg
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 27, 2025 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Monday, April 28, 2025 6:30 p.m.

John 20:19 – “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ ” Fear is the opposite of faith. That is, the kind of cringing fear we have in the face of something that is hostile to us and more powerful than we are. Jesus spends a lot of His time telling the disciples to not be afraid. Our fears constantly hem us in and prevent us from following the Lord’s will. But there is no need to fear. Jesus has conquered. No fear can keep us locked up. We have been set free by Jesus for lives that declare His marvelous deeds.



WELCOME VISITORS: We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the

narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Divine Service 3

LSB page 184

OPENING HYMN

“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”

LSB #650

*The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching

Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my 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.**

PSALM 148 (*read responsively*)

- P** ¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
- C** ²**Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!**
- P** ³Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!
- C** ⁴**Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

- P** ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.
- C** ⁶**And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**
- P** ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,
- C** ⁸**fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!**
- P** ⁹Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
- C** ¹⁰**Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!**
- P** ¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
- C** ¹²**Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!**
- P** ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.
- C** ¹⁴**He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him.
Praise the LORD!**

GLORIA PATRI

LSB 186

KYRIE

LSB 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 187

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the
Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life

and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12–32

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." ²¹And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when

**We must
OBEY
GOD
rather than
— ANY —
HUMAN
AUTHORITY.**
ACTS 5:29, NRSV



the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, ²³"We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." ²⁴Now when the captain

of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

²⁷And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

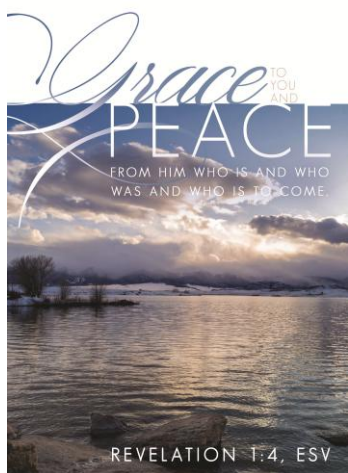
Revelation 1:4–18

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

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

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. 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 partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

LSB 190

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



John 20:29


P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  everlasting. Amen.

SERMON HYMN

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

LSB #477

SERMON

CATECHISM REVIEW

P *The Sixth Petition*

C And lead us not into temptation.

P *What does this mean?*

C God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

P *The Seventh Petition*

C But deliver us from evil.

P *What does this mean?*

C We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart”

LSB #806

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

LSB 196

C 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.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN “*This Joyful Eastertide*” LSB #482

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Exodus 20:1-24; Luke 4:1-15

Monday: Exodus 22:20 – 23:13; Luke 4:16-30

Tuesday: Exodus 23:14-33; Luke 4:31-44

Wednesday: Exodus 24:1-18; Luke 5:1-16

Thursday: Exodus 25:1 – 30:38; Luke 5:17-39

Friday: Exodus 31:1-18; Luke 6:1-19

Saturday: Exodus 32:1-14; Luke 6:20-38



CHURCH CALENDAR ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, April 27 *Recognition Sunday*

8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Potluck Luncheon at Faith

Monday, April 28

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

Wednesday, April 30

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Thursday, May 1

6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild at St. John's

Sunday, May 4

8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's

Sunday School during Sermon at St. John's

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

11:15 Bible Class at Faith

12:15 p.m. VBS Meeting at Faith

4:30 p.m. ISI at Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill

Monday, May 5

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Tuesday, May 6

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

Wednesday, May 7

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, Sunday, April 27

Recognition Sunday at Faith

Today, Sunday, April 27

Disaster Response Sunday

Friday-Saturday, May 16-17

30 Hour Famine – Circuit 6 Youth Activity

Saturday, May 17

Pickiin' and Grinnin' Talent Show at St. John's

Sunday, May 18

Confirmation at Faith



FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the following
in your prayers:*

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes Rodney Dahlke
Alice Fromm Christopher Emmerich Wallace Emmerich
Gerhard Hannemann Angie Harkner Emma Hein
Dale Janisch Cecelia & Lucille Klade David Knospe
Rob Koebe Mabel Marquardt Debbie Olson Mark Pester
Edgar Pfaff Bob Porath Marge Radenz Karen Rajek
Jo Schedler Linda Seidler Audrey Steckling
Lorraine Steckling Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft
Susie and Ellie Zastrow



MEN'S MINISTRY

ISI Meeting

Sunday, May 4 at 4:30 p.m.

Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill



*On this Second
Sunday of Easter, we
pause, and give thanks.*

*We give thanks for
Pastor Love, who tirelessly
prepared messages, prepared
the worship services,
delivered the sermons for so*

many worship services during Holy Week and Easter Sunday!

*We are thankful for the organist, the choir director, the
choir, and the trumpeter.*

*We are thankful for all those who provide time and energy
for bulletin boards, special altar preparations, Easter décor inside
and outside.*

*So many parishioners joined in making our Easter service
one of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving...greeters, ushers, and
elders., audio video personnel.*

*And thanks to all who joined together as a family of God
to worship*

*Thank you, and Thanks be to God, for each of you!
Together, we are one... One in Our Risen Lord and Savior.
He is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to
help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings
to Our Churches at**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South

Merrill, WI 54452 or

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

134058 County Road L

Athens, WI 54411

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don
Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Church, or on the
church website at www.faithlutheranmerrill.com



Recognition Sunday

April 27, 2025

New members

2021

Emily Klug
Natalie Klug
David & Stephanie
Springborn

2022

Lindsey Hein
McKayla Dahlke

2023

Bruce and Nada Pfingsten
Nancy Raddatz
Karen Olson
Don and Kathy Schult

2024

Kyle and Kimberly Young
and Kinsley, Kovyn and
Konrad

2025

Evan John Roubal
Myron and Tracy Hollatz

Baptisms

Madelyn Klug – 3/26/2021
Addisyn Prah –
11/13/2021
Amma Blum – 12/12/2021

Noah White – 4/24/2022
McCoy Klug – 6/26/2022
Bennett Dahlke –
8/28/2022
Emma Lynn Hein -
4/21/2024
Madison Marie Klug -
5/19/2024
Cecelia Elizabeth Klade -
6/9/2024
Lucille Alexandria Klade -
6/9/2024
Edgar Craig Pfaff -
7/14/2024
Cooper Austin Prah –
2/15/2025
Max Peter Prah –
2/15/2025

In celebration of our
family of God, we join
together in prayer, praise
and worship to our God.

***All of you in attendance
today are welcome to
attend our potluck
luncheon and Christian
fellowship immediately
following worship
today.***



*Gospel centered
care for both body
and soul in times
of tragedy.*

**1 JOHN
4:19**

**WE LOVE BECAUSE
HE FIRST LOVED US.**



DISASTER RESPONSE SUNDAY

Tornadoes. Fires. Floods. When disaster strikes, immediate response is often crucial. But where to start? How should volunteers be managed? What training is needed for good-intentioned groups wanting to serve? The North WI District has a Disaster Response Coordinator to help congregations manage a disaster in their location and support the disaster response of congregations looking to serve. Sunday April 27th is simply a day to become more aware of and support NWD Disaster Response.

DISASTER RESPONSE OPPORTUNITIES



TRAIN



SUPPORT



NETWORK

**DISASTER RESPONSE
COORDINATOR
PR. ANDY WEDEN**

715-345-6510
aweden@uwsp.edu

NWD LCMS
3103 Seymour Lane
Wausau, WI 54401



Train

- *Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT)*



Support

- *Spiritual*
- *Supplies*
- *Equipment*



Network

- *Regional*
- *National*
- *Synod*

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- *Pray for people suffering through disasters.*
- *Consider your congregation's plan to serve those in need.*
- *Donate to the NWD Disaster Response ministry*

**CONTACT
PASTOR
ANDY
WEDEN
715-345-6510**