

The image features three brass trumpets with their bells pointing upwards, resting on a blue fabric background. Several white lilies are scattered around the trumpets, some in the foreground and some in the background. The overall scene is festive and celebratory, typical of an Easter service.

*Christ the Lord
is risen today!*

Alleluia!

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

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.



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.

RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT

In deep Christian love and commitment to the Word of God we continue to hold to the Biblical and Ancient practice of close communion. We believe that those who commune together must confess the same faith, and recognize the great power and real presence of the body and blood Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine. (1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29; Romans 16:17). Likewise, since one's membership helps promote that church's major teachings we ask that only those commune who are confirmed and communicant members of the LCMS, and who are not under church discipline. Thank you for respecting our beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around the Word of God. If you have any question please contact Pastor Love. *NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available at the Lord's Table. Please let Pastor know before worship service that you would like the gluten free wafers.*



AS WE GATHER

John 20:1 – “Now on the first day of the week ...” All is made new by the Resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament's Saturday Sabbath to the Lord's Day of the New Testament. For the Lord has made all things new. He has begun a new week for a new creation in rising from the dead as the New Adam. We are also made new in Him – a new heart, a new life, new desires, and a new outlook toward God. All this comes from our Risen Lord's grace. Especially after the sort of year we've had since last Easter. It's sure good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh.

THE ALLELUIA (*Please Rise*)

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P Why do you seek the living among the dead?
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P He has risen, just as He said!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P Alleluia! Christ Jesus is alive!
C Heaven's gates are opened wide.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

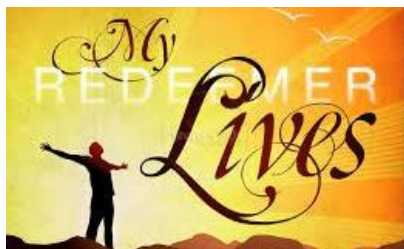
LSB# 457

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C** If we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (*John 1:7-8*)
- P** Let us draw near to God with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father.
- C** Almighty God, heavenly Father we confess that we have not remained strong in faith. We have not always let the sure news of Your resurrection dispel the fear that wells up within us. We have thought, spoken, and acted in weakness. We have not loved You with our whole hearts, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We deserve Your judgment in time and eternity. Forgive us, and renew us in love for You and all creation as we look forward to the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection of the dead and the life of the World to come. Amen.
- P** By His suffering and death, our Lord has paid for our sins, and by His rising has destroyed the power of death. As a

called and ordained servant of our risen and triumphant Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. (*John 20:21-23*)

C Amen.



HYMN RESPONSE
*“I Know that My Redeemer
Lives”*
LSB# 461 vs. 1-4

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Almighty God, everlasting Father, through Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and the grave and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES US THROUGH THE HOLY BIBLE

P “And how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus,

C “**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in**

righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

(2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV '84)

OLD TESTAMENT RESURRECTION PROMISES

Job 19:25-27 “For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!” (ESV)

Isaiah 53:10-12 “Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.” (ESV)

Psalms 16:9-11 “Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” (ESV)

Psalms 49:15 “But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me.” (ESV)

Psalms 71:20 “You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.” (ESV)

Hosea 13:14 “I shall ransom them from the power of Sheol; I shall redeem them from Death. O Death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your sting?” (ESV)

Isaiah 26:19 “Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.” (ESV)

Daniel 12:1b-3 (ESV) “But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

P “And we thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it, not as the word of men,

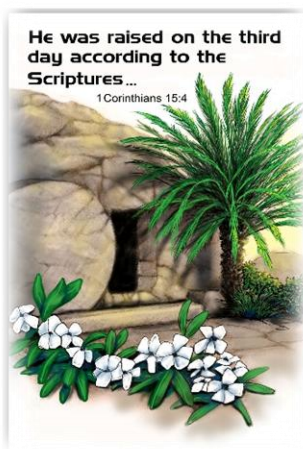
C “**but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.**” (*1 Thessalonians 2:13*)

CHORAL MUSICAL OFFERING ***“Antiphonal Alleluia for Easter”***

Michael Bradford

EPISTLE LESSON *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

“Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the



Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed. (ESV)

P “The grass withers and the flowers fall,

C “**but the Word of God stands forever.**” (1 Peter 1:24b)

THE GOSPEL PROCESSION

While the organist plays, the Crucifer moves to the center of the congregation. The congregation rises and faces the cross.

*The Gospel is read from among the people to symbolize
God's living presence among us.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Lift High the Cross”

LSB #837 vs. 1-2

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 20:1–20

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

C **Thanks be to You oh, Lord!**

The Resurrection

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward

the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one



at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but

she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

P "Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who hear the word of God
C "and keep it." (Luke 11:28)

HYMN "Lift High the Cross"

LSB #837 vs. 3-4

THE 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.

HYMN "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

LSB #469

THE SERMON

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

RESPONSIVE HYMN

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

LSB# 461 vs 5-8

We Bring Our First Fruits to the Lord

THE FAMILY OF GOD PRAYS TOGETHER

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Let us pray for all who do not know that Christ has destroyed death, for all who have no hope, for all who face this day with inconsolable tears.
- C** **Open their ears, O Holy Spirit, to the joyful news of our Lord's resurrection. Open their eyes to see the joy He has prepared for all people who rest their hope in Him. Use us to invite them to the feast already prepared.**
- P** Let us pray for all who are in danger from hostile neighbors or oppressive regimes, from unsanitary living conditions, or natural calamities.
- C** **Come to their aid, heavenly Father. Restore in them complete reliance on You. Be their source of refuge, a stronghold against the forces arrayed against them. Lift up wise and compassionate leaders, so that peace and justice may prevail among the nations of the world.**
- P** Let us pray for the Church, we who are here this day and wherever the faithful gather around Word and Sacrament.
- C** **On this day of days, strengthen our faith, Lord Jesus, to see in Your resurrection the bedrock of our salvation, the central focus of our hope and joy. Whenever we stray from it, restore us. Whenever the Church is in error, reform it. And whoever is in conflict, renew within them the confidence that forgiveness is freely available because of Your sacrifice for us and our salvation.**
- P** Let us pray for those people near and dear to us.

- C** Almighty God, author of life and health, shine the light of Your love, so that these beloved family members and friends may enjoy healing, comfort, and relief from their various ailments.
- P** Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

THE 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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.



DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"This Joyful Eastertide"

LSB #482

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Christ the Lord Is Risen"

"The Day of Resurrection"

LSB #478

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

LSB #475

THANK THE LORD

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.

He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy

with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LITANY

P Christ is risen,

C and you, O death, are annihilated.

P Christ is risen,

C and the evil ones are cast down.

P Christ is risen,

C and the angels rejoice.

P Christ is risen,

C and life is celebrated.

P Christ is risen,

C and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ, having risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power forever and ever.

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN “*He’s Risen, He’s Risen*”

LSB # 480

THE ALLELUIA

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



♪♪ *SPECIAL MUSIC* today with *John Uttech* on the trumpet.
Thank you, John, for adding to our celebration. ♪♪

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Exodus 14:10-31; Hebrews 7:23 – 8 ;13

Monday: Exodus 15:1-18; Hebrews 9:1-28

Tuesday: Exodus 15:19 – 16:12; Hebrews 10:1-18

Wednesday: Exodus 16:13-35; Hebrews 10:19-39

Thursday: Exodus 17:1-16; Hebrews 11:1-29

Friday: Exodus 18:5-27; Hebrews 12:1-24

Saturday: Exodus 19:1-25; Hebrews 13:1-21



VOTERS' MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a special voters meeting on Tuesday, April 22 at 6:00 pm to discuss the future of St. John's Christian daycare ministry.



FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the following
in your prayers:*

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes Rodney Dahlke Alice
Fromm 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
Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling
Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft Susie and Ellie Zastrow

Sunday, April 27

Faith Lutheran Church
with luncheon



Recognition
SUNDAY

*We welcome and recognize
all the recent new
members, marriages,
confirmands, and baptisms
here at Faith. We are
blessed to have you among our church
family.*



CHURCH CALENDAR ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, April 20 *Easter Sunday*

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

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

Monday, April 21

NO MONDAY SERVICE AT FAITH

Tuesday, April 22

6:00 p.m. Voters' Meeting at St. John's

Wednesday, April 23

10:00 a.m. Ablelight

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Saturday, April 26

LWML Spring Rally at St. John Merrill

Sunday, April 27 *Recognition Sunday*

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

Sunday School during Sermon 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 27

Recognition Sunday at Faith

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

NEW EASTER BANNERS

*are a gift in loving memory of
LuAnn V. Ruhbusch
given by her husband, family,
relatives, and friends. The
matching paraments for the
altar and lecturn-pulpit and
Pastor's stole are from
memorial gifts
from members of Faith
given to the Altar Guild.*



MEN'S MINISTRY

ISI Meeting

***Sunday, May 4 at 4:30 p.m.
Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill***

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

*"I am the
resurrection
and the life."*
JOHN 11:25



In the beauty and
**CELEBRATION OF
EASTER**, the Sanctuary and
narthex are adorned with
flowers from special
donations from the following:

† In memory of **LLOYD
and DORIS GRUENEBERG,
LEONARD and LAVINE
WOLLER** from Leon and Beth
Bartelt and family

† In **gratefulness** from
Jim and Phyllis Beilke

† In memory of **RANDY
BRAATZ, CLARENCE and
ELAINE SCHULT** from Cindy
Braatz

† In memory of **RALPH BUCH** from Phyllis Buch

† In memory of **LLOYD and DORIS GRUENEBERG, BRUCE
GRUENEBERG** from Bonnie Grueneberg

† For **blessings** from Myron and Tracy Hollatz

† In memory of **DEANNA KOEBE** from James W. Koebe

† For **unending blessings** from Barry and Cindy Krenz

† In memory of **MR. and MRS. FRED SEIDLER** from Marlene Krenz

† In memory of **JOHN HERMAN II** from Pastor and Kim Love, Sarah
Herman, Wendy and Genny

† In memory of **TIMOTHY PAGEL** from Gene and Karen Pagel

† In memory of **SCOTT and SHERRI PFAFF** from Lee and Diane Pfaff

† In memory of **OTTO and SELMA PORATH** from Mark Porath

† In memory of **HAROLD RUSCH** from Joyce Rusch

† In memory of **JAMES SCHLUETER** from Judy Schlueter

† In **thankfulness** from Chris and Deb Stogbauer

† In memory of **WALTER WOLLER** from Dorothy Woller

† In **gratitude** from Kyle and Kiimberly Young and family

† For **blessings for the FAITH CONGREGATION** from an anonymous
donor



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

North WI District Disaster Response



**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