



## **St. Luke's Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66503  
[www.stlukesmanhattan.org](http://www.stlukesmanhattan.org)

*Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.*

**Sunday, April 12, 2026 – 11:00 AM**

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor  
William Prann, Director of Christian Education  
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
(Series A)**

## **WELCOME**

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, [office@stlukesmanhattan.org](mailto:office@stlukesmanhattan.org), or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

## **AS WE GATHER**

On this Second Sunday of Easter, the risen Christ meets His fearful disciples with peace, sends them with His forgiving Word, and strengthens them for bold witness in a world that resists His Name. In Acts 5, the apostles stand before hostile authorities, confessing, “We must obey God rather than men,” and astonishingly rejoice when they suffer for Christ. Peter’s Epistle reminds us that such trials refine our faith like gold tested by fire, filling believers with a joy that is “inexpressible and filled with glory.” Today we gather as those who have tasted that the Lord is good, praying that the same resurrection courage and joy that filled the apostles would also fill us as we speak Christ’s Name in our lives and callings.

## **IMAGE ON THE COVER**

We must obey God rather than man – Acts 5:29

## **PRELUDE**

*(Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.)*

## **✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠**

## **WELCOME**



**OPENING SENTENCES**      *Psalm 118:24; Acts 5:29; John 20-19; 1 Peter 1:3*

**P** This is the day that the LORD has made;

**C** **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**P** Christ is risen and speaks His peace to fearful hearts.

**C** **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth into a living hope.**

**P** The apostles declared, “We must obey God rather than men.”

**C** **Strengthen us, Lord, to speak Your Name with courage and joy.**

**P** The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

**C** **And with your spirit.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P** The risen Christ stood among His disciples and said, “Peace be with you.” Yet like them, we often hide behind locked doors of fear, silence, and doubt. Let us come before our Lord in repentance, trusting His mercy and seeking His peace.

**C** **Risen Lord Jesus, we confess that we have not always spoken Your Name with courage. We have remained silent when we should have confessed, hesitated when we should have acted, and feared the world more than we have trusted Your Word. Our faith is often weak, our joy easily shaken, and our witness dim. Forgive us, renew us, and restore us, that we may rejoice in Your salvation and boldly proclaim that You are Lord and God.**

**P** “We are witnesses,” the apostles declared, “and so is the Holy Spirit.” And the risen Christ breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.”

As a called and ordained servant of 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.

**C** **Amen. Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed.**

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

- P** Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** **Christ, have mercy on us.**  
Lord, have mercy on us.

## **SALUTATION**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, through the resurrection of Your Son You have given Your Church a living hope and the courage to confess His saving Name. As You strengthened the apostles to obey You rather than men and to rejoice even in suffering, so grant us steadfast hearts, purified faith, and bold lips to speak Christ's peace in our lives and callings; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** We confess our faith together, using the words of 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.**

*Sit*

## FIRST READING

Acts 5:29-42

*(The apostles proclaim the Good News about Jesus, the Christ.)*

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered.

<sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13*

- L** <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
**C** **his majesty is above earth and heaven.**
- L** <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
**C** **praise him in the heights!**
- L** <sup>2</sup>Praise him, all his angels;  
**C** **praise him, all his hosts!**
- L** <sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon,  
**C** **praise him, all you shining stars!**
- L** <sup>4</sup>Praise him, you highest heavens,  
**C** **and you waters above the heavens!**
- L** <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD!  
**C** **For he commanded and they were created.**
- L** <sup>6</sup>And he established them forever and ever;  
**C** **he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**
- L** <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth,  
**C** **you great sea creatures and all deeps,**
- L** <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, snow and mist,  
**C** **stormy wind fulfilling his word!**
- L** <sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills,  
**C** **fruit trees and all cedars!**
- L** <sup>10</sup>Beasts and all livestock,  
**C** **creeping things and flying birds!**

**L** <sup>11</sup>Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
**C** **princes and all rulers of the earth!**

**L** <sup>12</sup>Young men and maidens together,  
**C** **old men and children!**

**L** <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
**C** **his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

**L** <sup>14</sup>He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his saints,  
**C** **for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!**

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**L** <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
**C** **his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

## EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3-9

*(We are born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Christ.)*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

**P** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

**C** death no longer has dominion over Him.

**P** Blessed are those who have not seen

**C** and yet have believed. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

(Jesus appears to His disciples gathered behind locked doors.)

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>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.”* <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, *“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”* <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, *“Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”*

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So 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.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight 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.”* <sup>27</sup>Then 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.”* <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, *“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but 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.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## **SPECIAL MUSIC – Children’s Choir**

“Beloved” and “Watching Over You”

## **LAMB’S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**

## **VOTUM**

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## **OFFERING**

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to  
St. Luke’s Lutheran Church  
4801 Anderson Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66503
2. **Electronic Funds Transfer**  
Sign up through the church office.

**STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: 1 Peter 1:3–4 – “He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.”** We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

## OFFERTORY - "Shepherd of My Soul" Psalm 23:1

1, 2, 4, 6 Shepherd of my soul I give You full control  
Wherever You may lead I will follow  
I have heard the call, I've listened to Your voice  
Wherever You may lead I will go

3, 5 Be it in quiet pasture or by a gentle stream  
The Shepherd of my soul is by my side  
Should I face a mighty mountain or a valley dark and deep  
The Shepherd of my soul will be my guide

7 Wherever You may lead I will go  
(Martin J. Nystrom ©1986 Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

*Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Risen Lord Jesus, You came to Your fearful disciples and spoke peace. Strengthen Your Church in that same peace today, that like the apostles we may obey God rather than men and boldly confess Your saving Name.

**C** Lord, hear our prayer.

**P** Lord of the Church, give courage and faithfulness to all pastors, teachers, missionaries, and church workers. As the apostles rejoiced to suffer for the Name, grant that all who proclaim Your Word may do so with joy, clarity, and steadfastness.

**C** Lord, hear our prayer.

**P** God of mercy, bless the homes of Your people. Let forgiveness reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Strengthen those who live alone with the comfort of Your presence and the fellowship of Your Church.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord of the nations, You added believers to the Church even in the midst of hostility. Guide the rulers of the world, curb wickedness, and bring all peoples to honor Your Son, the risen Christ.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Compassionate Father, as Your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, bring comfort, healing, and hope to all who suffer in body or spirit, especially **[names]**. Grant Your Easter joy also to those who weep, especially **[names]**, that they may look with confidence to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Heavenly Father, You have given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Keep us steadfast in trials, patient in suffering, and joyful in witness, that our faith—tested by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Christ.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## **CONCLUDING COLLECT**

**P** Let us pray.

Risen Lord Jesus, You spoke peace to Your disciples and gave them courage to confess Your Name. Strengthen us as we go, that we may trust Your promises, rejoice in Your resurrection, and boldly witness to Your saving love; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

## **GREET ONE ANOTHER**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "The Lord be with you," "Peace be with you," or "The peace of the Lord be with you".*

## **CLOSING SONG - "The Maker"**

- 1 I see You in the sunrise  
I see You in the rain  
I see You in the laughter  
I feel You through the pain
- 2, 5 Everything that You have made is beautiful  
Oh, my God, I can't believe my eyes  
But in all of this to think that You would think of me  
Makes my heart come alive
- 3, 6 Your love is like a mighty fire deep inside my bones  
8 I feel like I could climb a thousand mountains all at once  
And I never have to wonder if somebody cares for me  
I love the Maker  
And the Maker loves me
- 4 I see You, You are creation  
I see the grandness of Your majesty  
The universe is singing all Your glory  
I can't believe You live inside of me
- 7 More than just some words upon a page  
You've shown me in a million ways  
But there is one that stands above them all  
Hands of creation on a cross

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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