

Second Sunday of Easter
DIVINE SERVICE 3 LSB 184

“JESUS EMPOWERS THE CHURCH”

Text: John 20:22-23 “And with that he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sin, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.’”

INTRODUCTION – The news of Jesus’ resurrection that Sunday morning just became a lot better on that Sunday evening! Just think: the disciples had not actually seen Jesus. There were sketchy reports that he had appeared to some women, but they were not talking. They seem bewildered and overwhelmed. His tomb was empty, Peter and John had seen it. The disciples saw what they had done to Jesus. Fearing for their lives, they hid in a room and locked the doors.

1 – They locked the doors for a reason!

2 – An unexpected visitor: Jesus appears to them.

3 – He IS risen! They can see that! Now, what?

4 – They had seen what they had done to him.

5 – Will he fight back? Wage war? Destroy them with one little word?

6 – They all had abandoned him; they all felt ashamed.

7 – What will he do? Fire them? No. Employ them!

8 - Give them His peace and send them to save us in the 21st century!

CONCLUSION – Jesus’ first appearance to his disciples truly seals the whole work of the redemption of the world. Compare the human and the divine perspectives and you see the superiority of the divine. Makes us want to give up our petty human ways. He met them in a locked room and greeted them with Peace! Then he sent them into the world so that you and I may be saved, too! Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Risen Christ Breathes His Peace in the Holy Absolution

The crucified and risen Lord Jesus appeared to His apostles on the first Easter Sunday. He *"came and stood among them,"* and with His Word and the wounds in *"his hands and his side,"* He granted them His peace (John 20:19–20). He sent them as ministers of the Gospel in His name to bestow the life-giving Holy Spirit for us and for His whole Church through the forgiveness of sins (John 20:21–23). Through this apostolic ministry, He calls us to believe that He *"is the Christ, the Son of God,"* so that by such faith we *"may have life in his name"* (John 20:31). The apostles *"have seen and heard"* this divine life manifested in the flesh of Christ, and those who succeed them in this apostolic ministry now proclaim that same Absolution to us, so that we *"too may have fellowship"* with the risen Christ, with the apostles and *"with one another"* (1 John 1:1–7). The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church lives by *"their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus,"* and all who believe this Word are *"of one heart and soul,"* because in Him they truly have *"everything in common"* (Acts 4:32–33).

CHURCH INFORMATION

SPECIAL MISSIONS: For our second quarter missions, our Special Mission offering will support A Place of Refuge Ministries. APOR is a network of volunteers and staff who are committed to life and to caring for women facing crisis pregnancy in South Wisconsin. Through their program, they provide housing for mom's to stay during their pregnancy and as they transition to independent living. They also refer them to community resources, support them with a telephone hotline, and provide basic needs for both the mom and baby. May God bless their ministry!

FLOWER FUNDRAISER It's once again time for our annual Spring Flower Fundraiser! If you are interested in ordering flowers, plants or hanging baskets, please fill out an order form and return it to Jaime Greene by May 2. Order forms are available in the Narthex, or as a PDF in The Messenger. The orders will be available to be picked up on Saturday, May 22nd.

MITES Thanks to your generous collection of coins and dollar bills, Grant #4 to A Place of Refuge has been paid, and they have been able to secure a transport van. Our next goal, along with the other churches in the South Wisconsin District, is to raise \$15,000 for Mission Central. They are an agency of the LCMS that operates with the help of a largely

volunteer workforce, and assists with the finances that are needed for new missionaries to enter the field. Our mites will help cover transportation, health insurance and the living expenses for the new missionary families. Mission Central also aids missionaries already in the field.

LWML HEART TO HEART SISTERS EVENT Join us on this virtual event as we make a stop on every continent of the world for videos, devotions, tutorials, and a fashion show, as we celebrate Lutheran women in these multicultural events! You can participate by following the LWML-South Wisconsin Facebook page, or by going to www.lwml-swd.org and clicking on the Facebook icon at the bottom of the page.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY We have a new online Bible Study called "Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up", which takes a look at 12 false christs. The Bible Study is offered at 9am or 7pm via Zoom, and if you are interested in participating, please contact Jaime Greene at jaimelynn581@gmail.com.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT: Registration for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year is now underway. If you have or know of anyone looking for 2K, 3K, 4K, or childcare and would like more information or to register please contact Jennifer Leinss 262- 786-6465 or jleinss82@gmail.com. Information can be found on our website as well, www.blessedsaviorwi.org.

OFFERING COUNTERS, We are looking to add to our offering counting teams. As one of our counters, you would serve on a rotational basis with your team, counting the offerings on Monday mornings. If you are interested in counting, please contact Terri at secretary.bslnb@gmail.com. She will be setting up a meeting in the next few weeks.

FLOWERS, BULLETINS, & SPECIAL MISSIONS SIGN-UP If you would like to sign up for flowers, bulletins, or special mission contact the church office by email blessedsavior.nb.lcms@gmail.com, or call 262-786-6465.

KRINGLE PICK-UP: Thank you to everyone that purchased kringles with the recent preschool fundraiser. Just a reminder that the delivery date is Tuesday, April 20th from 3:30-5:30. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer at jleinss82@gmail.com.

CEREAL BOXES: Thank you to everyone that donated empty cereal boxes! We are switching gears and now will be collecting full cereal boxes. Our preschool students want

to see how many cereal boxes it takes to line the hallways and make a giant domino game. Afterwards we will be donating the cereal to Bethany Lutheran Food Pantry.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR It's time for the annual Buy One, Get One FREE Scholastic Book Fair! Stop in Oswald Hall April 25th-May 2nd to browse the selection of books and stock up for some summer reading. The Book Fair is open during Office Hours, and on Sunday. We'll also be posting pictures to our Facebook page so that you can shop online. Contact Jennifer at jleinss82@gmail.com for more information or with any questions.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for those undergoing medical treatment:
 Arliss Judy Adeline Gary Laverne Karen John Holley

Special intercessions: we pray for all health care workers in America and the world, for all first responders, truck drivers and essential workers.

We pray the Lord to watch over those who are serving in the military.

WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR APRIL 11 – APRIL 18

Sun	8:00 am	Worship & Communion	Last Week's Offerings: \$23,616. Needed Weekly: \$11,800. Attendance: Maundy Thursday: 126 Good Friday: 98 Easter Sunday: 234 YouTube Attendance: Maundy Thursday: 54 Good Friday: 68 Easter Sunday: 71
	10:30 am	Worship & Communion	
Mon		Scrip Orders Due	
Tues	9:00 am	Bible Study (online)	
	6:30pm	Elders Meeting	
	7:00 pm	Bible Study (online)	
Thur		7:00 pm	
Sun	8:00 am	Worship	
	10:30 am	Worship	