

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave
O'Fallon, IL
(618) 632-0126
www.mybslc.org
Worship –9:30 am.

Pastor Tony Troup (618-340-8375), Vacancy Pastor
Pastor Perry Schefelker (618-322-7498), Vacancy Pastor

Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45 am

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN video “Lift High the Cross”



INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 105:4, 8*

P: Seek the LORD and His strength;

C: **seek His presence continually!**

P: He remembers His covenant forever,

C: **the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.**

P: Bidden by the Lord and confident of His steadfast love and mercy, let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.

P: Merciful Lord, almighty Father,

C: **we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.**

P: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE 436 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter's pow'r
Your Redeemer's conflict see.
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away;
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry;
Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid His breathless clay
All is solitude and gloom.
Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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* (“Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”)

Now 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. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so 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. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, “Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Revelation 1:4–18* (To Him who loves us be glory forever.)

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, and 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 and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, 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.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

I, 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. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, “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.”

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and 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. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow

. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In 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.

When 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, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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. Alleluia.**

P: Blessed are those who have not seen
C: **and yet have believed. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31* (Thomas confronts Jesus with his doubts and Jesus confronts him with His wounds to show that the news of the resurrection is true.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

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. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 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."

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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY NO 470 "O Sons and Daughters of the King"

**O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

**That Easter morn, at break of day,
The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**An angel clad in white they see,
Who sit and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

That night the apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

"My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voice raise.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SERMON

"Alleluia"

John 20:19-31

Pastor David Pelsue

CREED

The Apostle's Creed (Please stand)

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.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Grant us grace, O Lord, that we may not give in to temptation and doubt but with confidence confess the death of our Lord Jesus Christ and His resurrection and bless those who hear us make the good confession. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Grant us courage, O Lord, that we may not fear along the way but daily become bolder by the power of the Spirit to speak the name of Jesus and to live as His own in His kingdom here and in heaven forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Grant us peace, O Lord, that having full confidence in Your loving care, we may neither be distracted by cares or struggles of this life nor succumb to a suspicious heart, but daily grow closer to You through Your Word and live according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Grant us healing, O Lord, that those who suffer may rest all things into Your almighty arms, and, as You have promised, be kept to the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. [Hear us particularly for *names*, and those who grieve . . .], that they may abide in Christ by faith until we all behold You face to face. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Grant us wisdom, O Lord, that we may elect and be served by faithful leaders who acknowledge the voice of Your Word and be faithful in their stewardship of the public trust, providing equal justice and opportunity to all citizens. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Grant us hope, O Lord, that we may not be lost to the power of despair but delight in Your presence to give us strength and guidance. Bless our fellowship around the Holy Supper of our Lord that by this communion we may profess our unity in doctrine and our willingness to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the desire of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Grant us life, O Lord, that we may be kept by Your grace and Spirit that through the days of our trouble and by the merits of Christ alone we receive Your salvation, dwelling among the saints on high even as we rest from all our labors. Lord, in Your mercy:

C: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Petitions appropriate to local needs may be added here.

P: Grant us, O Lord, all things beneficial to us and to our salvation and prevent from us all things harmful and enable us by faith to trust without fear in Your judgment and provision. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN NO. 475 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

**Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;
Let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise we in songs of victory
That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**