

The Second Sunday of Easter



Saint John Lutheran Church

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

April 7, 2024

Welcome!

"How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us!" (1 John 3:1).

We are thankful that you are joining in the worship of the people of God this day. Ushers at the door are glad to assist you at any time.

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located on the left in the lobby and down the bell tower hallway to the right towards the fellowship hall.
- Prayer requests may be written on the white cards in the pew rack and given to an usher before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A self-staffed nursery is available to parents as needed, past the wooden double doors on the left.
- Activity bags to help keep young children occupied during the message are provided in the back right corner of the sanctuary.

Notice to Worshipers: Today's service is livestreamed and recorded. It is available for public viewing and playback at www.SaintJohnHattiesburg.com by clicking on the 'Watch Live' button.

About the Offering

An offering is gathered today during the worship service. Here the people of God bring their tithes and sacrificial offerings as an expression of their discipleship, and for the continuation of Jesus' mission work, both in this community and to the ends of the earth. Guests are not expected to bring financial gifts but are welcome to join the congregation in offering their prayers and praises.

About Holy Communion

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. In this, we remember that the divine is united with the created as one in the person of Jesus.

This altar is the Lord's table. Here all are welcome who acknowledge their need for a Savior and look to Jesus. We believe what he simply says about the bread – "This is my body, given for you." – and about the wine – "This is my blood, shed for you." Thus, the Lord Jesus is truly present for his redeemed people in this holy meal. In this we retain the divine mystery in the midst of his ordinary creation. From the many seeds of wheat come one loaf. From the many grapes are pressed one cup. His many diverse people constitute one body and community of faith.

Young children are welcome to this altar to receive a blessing, as are those who have not been instructed in the Christian faith. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest or by simply asking for a blessing.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

We are imperfect people, and we live in an imperfect world. We are all in this together. So when we believe or act wrongly towards someone, or when we feel that another has wronged us, we commit ourselves to the humble teaching and forgiving pattern of Jesus in Matthew 18.

The Second Sunday of Easter

+ GATHERING +

Prayer As We Begin — *Please remain seated.*

☩ Heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning in Jesus' name, we pray all that we say and do in our worship will give you glory. Help us, Lord, to focus our thoughts on you, so your Word will find fertile ground in our minds and hearts. May the worship service today accomplish in us the purpose you desire. Amen.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

(LSB 901)

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.

The Invocation, Confession, and Absolution *Please stand*

☩ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

☩ Amen.

☩ Beloved in the Lord, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. Then the confession.

P I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers, and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

C **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.**

P Amen.

C **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers, and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P We pray together:

C **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. Amen.**

Please be seated.

+ WORD +

First Reading

Acts 4:32-35

L *The First Reading for the Second Sunday of Easter is from Acts, Chapter Four, Verses 32-35. Hear how the resurrection of Jesus changed the way people lived.*

³²Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.

³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L This is the Word of the LORD.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem ~ *Blest be the Ties that Binds*

Epistle Reading

1 John 1:1—2:2

L The Epistle is from First John, Chapter One, Verse One and Chapter Two, Verse Two. The presence of Jesus in the world creates a new community and a reconciled fellowship. He has cleansed the whole world of its sinful stain.

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

L This is the Word of the LORD.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse — *Please stand.*

LSB 173

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 20th Chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, 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.

P This is the Gospel of the LORD.



Childrens Message

Hymn of the Day

We Know That Christ Is Raised

(LSB 603)



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in His sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.



Em-braced by death, He broke its fear - ful hold;
 Re - born, we share with Him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the Church of God.



And our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.
As liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.

Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

The Message - Pastor Chet Scherbarth ~ on Acts, Chapter Four

The Prayers of the Church and The Our Father — *Please stand.*

Apostles' Creed

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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.

+ MEAL +

This is Christ's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared. In this meal we truly receive the body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a great and divine mystery! Here we are joined with God and all the saints, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Young children and those who would prefer to receive a blessing are welcome to come forward.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

The Preface, Proper Preface, and Sanctus

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 . . . evermore praising You and saying:

LSB 178



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Our Father

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

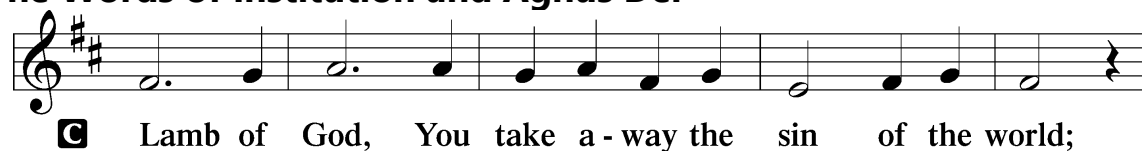
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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.

The Words of Institution and Agnus Dei

LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;





have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
 God, You take a-way the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Distribution Hymns

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

(LSB 411)



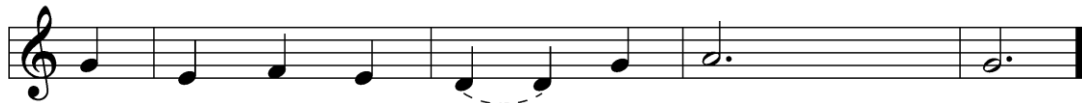
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

(LSB 720)

1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And
 5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In

gra - cious words we hear From Him who spoke as
 may our faith a - bound To call on You when
 realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You

none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.
 You are near And seek where You are found.
 as You are, With full and end - less sight.

+ SENDING +

Benedicamus and Blessing

P Let us bless the LORD.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P We speak the Romans 15 blessing to one another:

**May the God of HOPE
 fill you with all JOY and PEACE
 as you TRUST in him,
 so that YOU may overflow with HOPE
 by the POWER of the Holy Spirit.**

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**

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

(LSB 917)



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
 2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
 Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
 That in this house have called up - on Thy name.

THIS WEEK

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>10:30am</u> <u>Worship</u>			<u>10am</u> <u>Avenues Bible</u> <u>Study</u>			<u>Fellowship Hall</u> <u>in Use</u>
<u>No Bell Choir</u> <u>In April</u>						

Take Home Announcements — Sunday, April 7, 2024

Serving the Lord Today

Pastor	Rev. Chet Scherbarth 619.385.2094 pastorscherbarth@gmail.com
Pastor's Office hours:	Tue-Thu 9-1, Fri-Sun, by appt; Mon-off
Pianist	Lewei He
Altar Guild	Patricia Davenport Christina Keiper
Lector	Christina Keiper
Acolyte	Myla Scherbarth

Today's Theme

Jesus' resurrection shapes believers and doubters. Having defied closed doors, Jesus seriously interjects His words, "Peace be with you," to the disciples. So also later, with doubting Thomas, He repeats, "Peace be with you." The resurrected Christ, with maimed hands and side, can beget nothing less than eternal hope, peace, and forgiveness. As we, too, bear witness to Christ's wounds, the Holy spirit breathes into us a vibrant faith, so we confess Jesus to be the resurrected lord and Savior.

Altar Flowers:	John Blair ~ celebrating Donna Blair's Birthday
Eternal Candle:	In Memory of Rochelle Kemnitz and Sharon Andrews

Birthdays

Donna Blair	Apr 7
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Baptism Anniversaries

Joyce Coll	Apr 7
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Wedding Anniversaries

Lee & Maggie McMichael, 47	Apr 9
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Live Streaming of Worship Services — www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com

Oktoberfest Meeting — Sunday, April 21st immediately following worship.

LWML — is collecting MITES TODAY, April 7, 2024. Also, the LWML will meet in the Community Room immediately following the worship service. All women are welcome and invited!

LWML — will be collecting ALL BABY ITEMS in the "Pack 'N Play" placed in the narthex for the Autauga Interfaith Center in Prattville, AL. These Gifts from the Heart will be collected for the next three Sundays beginning on April 7, 2024. Also, Gift Cards will be collected and will be delivered at the Gulf States Districts Convention.

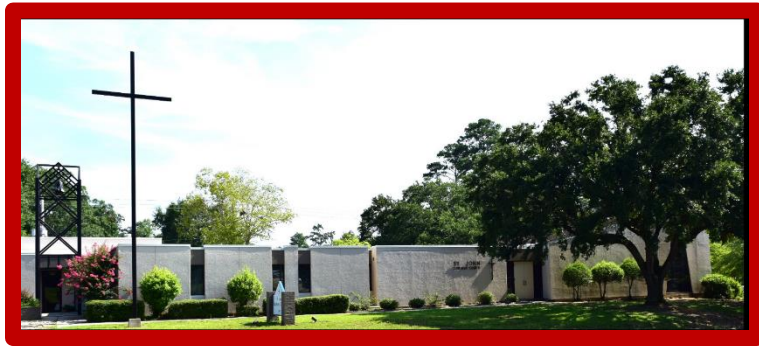
LWML - The Magnolia Zone Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at Christ Lutheran Church in Pascagoula. We will be carpooling and need to leave the church by 7:30 a.m. There will be a continental breakfast beginning at 9:00 a.m. The business meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. and Lunch will be provided. This is an important meeting to make final plans for the Gulf States District Convention in Prattville, Alabama. Please contact Lillian Smith or me if you plan to attend.

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



Prayers Needed			
Vanessa Ajayi	Breast cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Lisa Boswell	Colon cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Warner Boortz	Health and Strength	Member	2/25/24
Mini Jasper & Family	Serious burns		1/28/24
Ruby Ezell	Mobility difficulties	Mother of LaToursha Ezell	1/28/24
Kiri	Deliverance from Islam	Daughter of Josie Nwachuku	2/18/24
Bob Glascon	Congestion-4th round of antibiotics		3/24/24
W.F. Perkins	Complications from COVID	Husband of Susan Perkins	3/13/24
Jim Thone	Stage 4 Cancer	Father of Debbie Geroux	3/14/24
Van Lowry	Prostate Cancer	Member	3/17/24
Skip Lambert	Healing-pulmonary embolism	Relative of the Scherbarth's	3/24/24
Joy Reagan	Multiple health issues		3/31/24
Keisa Warren	Surgery & recovery		3/31/24
H & R Block Family	Tax season		3/31/24
Logan & Simon	Soon to marry	Daughter of Terry & Patrice Lovdahl	3/31/24
Family of Ron Thone	Died in the Lord	Thone Family	3/31/24





Saint John Lutheran Church

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Church Office Hours: 8:00am – 12:00pm, Monday – Thursday

Pastor's Office Hours: Tue-Thu: 9:00am – 1:00pm; Fri – Sun: by appt;