



12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337
<http://www.messiahhalescorners.com> ✠ Email: LBerthal@MessiahHC.org

Luke Bernthal, Pastor

Phone: 402-389-2147

Paul Tiefel, Principal

Phone: 715-869-3733

Levi Schaller, Teacher

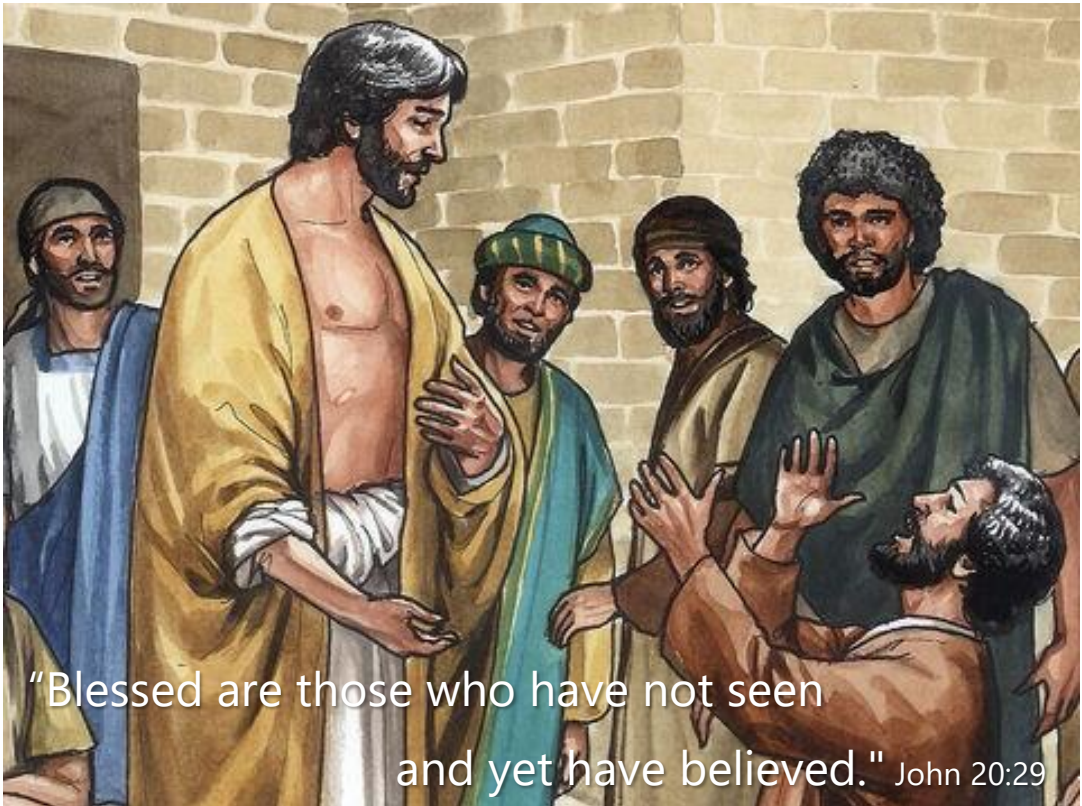
Phone: 715-529-4368

Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 715-529-4030

April 27, 2025

Easter 2



"Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have believed." John 20:29

We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 16 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 482 *This Joyful Eastertide*

LSB 482

SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

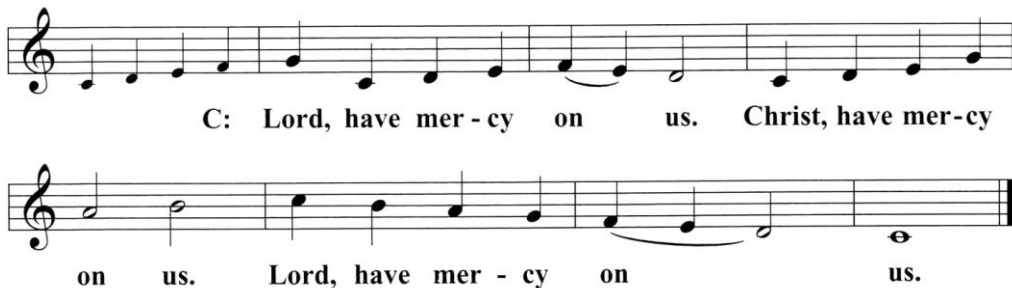
C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

Kyrie Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

W.S. p. 13



Gloria in Excelsis Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."

W.S. p. 13

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Prayer of the Day

P We 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. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Revelation 1:4-18 (EHV)

⁴ John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is, who was, and who is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his own blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom and priests to God his Father—to him be the glory and the power forever. Amen.

⁷ Look, he is coming with clouds,
and every eye will see him,
including those who pierced him.

And all the nations of the earth will mourn because of him.

Yes. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, the one who is, and who was, and who is coming, the Almighty.

⁹ I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingship and patient endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus.

¹⁰ I was in spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard a loud voice behind me, like a trumpet, ¹¹ saying, "Write what you see on a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

¹² I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me. When I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was one like a son of man. He was clothed with a robe that reached to his feet, and around his chest he wore a gold sash. ¹⁴ His head and his hair were white, like white wool or like snow. His eyes were like blazing flames. ¹⁵ His feet were like polished bronze being refined in a furnace. His voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ He held seven stars in his right hand. A sharp two-edged sword was coming out of his mouth. His face was shining as the sun shines in all its brightness.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He placed his right hand on me and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last— ¹⁸ the Living One. I was dead and, see, I am alive forever and ever! I also hold the keys of death and hell.

Children's Choir: "Crown Him With Many Crowns" LSB 525 (Congregation v. 2-3)

(Children v. 1)

1. Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

(Congregation – v. 2-3)

- 2. Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.**
- 3. Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.**

(Children v. 4-5)

4. Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.
5. Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903
Text: Public domain

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9 (ESV)

P The second reading is from 1 Peter 1:3-9.

C Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

³Blessed 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, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Though 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, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Alleluia!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 there 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 of the Day: 470 v. 1, 4-9 *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

Children's Sermon - *Children 10 years old and younger are invited to come up front.*

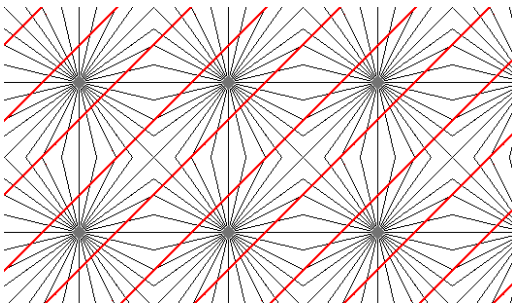


Figure 1 – “Wavy Straight Lines”

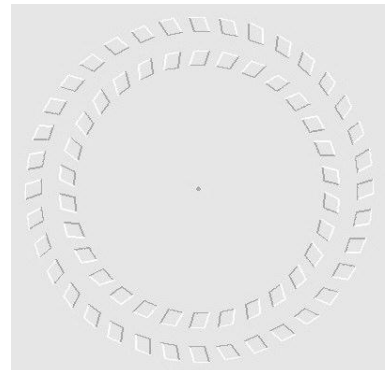
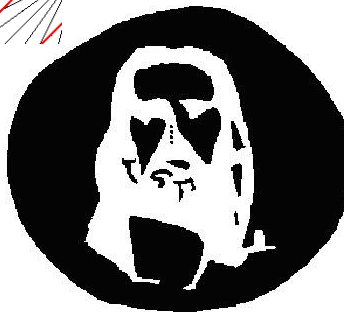


Figure 2 – “Spinning Wheels”

**“We have seen the Lord!”
-John 20:25**



Sermon Text: John 20:19-31 (NKJV)

¹⁹ Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Sermon Theme: Believing is Seeing!

✝ Can you think of some things you've never seen with your own two eyes, but you definitely believe exist?

✝ In the case of Thomas, as it often is with us, the problem is not that there isn't evidence or reasons enough to believe, but rather that our reason won't

_____!

† How do Jesus' words to Thomas apply to you in **v. 29**?

Application: When we narrow down the things we believe in to include only the visible, physical proof that we want to see, what sure and certain things are we ignoring that Jesus has shown us (see also **v. 30-31**)?

Offertory

W.S. p. 16



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Sermon Hymn: 720 *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

LSB 720

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: ***"There is A Redeemer"*** (please stand for last verse)

LSB 971



- 1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;
3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.
There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.

Refrain



Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today: **Choir Practice – 8am**
4/27/25 **Worship – 9am**
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am
Quarterly Voter’s Meeting – 11:15am

This Week: Wednesday - **Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm** (Zoom & In-Person)
Friday – **Visitors Day at ILHS, Eau Claire / Spring Musical – 7:30pm** (Fri. & Sat.)
Saturday – **Spring Workday – 9am**

Church Cleaning: Team #5 (4/26-5/2); Team #6 (5/3-5/9)

Next Sunday: **Choir – 8am**
5/4/25 **Worship w/ Communion – 9am**
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

CLC Call News – Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. < > Principal Brandan Heinze has been granted a **peaceful release** from his call as Principal and Teacher of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran School, Mankato, MN.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30pm – Please make plans to join us either in-person or online via Zoom for our Wednesday Evening Bible Class. We are studying selected Psalms. To join online please click on Pastor Luke’s Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>

Pastoral “Get to Know Each Other” Visits / Pastor Luke’s Contact Info – I am continuing to make “face to face” visits with our members. These include a short devotion and some time to get to know each other. Pastor’s Contact Info:

Email: LBerntal@messiahhc.org † Cell: 402-389-2147 † Church Office: 414-427-9337

Quarterly Voters’ Meeting – TODAY at 11:15am – A reminder that our quarterly voters’ meeting will be held after worship and Bible Class **today (4/27) at 11:15am**. Printed copies of the reports and agenda are in your mailboxes, or on the counter in the church hallway. Voters’ please plan to attend and participate in this important meeting regarding the work of our congregation and school. The congregation is invited to attend the meeting as well.

Spring Work Day – Saturday May 3rd @ 9am – Our Spring workday is scheduled for Sat. May 3rd starting at 9am. Please make plans to join us!

| Bible Readings: | |
|-----------------|---|
| 4/27 | Ex. 35:30-36:30 Psalm 109 Mark 8:22-9:1 |
| 4/28 | Ex. 36:31-37:29 Psalm 110 Mark 9:2-13 |
| 4/29 | Ex. 38:1-20 Psalm 111 Mark 9:14-29 |
| 4/30 | Ex. 38:21-39:1 Psalm 112 Mark 9:30-37 |
| 5/1 | Ex. 39:2-21 Psalm 113 Mark 9:38-41 |
| 5/2 | Ex. 39:22-31 Psalm 114 Mark 9:42-10:12 |
| 5/3 | Ex. 39:32-40:16 Psalm 115 Mark 10:13-31 |

| May Ushers | Cleaning Team 5/3-5/9 |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Jason Bailey | <u>Team 6</u> |
| Ethan Bailey | M/C Gescheidle |
| Josh Serba | M/J Plockelman |
| May Slideshow | R/A Davis |
| Sam Lisak | D. Hein |
| | L/N Schaller |

| Fruits of Faith | Last Week: | To Date: |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Budgetary Offerings: | \$8,377.60 | \$319,209.86 |
| Budgetary Needs: | \$8,571.29 | \$359,994.18 |
| Over (Under) Budget: | (\$193.69) | (\$40,784.32) |
| Missions: | \$300.00 | \$2,505.00 |
| MDF: | \$180.00 | \$1,630.00 |
| Kinship: | \$580.00 | \$3,701.96 |
| MSAF: | \$35.00 | \$1,070.00 |
| Attendance Last Sun. (4/20): 156 | | |



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