

Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020

THEME FOR THE DAY: Hope Restored. The certain hope of eternal life with God is founded on the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of Christ. God had promised this ancient hope in the Garden at the dawn of time. God had shared this hope in his Word through the ages. How did the disciples fail to anticipate the resurrection? How did the teachers and people of Israel fail to see Jesus as the promised Messiah? They let their wants and personal expectations color their view of Scripture, and hope was lost. But God restored this ancient hope by raising Jesus from the dead and pointing his people back to his promises.

Our Worship Service

HYMNS YOU MAY WISH TO SING 157 “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

167 “Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense” 382 “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

PRAYER OF THE DAY O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST LESSON: ACTS 2:14A, 36-47 Peter’s finishes his Pentecost sermon with this message to the people of Israel. They had lost the ancient hope long promised, and instead they placed their hope in the performance of human ordinances. Peter’s words destroy their false hope. Could there be a better preaching of specific Law than Peter’s words here? Could there be a better preaching of specific Gospel as Peter gives them hope through the sweet message of Christ crucified and risen for sinners? Rightly dividing Law and Gospel leads to hope restored in the Savior.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 67 CW Page 91 (Or read in your Bible)

SECOND LESSON: 1 PETER 1:17-21 This is the second in a series of readings from 1 Peter. Peter’s first epistle is a letter of hope in the midst of suffering. Here he reminds his readers that God is a fair judge – he is impartial. He encourages them to live in a way that reflects two things: 1) Christ freed us from the punishment that we deserve because of our sin and guilt with his holy, precious blood; and 2) We are only here for a little while so don’t get too comfortable – live as strangers! Faith in the Risen Christ is the reason for our Hope for now and eternity.

VERSE OF THE DAY Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (Luke 24:32)

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 24:13-35 For these two disciples on the road, it was a day of great confusion and sadness. They heard the report of the women and Peter and John. But their understanding of God’s plan of salvation was deficient: they weren’t expecting a resurrection! John puts his finger on the disciples’ problem. “They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.” (John 20:9). Their sight, logic, and emotions had led them to abandon what Scripture said. Jesus addresses the problem by explaining the Scriptures that showed the Christ had to die and rise. Jesus restored that ancient hope by explaining the Old Testament promises!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed, CW Page 31

SERMON (If you have an internet connection, connect to a WELS service at the Websites list BELOW.)

(If you are unable to access the internet, we can send copies of sermons.)

The Lord’s Prayer

CW Page 20

Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You.

The Lord Make His Face Shine on You and be Gracious to You.

The Lord Look on You with Favor and Give You Peace.

Introduction – A **second mailing** was sent to all members/prospects who do not have internet access to include sermons, services, announcements and information related to church council action. *If you have a good internet connection and are able to download services and sermons, please let us know so we can exclude you from the regular mailings.*

Welcome to Our Worship Because of the Corona Virus restrictions there will be no regular gatherings for worship services until the ban is lifted. **However, pastor will be at the church from 10:00 AM until Noon on Sundays.** Bulletins, printed sermons, and **Holy Communion will be available at that time.** This Sunday would be our normal Sunday for Communion. May the message of our Risen Lord's never failing love bring you the peace and joy that is to be found in Him alone.

Worship Opportunities/Sermon & Services - The following WELS area churches will have sermons and brief services available online for Sunday worship. **If you have internet connections you can access their web sites** - services will be prerecorded so that you can access them at our normal worship times.

Risen Savior, McFarland	www.risensaviorlutheran.org
Resurrection, Verona/Monroe	www.rlcverona.org
St Matthews, Janesville	www.stmatthewsjanesville.org

Large Print Bulletin/Sermons Large print copies of the bulletin are available. Please, let us know if you would like the large print version.

Offerings The church council is recommending that for the time being offerings be mailed to the PARSONAGE address, where they will be picked up regularly. Please, use checks instead of cash whenever possible and include your offering envelope or NUMBER. The address is: St Peter – Financial Secretary 1708 West 6th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520.

Offerings through March:	<u>March, 2020</u>	<u>March Year-to Date</u>	<u>April Month-to Date</u>
OFFERINGS	\$14,174.44	\$24,556.24	\$6,295.00
EXPENSES	<u>5,069.94</u>	<u>17,995.44</u>	N/A
NET GAIN	\$ 9,104.50	\$ 6,560.80	

Prayer Requests Please, remember the following in your prayers:

Death in the Family On the evening of Easter Sunday, the Lord chose to call Joyce Powell of Beloit, the mother of our member Brenda Drain, from this world of sorrows at the age of 86 years. Please, keep the family in your prayers as they are experiencing this loss and share your words of encouragement.

Those In Care Facilities Larry Stefanik (Moved from Platteville to Woods Crossing.), Olga Wolfe, Ruth Brobst, Roger Theisfedt & Dale Roennenburg – **NO VISITATION PERMITTED.**

Recently Returned Home from Rehab. - Karen Cornell

In Addition These Shut-ins - self-quarantine: Rosemary Graham; and Lorraine Neuberger.

Those With Compromised Health - Tad Drain - increased complications with pain; Dana Harper will return to Mayo in about a week for an infusion after cancer treatments; Don Bucholtz is continuing treatments for cancer; and Alicia Bettenhausen after success heart procedure. **Phone calls also would be nice!**

Please bring any personal or family prayer requests to the attention of Pastor Hellwig, particularly if a family member, friend, or member of the congregation is entering the hospital.

Sunday School and Catechism Instruction – At the present time, both are being offered remotely. A new series of Sunday School lessons (through May) have been sent to each family and pastor is sending catechism lessons to our catechism students on a weekly basis.

Holy Communion - Pastor Hellwig will continue to be available to offer private spiritual counsel and private communion upon request - either at church or at members' homes. Please call in advance.

Hardship - If you are experiencing any unusual hardship related to Covid 19 (or other situation) please don't hesitate to let Pastor Hellwig or any church council member know (We can't help if we don't know.)

Serving You

(608)577-4825 (cell phone)

Pastor Glen Hellwig

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Vacancy Pastor

The Readings

Third Sunday of Easter---Series A

First Lesson – Acts 2:14a, 36-47

14Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say..."

36"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

37When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call." 40With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. 42They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Second Lesson – I Peter 1:17-21

17Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. 18For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Gospel Lesson – Luke 24:13-35

13Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.

14They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16but they were kept from recognizing him. 17He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" 18They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?" 19"What things?" he asked. 20"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." 25He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" 27And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. 28As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. 29But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. 30When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" 33They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together 34and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." 35Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread. 36While they were still talking about