

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (QUASIMODO GENITI^①) APRIL 8, 2018
THE OFFICE OF MATINS, PAGE 219

Greeting

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

✠ PSALMODY ✠

VersiclesPage 219

Common AntiphonPage 220

Venite ~ O Come, Let Us Sing and Common AntiphonPages 220-221

PsalmPsalm 148



P Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the | heavens; *
praise him | in the heights!

C Praise him, all his | angels; *
praise him, | all his hosts!

P Praise him, | sun and moon; *
praise him, all you | shining stars!

C Praise him, you highest | heavens; *
and you waters above the | heavens!

P Let them praise the name | of the LORD! *
For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.

C And he established them forever and | ever; *
he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.

P Praise the LORD | from the earth; *
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,

C fire and hail, | snow and mist; *
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!

P Mountains and | all hills; *
fruit trees and all | cedars!

C Beasts and all | livestock; *
creeping things and | flying birds!

^①“*Quasimodo Geniti*” is the traditional name for the Second Sunday of Easter. It is from the original Latin Introit and means for “As newborn babes.”

P Kings of the earth and all | peoples,*
princes and all rulers | of the earth!

C Young men and maidens to- | gether,*
old men and | children!

P Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is ex- | alted,*
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.

C He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for | all his saints,*
for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise the LORD!

All Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Office Hymn “He’s Risen, He’s Risen” #480

✠ READINGS ✠

The reading of Scripture is a time of awe-filled attention and reverence. Please refrain from movement and private conversations until a Hymn or the Voluntary (music during the offerings). If you absolutely must leave the Sanctuary during the Readings or Sermon, please remain in the Narthex or in a back pew until the next hymn. Thank you for your courteous and respectful revering of God’s Word! That Almighty GOD would even give us His Word to read and hear, is a gracious gift to be received with humble gratitude. “The LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.” (Habakkuk 2:20 ESV)

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

[Great unity filled the Early Church as the apostles gave testimony to the resurrection of Jesus.]

Now 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. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There 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 and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

P O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 1 John 1:1-2:2

[God has come near to us with His light and life.]

That 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— the 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— that 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. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But 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. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My 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. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn..... **“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” #411 (FR, E)**

Holy + Gospel..... **St. John 20:19–31**

[Jesus appears to a troubled Thomas.]

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 anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, 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.

P O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** Thanks be to God.

Responsory – EasterPage 222

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day **“O Sons and Daughters of the King” #470:1-4 (G)**

Sermon..... **“What Faith Does with Doubt” St. John 20:19-31**

1. _____
2. _____

✝ CANTICLE ✝

Te Deum ~ We Praise You, O GodPages 223-225

Offering and Attendance Registration

✝ PRAYER ✝

Kyrie, Lord's Prayer, Collect of the Day, and Intercessions.....Pages 227-228

P Let us pray to the Lord, **C** Lord, have mercy. *or* **P** Lord, in Your mercy, **C** Hear our prayer.

Benedicamus and BenedictionPage 228

Hymn of Departure..... “O Sons and Daughters of the King” #470:5-9 (G)

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Sending:

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God!



OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *Steadfast in the Word, Bethlehem Lutheran Church shares Christ and serves people with friendship in His love in all of God’s world.*

WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH! We extend a most joyous welcome to all who are worshipping today. We are confident the Lord will reveal Himself to you through this Divine Service so that you may know the joy of His presence in your life. To our guests: If you have any questions about the Christian faith or about Lutheran worship and practice, please ask the Pastor, one of our Elders, or any of our members. God bless you in Christ Jesus!

AS WE COME INTO THE SANCTUARY - let us be sensitive to the needs of those who use the quiet and reverence of the Prelude as a time to prepare their hearts and minds for the Divine Service. **ALSO:** Out of respect for God’s House and courtesy for other worshippers, please turn off all cell phones. Please also encourage one another to show respect to God, His Word, our fellow-worshippers, and our Pastor by limiting movement during Scripture Readings, Sermon & prayers. Thank you.

AS WE GATHER: Thomas is seldom remembered for anything other than his doubt. In our quest to find relatable biblical characters, we often leave Thomas as a man who needed evidence—proof. We may miss his bold confession: “My Lord and my God!” While the other ten disciples had seen Jesus eight days earlier, none of them confessed as Thomas did. And none of them believed until Jesus appeared to them and spoke His Word to them. Focus today not on Thomas’s doubt but rather on his confession of faith.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given to the Glory of God by Jody & Mary Bowden and in celebration of Jessica’s birthday!

IN TODAY’S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON our children will study “God’s Covenant with Abram.” As He did for Abram, God keeps His promises, as He did in giving His own Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Consider discussing, “What important promises do we make as a family? How can we remind ourselves of the promises God keeps for us?”

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY: “Leviticus: Life in the Blood” -- Holiness. What is it? Leviticus shows how God goes to great lengths not only in defining true holiness, but also in sharing His holiness with his redeemed and ransomed people.

A SPECIAL VOTER’S MEETING is today after the Divine Service. We have an opportunity to obtain a pipe organ at a very low cost.

ACTIVE SHOOTER SEMINAR is next Saturday, April 14TH from 10am to 12pm here at Bethlehem. If you would like to attend or have any questions, please see Steve Unk.

NEWSLETTER –The **APRIL** edition of *The Bethlehem Star* newsletter is in your mailbox in the narthex. Make sure you have picked up your copy.

NEW CATECHISM: If you ordered the new Small Catechism and have not yet paid for it, PLEASE do so. If you are not sure, contact the office. The cost of each book is \$15. Thank you!

LUTHERAN WITNESS: If you have not yet paid for your Lutheran Witness subscription, please do so. The cost is \$13.65. The office needs to balance the accounting books with the bill received. Thank you!

PORTALS OF PRAYER devotion booklets for April through June are on the shelf in the narthex. Make sure you have one and pick up an extra copy for a friend!

“RENT A YOUTH”: The youth are once again offering their services. This project provides an opportunity for middle and high school students, (grades 6 through 12), to assist older adults in completing routine light-duty household chores AND to foster fellowship between older adults and the youth in our church. If you have any questions, please see Yanneth Harris.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER: BELC youth are selling Yankee Candles to raise funds for Higher Things. If you would like to help, see one of the youth and they will be happy to show you a catalog.

GREETING CARDS: Are you looking for a beautiful card for special occasions? The ladies of the LWML are selling greeting cards for a 50 cent donation towards MITES. Cards are located on the rack in the narthex.

A SCHOLARSHIP FUND has been established for Aaron Jackson’s college expenses. Aaron is attending Concordia University/Seward, NE to prepare for full-time Church Work as a Minister of Music. If you would like to contribute, please indicate on your check and place it in the offering plate. You can also send Aaron an encouraging note at: Concordia University, Aaron Jackson, 800 North Columbia Ave., Seward, NE 68434-1500.

STEWARDSHIP VIEWPOINT: (St. John 20:19) – “Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” The peace we have in Jesus is what makes a life of good works possible. Since we know that it is Jesus who saved us, and not our works, we are now free to do good works not out of self-interest, but for the right reasons: out of thanksgiving toward God and love for our neighbors.

LIFE QUOTES: “Jesus has really, truly, physically been raised from the dead! And God stakes His entire reputation on these historical Easter facts! Luke was no liar, the women were not delusional, and the angels are no myth. God proclaims His Easter truth to us so that we may know and believe that in Jesus all our sin is forgiven, death has gone to die, the devil has been defeated, and life lasts forever!” *Pastor Jonathan Kruschel, St. John Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota* • www.lutheransforlife.org

ABOUT THE COVER: We often refer to Thomas as “Doubting Thomas.” We doubt too. When something seems nearly impossible for us to believe, we blurt out, “Show me!” As humans, we think we need to be shown in order to believe. Some things sound too good to be true. Not so with Jesus. Jesus tells us about His love and promises for us. We need only to believe.

OUR STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK			
OFFERINGS		ATTENDANCE	
General Offering	\$3883.00	Divine Service	107
[Needed per week:	\$2,668.00]	Communion	86
Building Fund	\$50.00	Good Friday (03/30)	66
[Needed per week:	\$350.00]	Mid-Week (4/04)	20
Holy Thursday	\$900.00		
Good Friday	\$571.90		

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Acts 3:11-21; 1 John 3:1-7; St. Luke 24:36-49.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Sunday (04/08)	9:00 AM	Easter 2 (Quasimodo Geniti)
	10:15 AM	Sunday School & Bible Classes
	Acolyte:	Sara Kimbrough
	Organist:	Mary Bowden
	Altar Guild:	Sandy Smith & Natalie Byrd
	Duty Elder:	Jim Broad
	After Church:	Special Voter's Meeting / LWML Meeting
Tuesday (04/10)	5:30 PM	Board of Elders
	7:00 PM	Church Council
Wednesday (04/11)	5:15 PM	Choir Practice
	6:00 PM	Potluck Supper
	7:00 PM	Bible Classes
Saturday (04/14)	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Active Shooter Seminar
Sunday (04/15)		Easter 3 (Misericordias Domini)
	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Bible Classes
	10:15 AM	Divine Service (Setting 1) / Holy Communion
	Acolyte/Crucifer:	Matthew Jackson
	Pianist:	Sylvia Frenzel
	Altar Guild:	Sandy Smith & Natalie Byrd
	Duty Elder:	Jim Broad
	After Church:	Evangelism Board

IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

National Leadership and Military: including members Kyle Lawson and Kyle Shepherd, as well as Robert Garcia [Juanita's son], and Jeremy Stafford [Marcy Hogan's nephew]

Health needs - Members: Albert Harris (3/4), George Nelson; **Friends: Luke Grumbles (4/8), Joan Smith (3/25)** [Dorothy Jackson's niece], Marlene Thompson (3/25) [Tammy Pike's mother]

Homebound - Members: Dorothy Jackson, Martha Kaudelka, Ardelle Samford, Johnnie Weaver

Comfort: family and friends of Pam Stovall-[Hughes' neighbor's daughter in law]

Celebrating this week: Birthdays: Audrey Felder, Milton Hogan, Charles Stanton... **Baptismal Birthdays:** Audrey Felder, Donna Hughes, Kristi Vickers... **Wedding Anniversaries:** Bob & Sandra Gruetzner

NOTE: New prayers requests are in **BOLD**. Prayers submitted will stay on the prayer list for two weeks unless updated. Please inform the Pastor and the Church Office regarding the status of submitted prayers so we may be timely and up-to-date in petitions to our gracious God.

TO ADD PETITIONS TO OUR PRAYER CHAIN CALL LEA ROSIER AT (903) 729-1879 or (903) 391-5678

Note: The Letters in parentheses after the Hymn number indicate hymns selected because of direct connection to the Propers (i.e., Scripture Readings) for the day ... OT=Old Testament, FR=First Reading, SR= Second Reading , Ps=Psalm; V=Verse; E=Epistle, G=Gospel. Hymns with no such indication are hymns that, while having no direct connection to the Propers, still support the theme of the day.

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Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Adult Bible Class: 9:00 AM
Divine Service: 10:15 AM

"To Give Light to Those who Sit in Darkness"

