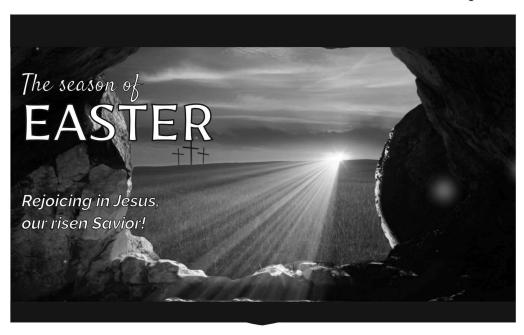
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April 11, 2021

Easter 2 Doubting Thomas



"With one mind and one voice we glorify God the Father."



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INTERIM PRINCIPAL:

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Welcome to Worship!



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the visitor we welcome you most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home we offer fellowship in Christ and the opportunity to actively join in sharing the Good News: Jesus Christ our Savior was born in Bethlehem, crucified on Calvary and risen from the grave for all people.

Please sign our guest register.



If you need to leave the service temporarily, the audio-video of the service is broadcast in the **Gathering Room**. A rest room is located in the hallway across from the elevator. As you exit the sanctuary turn to your left – go through the short hallway and turn right. The baby changer is located inside the restroom.

Please note that the last four pews are reserved for parents with small children.



Regarding standing for hymns or readings – At various times during the worship service the congregation is invited to stand. If this gets to be too difficult – please feel free to remain seated.



We are a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), a national church body in fellowship with the WELS. We hold to the Bible as the inspired, inerrant Word of God and that we are justified before God by grace for the sake of Jesus Christ through faith.



Trinity Lutheran Congregation supports a **private Elementary School** (Preschool through Grade 8). We teach all subjects from a Christian perspective as we prepare children for life in this world and the next. If you desire more information, please contact our Principal, Mr. Jim Speerschneider, Email at mrjim@trinityels.org or Phone at School (262)-675-6627.



In order to maintain a reverent atmosphere for worship and praise, please make sure all **cell phones** and other electronic devices are put on "silent," or, better yet, turned off.

Remember Your Offerings!

Your offerings are important to YOU:

"Honor the LORD with your wealth" (Proverbs 3:9, EHV)

Your offerings are important to GOD:

"Jesus responded, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one [else] found to return and give glory to God...?" (Luke 17:17–18, EHV)



Your offerings are important to the CHURCH:

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to set something aside in keeping with whatever he gains, saving it up at home, so that when I come, no collections will need to be carried out." (1 Corinthians 16:2, EHV)

Leave your offerings in the collection areas in the entryway or Gathering Room, or use the link above to give digitally. \uparrow

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Call to Worship · Easter 2

[1 Peter 2:2a (EHV)]

PASTOR Today we pray to the God who is not dead, but lives! Though we face many challenges in life which may cause us to doubt God's grace and goodness, may He strengthen us by Word and Sacraments to confidently believe in Him.

"Like newborn babies, — Alleluia!

GONGREGATION let us crave the pure milk of the word. — Alleluia!"



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-Stand-

* Confession of Sins and Forgiveness

[Ps 3:7, 143:11, 27:9, 51:15]

- Almighty Lord God, we stand in Your presence to hear Your Holy Word and to worship You with thanksgiving and prayer.
- P Rise up, O Lord! Save me, my God!
- G For the sake of Your name, O Lord, preserve my life.
- P Do not hide Your face from me. You have been my help.
- Do not reject me or forsake me, O God who saves me.
- P O Lord, open my lips;
- **G** And my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P Hear us as we pray, O Lord:

Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault, in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life.

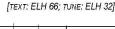
Lift up your hearts! For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, God has had mercy upon you, forgiven you all your sin, and will bring those who believe in Him to everlasting life at the end.

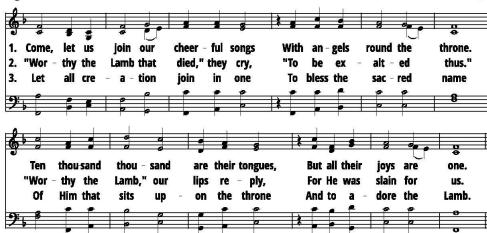
Peace + be with you.

* Public Examination of Confirmands

[10:30 am]

Song of Praise





Prayer of the Day · Easter 2

- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that You given us the holy Gospel in Word and Sacraments purely out of Your incredible grace. When we suffer with doubts in our lives, use these Means of Grace to connect us to Your Son's sacrifice and victory for us. Help us, Lord, not to doubt but to believe in You confidently until we live with You in eternity.
- We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our living Lord, who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

-Be seated-

First Lesson • *Genesis* 15:1–6

Believing in God, though we cannot see Him, is nothing new for the Christian church. Even Abraham had to believe in a promise He didn't immediately see!

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision. He said, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."

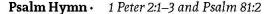
²Abram said, "LORD God what can you give me, since I remain childless, and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3Abram also said, "Look, you have

given me no offspring, so a servant born in my house will be my heir."

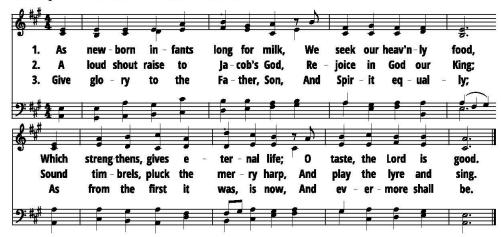
⁴Just then, the word of the Lord came to him. God said, "This man will not be your heir, but instead one who will come out of your own body will be your heir." ⁵The Lord then brought him outside and said, "Now look toward the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them." He said to Abram, "This is what your descendants will be like." ⁶Abram believed in the Lord, and the Lord credited it to him as righteousness. (EHV)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

☐ Thanks be to God!



[text: Dr. Christoph Tietze • tune: CW 443]



Second Lesson · 1 John 5:4-10

Though the world has a philosophy which is very different than the Bible's, we still confidently believe the Triune God's testimony because His "Spirit" clearly testifies to us through the "water" of Baptism and the "blood" of the Lord's Supper.

Everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith. ⁵Who is the one who overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. He did not come by the

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water alone but by the water and by the blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 In fact, there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and these three are one.

⁹If we accept the testimony of people, God's testimony is even greater, because it is the testimony that God gave about his Son. ¹⁰The one who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in him, but the one who does not believe has made God out to be a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God gave about his Son. (EHV)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

☐ Thanks be to God!

-Stand-

Gospel Acclamation • Easter 2

[John 20:26b (EHV)]

P Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Alleluia!



Gospel · John 20:19-31

One of Jesus' many resurrection appearances gives great comfort to all who struggle with doubt. God shows us that even without seeing, we can still confidently believe His Word which never fails.

On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your

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hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

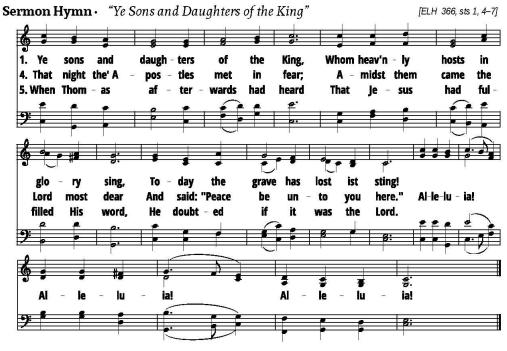
²⁹Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (EHV)

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.



-Be seated-



-Hymn continues on next page-

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"Thomas, behold My side," said He,
 "My hands, My feet, My body, see;
 And doubt not, but believe in Me."
 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!
- Blesséd are they that have not seen
 And yet whose faith has constant been,
 In life eternal they shall reign:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon • *John 20:19–31*

Don't Doubt God's Message

1.	Despite Earthly
2.	Trusting Heavenly

-Stand-

Apostles' Creed [ELH p. 46]

P Having heard the Word of God, we confess our holy faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

☑ 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He shall 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.

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Reception of Offerings and Prayer



Offerings are brought by those who are thankful to God for saving them through Jesus. Before the service starts we collect the offering in the designated areas in the entryway and Gathering Room.

For those who wish to give digitally, please use the link to our PayPal account to the left, or consult our Church Website: www.trinityels.org

Prayer of the Church

[ELH p 48-49, alt]

P Everlasting and merciful God, we fervently ask You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

To have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

P Look in mercy on Your church. Protect it and sanctify it by Your truth. May Your Word be taught in its purity and Your Sacraments rightly administered. Grant faithful pastors to Your Church who shall declare Your truth with power and shall live according to Your will. Send out workers into Your harvest and open the door of faith to all unbelievers and the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church and grant them repentance resulting in life.

God, in the greatness of your mercy, answer us with the certainty of salvation from you.

Let Your protecting hand be over our country and over all who travel. Prosper what is good among us and bring every evil counsel and purpose to nothing. Protect and bless Your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, our judges and magistrates and all in authority. Equip them for their high calling by the gift of Your Spirit of wisdom and fear, so that we might live a quiet and peaceful life in all godliness and dignity.

■ Lord, hear and be merciful to us. Lord, be a helper for us.

P According Your Promise, O God, be the defender of the widow and the father of the fatherless. Relieve and comfort the sick and the sorrowful. Graciously help those who are assaulted by the devil and who are in peril of death. Be the strength of those who are suffering for the sake of Christ's holy name. Grant that we may live together in peace and prosperity. Grant us good and seasonable weather, and bless us with upright Christian wisdom in all that we do.

1 O Lord, be with all in distress. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your Name.

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P We especially commend to Your care and keeping this Your congregation which You have bought at a great price. Keep us all from offenses and bind us together in the unity of Your holy love. Grant that the little ones who are baptized in Your name may be brought up in Your fear. At Your table, give those who commune with You peace and life everlasting.

- Let all rejoice who take refuge in You. Let them sing for joy because You protect them.
 - P In Your mercy... [special petitions]... In Christ's name we pray.
 - **■** Lord, in Your mercy hear our prayer.
- P Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions:
 - -Silence for personal prayer-
- P Be merciful, O God, to all, according to Your great love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. When our final hour shall come, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection to Your glory.
- Amen. Grant us Your peace, O Lord!

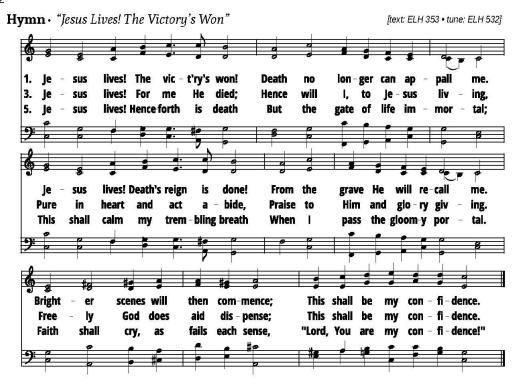
* Lord's Prayer

[Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4]

- P Hear us as we pray, O Lord:
- 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.

-Be seated-

12



-Stand-

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Let us pray:

We give thanks to You, Lord God the Father, that You have given us Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

We give thanks to You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have borne in Your sacred body all our sins, and by Your blood have blotted out all our transgressions.

We give thanks to You, Lord the Holy Spirit, that You have created in our hearts true faith, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

O God, grant us Your grace to remain in this saving faith until we see You face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name. Amen.

13

[2 Cor 13:14]

* Final Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus
 ∴ Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

@ Amen.

* Closing Hymn · "Death is Dead, the True Life Liveth"

[text: ELH 346 • tune: ELH 114]



-Be seated-

Worship Notes

- Preacher: Pastor Daniel J. Hartwig
- Organist: Thursday Donna Moll; Sunday Sarah Hartwig
- Ushers: Thursday Group 7; Sunday Group 1
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- April Altar Committee: Kathy Minzlaff