

PLATTVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH
5475 Bell Road
Minooka, Illinois 60447

April 12, 2026
9:15 a.m.
Palm Sunday

O, COME LET US WORSHIP THE LORD!

* Indicates that the congregation will stand.

PREPARATION Enter to worship

THE PRELUDE/BELL RINGING

Announcements

- *The CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS p. 94
*The OPENING HYMN
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing" #344
*The APOSTOLIC GREETING p. 98
*The KYRIE p. 98

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- * The HYMN OF PRAISE p. 99
*The PRAYER OF THE DAY *Celebrate insert*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

- The FIRST LESSON Acts 2:14a, 22-32
The PSALM Psalm 16 *Celebrate insert*
The SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 1:3-9
The ALLELUIA VERSE p. 102
*The HOLY GOSPEL John 20:19-31
SERMON
*The HYMN OF THE DAY
"We Walk by Faith" -*sung to tune of Amazing Grace* #635
*The APOSTLES' CREED p. 105
*The PRAYERS
*The SHARING OF THE PEACE
The OFFERING
*The OFFERTORY "Create in Me" *Insert in pew*
*The OFFERTORY PRAYER p. 107
*The LORD'S PRAYER p. 112

BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF LIFE

- *The BENEDICTION
*The CLOSING HYMN
"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" #367
*The DISMISSAL/POSTLUDE
Depart to serve

Lay Minister

Henrik Christopherson

Ministers

All Members

Lector

Jeff Gurley

Head Ushers

Darrell Hansen

Bob Bols

Bruce Knudson

Church Office

475-7220



Celebrate

Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

²²“Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I
will not be shaken;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and
my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in
hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul
to Hades
or let your Holy One experience
corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the
ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness
with your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience
corruption.’

³²“This Jesus God raised up, and of that
all of us are witnesses.”



In your pres - ence there is full - ness of joy.

Protect me, O God, for I take ref-¹uge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a-¹bove all other."

²**All my delight is in the godly that are¹ in the land,
upon those who are noble a-¹mong the people.**

³But those who run after¹ other gods
shall have their troubles¹ multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings¹ to such gods,
never take their names up-¹on my lips. R**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion¹ and my cup;
it is you who up-¹hold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a¹ pleasant land;
indeed, I have a¹ rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who¹ gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night¹ after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD al-¹ways before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall¹ not be shaken. R**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir-¹it rejoices;
my body also shall¹ rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me¹ to the grave,
nor let your holy one¹ see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the¹ path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for-¹evermore. R

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer

various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel

John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the

nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt 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 come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way (*especially*). Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 114. **Tuesday** 1 Corinthians 15:19-28. **Wednesday** Matthew 12:38-42. **Thursday** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19. **Friday** Isaiah 26:1-4. **Saturday** Luke 14:12-14. **Third Sunday of Easter** (commemoration of Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church) Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35.

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ITEM014639 Tracks 1 and 2

PARISH CALENDAR

"The more you worship, the less you worry"

Today 9:15 Worship

Monday, April 13th 7:00 pm Church council meeting

Sunday, April 19th Installation of church council officers

Wednesday, April 22nd 9:30 am Quilting

A huge THANK YOU to all who donated items for the Personal Care kits! To date we have 70 kits assembled, but we are willing to take more!

Want to hear and sing your favorite hymn? There is a box in the entryway – fill out a sheet with what you want to hear.

April 5th offering: Current \$4,095.00 Mission \$720.00
Bldg Fund \$1,000.00 Flower Fund \$20.00 World Hunger
\$126.00

Thank you for your support!



God's Left Hand

A 6 year old and his grandma went for a walk one day.
"Look at the gorgeous leaves", grandma exclaimed.
"just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"
"Yes!" said her grandson, "and he did it left handed."
Perplexed, grandma asked, "why do you think God used
his left hand to create all this beauty?"
"Because," said the boy, "we learned in Sunday School that
Jesus sits on God's right hand!"

Be Curious

The hit Apple TV series *Ted Lasso* became a cultural phenomenon as the first season was released in August 2020, in the thick of the global pandemic. This sports-comedy-drama told the story of the title character, an American college football coach turned professional English soccer coach with zero experience in that sport. Ted's genuine positivity was hilariously infectious amid the real challenges he faced in his work and relationships. He encouraged people not to make assumptions of one another and to "be curious" in life.

In many ways, the disciple Thomas could have been an acolyte of Ted Lasso. Though he is often dubbed "the doubter," Thomas's disposition was really one of curiosity. After all, how could he not be curious? He was the one disciple who missed out on Jesus' first resurrection appearance in that locked house. Who wouldn't feel the sting of missing such a sight, and hope to share in a similar experience? Thomas, in his faithfully curious way, desired to put his hands in Jesus' pierced hands and side. His belief in the resurrection was contingent upon the quenching of his curiosity. That is, without his inquisitiveness, the story lacks its climactic revelation: Thomas's proclamation, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

We could go on labeling Thomas a doubter, but such a title is unfortunately riddled with disparaging connotations. Perhaps we would do well to claim him as "Thomas the curious," recognizing that doubt and belief intersect along curiosity's pathway. Thomas may just be our example of how to perceive the resurrection in our midst, thereby leading us into a deeper understanding of life with the risen Christ. After all, it is his proclamation we share in the Easter season as we declare Jesus crucified and risen. May we, too, be curious as we look for signs of Easter among us.