# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

# *Sharing God’s Word; Showing God’s Love; Serving God’s World.*

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

## **Gathering**

P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Most gracious God, as we gather in your presence we pray,

**C: That out of your glorious riches you will strengthen us through the power of your Holy**

 **Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And**

 **may we, being rooted and grounded in love, be able to grasp how wide and long and**

 **high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge –**

 **that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.** *(Ephesians 3:16-19)*

P: May you be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. *(2 Timothy 2:1)*

**Opening Hymn “Christ Is Alive, Let Christian Sing”**  #389

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit

 be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, we have celebrated with joy the resurrection of our Lord. Graciously**

 **help us to show forth the truth and love of Jesus, your Son, in all we say and do;**

 **through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen!**

**THE SCRIPTURES**

**First Reading:** Acts 5:27 – 39

 *The early church came under persecution for preaching and teaching about Jesus as God’s Messiah, who though crucified, God raised from the dead.*

 The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. “We gave you strict orders not to teach in Jesus’ name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.”

Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead —whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.

 When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing.

 After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered. Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.” L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:12 – 20

 *Paul taught that Jesus’ resurrection was of supreme importance to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus. The resurrection was proof of all the Apostles taught about salvation through Christ.*

 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Song “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”** #857

**The Gospel:** John 20:19 - 31

 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though 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; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**   **“Believing Is Seeing”**

HYMN “Thine Is the Glory” #376

P: Let us affirm our faith together, in the God that calls us through his Son, Jesus Christ, and

 enlightens our minds, empowers us for ministry, and keeps us in true faith, through his Holy

 Spirit.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus

 Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is

 seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

**OFFERING**

**Offertory “Lord, Be Glorified”** vs. 1, 3 #744

**Prayer of Dedication**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness**

 **and loving-kindness shown to us and to your whole creation. We praise you for all the**

 **blessings of life, but above all, for your immeasurable love for the world that we have**

 **in Jesus Christ our Lord. Give us such an awareness of your love that with truly**

 **thankful hearts we may give of ourselves sacrificially to your service, and walk in your**

 **ways, bearing witness to you love. And now receive these gifts, dedicated to your**

 **mission and ministry. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O LORD, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your bountiful

 mercy and love, that we know we have through Jesus Christ our savior and Lord.

**C: Amen!**

**Lord’s Prayer**

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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn “On Our Way Rejoicing”**  #537

P: Go in the Spirit of Christ to love and serve the Lord.

C: Sharing God’s Word, Showing God’s Love, and Serving God’s World.

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**Serving Us Today**

Organist: Peggy Madson Head Usher: Glenn Otto

Greeter: Mitchell Zutz Acolyte:

Ushers: Delton and Cheryl Duchow Lector: Tiffany Jandrey

Sound Operator: Luke Evenson Projection: Judy Harris

Video/Live Stream: Mike Lenzner

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Mathew Krogh

Greeter: Luke Evenson Acolyte: Addison Spindler

Ushers: Dean and Rose Behnke Family Lector: Joyce Sorenson

Sound Operator: Makenna Kaderabek Projection: Stefanie Kaderabek

Video/Live Stream: Eric Thomsen Communion Aide: Joyce Sorenson

**Last Week** – Sunday: 320 Video: 84 Wednesday: no service Offerings to the Lord’s work: $9,361.00

**Known to have been hospitalized or in need of prayer:**  The family of Lorraine Reindl who funeral is this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Visitation is from 12:00-1:45 p.m. Sharon Naidl, Kevin Schultz, Marlene Thomsen, Harry Kwasny, Connie Schisel, Donald Tienor, Delores Johnson, Ginger Linsmeier, Bob Klessig, Signe Burkart, Doug Wilson, Jim Loritz, Elling Jones, Merle “Butch” Graf, Wayne Allen Huske.

**Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following who are serving in the military:** Daniel Brandl, Matthew Brill, Kyle and Dylan Conrad, Corey Evenson, Carter Hildebrandt, Jeff Konz and Andy Schnell. If there are others we should be remembering, please inform the church office.

**Faith’s Opportunities April 24-May 1**

**Sunday** 10:00 A.M. Sunday school and Fellowship Hour

**Monday** 6:00 P.M. Televised Worship and Jazzercise

**Tuesday** 6:30 P.M. Lions Club in Community Room

**Wednesday** 6:15 P.M. Worship

 7:15 P.M. Confirmation

**Thursday** 8:00 A.M. Quilting

 6:00 P.M. Jazzercise

**Sunday** 8:00 A.M. Bell Choir practice ~ Boards of Christian Ed. and Youth

 9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Sunday school and Fellowship Hour

 10:15 A.M. 9th grade Confirmation

Faith’s Hand Bell Choir

**You aren’t going to believe it! It’s happening!**

The hand bell choir will again be ringing under the direction of Bonnie Gordon.Thanks to all who have agreed to make this happen, but we still could use some more ringers. If you are willing to give it a try, please contact Sue Riesterer at 920-775-4190.

Practices are at 8:00 a.m. Sundays May 1st and May 8. We will meet in the church balcony and plan on playing for the Sunday, May 8th Service (Mother’s Day).

**Save the Date for Monumental VBS** – the summer event that celebrates God’s greatness!  This year, VBS will be held Monday, June 20 - Thursday, June 23, 2022 from 12:30-4:00 p.m. at Faith.  You don’t want to miss it! All children entering 4K – 5th grade are welcome to attend.  Confirmation and High School age students as well as adult volunteers are needed.  To be a part of the VBS family contact Chloe Cigler at 920-775-4417.