

A photograph of an open tomb entrance. The tomb is a dark, rocky cavity with a large, smooth stone rolled away from the opening. Through the opening, a bright sunset or sunrise is visible, with a large cross on a hill in the center, flanked by two smaller crosses. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and yellow. The foreground of the tomb is dark and rocky.

He has risen

Mark 16:6

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3210 Maple Drive, Plover, Wisconsin 54467

Phone: Church 715-341-2898; Cell 715-498-0093

Website www.beautifulsaviorploverwi.com

Pastor David E. Ficken

Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Worship Information

Parents with Young Children: We encourage families to worship together.

Worship Bulletin: Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

Worship Form: There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

Communion: Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are *gluten intolerant* please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion



Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord's Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.

- **Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.**

AS WE GATHER-- When Isaiah wrote about God’s plans in terms of a feast, people may have wondered, “Says who?” The prophecy wasn’t clear, and the resurrection of Jesus was still centuries in the future. If the women at the tomb decided to tell someone later, they might not have been believed. But today’s Epistle includes a list of those who did hear and see Jesus Himself, including Paul, who had persecuted the church. We are here because untold millions of our brothers and sisters heard God’s Word, came to faith, and couldn’t keep the news to themselves. Who told you? Whom will you tell? And if anyone asks, “Says who?” invite them to join us in worship to hear for themselves.

.....

AS WE GATHER-- Those who followed Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem had hopes and fears, but their experience was within what they expected. So, Isaiah’s prophecy, which we shall hear again today, was one of those things that didn’t seem to apply, for it was too much of a change to take seriously. And the news from the angel at the tomb went far beyond that! Life after death challenged every understanding so directly that the women were startled into fear-driven silence—at least for a time. That very day others would hear the news and soon many would see Jesus Himself, as Paul tells us in the Epistle. Today is a day to embark on a life based on the startling new reality that death is not the final word for anyone with faith in Christ. How then shall we live before we see Him ourselves?

.....

WITNESS AND OUTREACH-- Mark 16:1-8: The Good News of the resurrection of Jesus was, at first, hard for His followers to accept. But by God’s grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, their hearts were soon on fire for Jesus, and they eagerly shared this Good News. May the truth of the resurrection of Jesus set our hearts ablaze to share this Good News whenever we have the opportunity.

WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 118:24*

- Pastor: The light of Christ!
- People:** **Thanks be to God!**
- Pastor: All of you choirs of angels and saints in heaven before us:
- People:** **Rejoice at Christ’s victory over death.**
- Pastor: Now, heaven and earth, even all of creation:
- People:** **Rejoice, for the eternal darkness has been defeated.**

Pastor: Rejoice, brothers and sisters in Christ both here and around the world!

People: Our Lord has kept all God's promises!

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!



HYMN

“The Day of Resurrection”

LSB 478

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.



HYMN

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

LSB 457

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We cannot enter God's presence as we are. Our sinful condition falls short of the glory of God. Let us therefore give voice to those sins, confessing our faults and failures to one another and to God Himself.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Rejoice and be glad! God has not merely overlooked your faults; He has not missed your failures; and He knows the frailty of the human condition. Rather, He became one of us as Jesus, who died to pay for every sin or yours and your sinfulness itself. Jesus not only paid the penalty; on this day our heavenly Father proclaimed to all the world that He accepted the payment. Your sins are forgiven indeed!

In the stead and by the command of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.
Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

☩ WORD ☩

FIRST READING *Exodus 15:1-18* (The Song of Moses)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:1-11, 55-58* (Paul, persecutor of Christians, is one of many people who saw Jesus alive after death. The news is of primary importance for people of faith.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.


CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 16:1-8* (The women are so shocked by the news of the resurrection that they initially tell no one.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.
People: Glory be to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to You, O Christ.

 **HYMN** "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" LSB 465

SERMON "Against All Odds!" (*Exodus 15:1-18*)

CATECHISM *The Second Article*

People: I believe 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 sits at

the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that Jesus Christ,

true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,

and also true man, born of the virgin Mary,

People: is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil;

Men: not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

People: that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. He lives to intercede for us before the Father. With confidence, let us present to God our petitions for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus.

For the holy Christian Church throughout the world, that it may be found without fault at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all believers in the Lord Jesus that their lives may testify to His resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, that a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those in positions of public trust in all levels of government, that they may serve justice and promote the welfare and dignity of every person, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who suffer because of poverty, persecution, or sickness, [*especially . . .*], and all others we name in our hearts [*silence*], that they may know the healing power of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who grieve because of the death of their loved ones, [*especially . . .*], that through the sure hope of the resurrection of Christ, God would wipe away the tears from their eyes and give them comfort, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth God's glory in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who come this day to the feast of our Lord's body and blood, that their faith be strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

OFFERTORY *LSB 159*



What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed good, right, and salutary that we should in every time and place thank and praise You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But today we praise You

especially for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He took our sins to the cross and yet arose, destroying death in the process and opening eternal life to us. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



HYMN

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” *LSB 940, vs.1, 4*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**



HYMN

“The Lamb”

LSB 547, vs.1, 5

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

See **LSB 329: Christian Questions with Their Answers prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.**



Note: These questions and answers are no child’s play, but are drawn up with great earnestness of purpose by the venerable and devout Dr. Luther for both young and old. Let each one pay attention and consider it a serious matter; for St. Paul writes to the Galatians in chapter six: “Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.”



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

LSB 461

“I Come, O Savior, To Thy Table”

LSB 618

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

LSB 474

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

LSB 480

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, that You have refreshed us through this gift of life, forgiveness, and salvation. Strengthen us by this Sacrament to live in the startling reality that Christ is alive and with us each day until we join saints and angels around His banquet table; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you with unexpected joy and gladness and keep you in His grace.

The Lord look on you, showering you with His great love.

The Lord look on you with favor to promise you resurrection ☩ and eternity with Him.

People: **Amen.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
 Pastor: Go in peace as you serve our living Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Silent Prayer: Spirit of the living God, empower me to both *profess* and *possess* Easter—today and forevermore. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.
 Copyright © 2023 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS:

OLD TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:32-35
EPISTLE 1 John 1:1-2:2
HOLY GOSPEL John 20:19-31

TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord

Our “**tithe**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.
(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest. Please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit.)

February Financial Recap:

February Givings (Thank you!) \$17,637.28
 Monthly Need: \$17,640.16
 Shortage: - \$ 2.88

Scrip profit
 3/18/24 - 3/24/24:
 \$6.62

We also received two large IRA contributions in February totaling an additional \$28,332.17. The majority of this has been put in the Rainy Day savings for now. One of these donations was the full amount of the person’s annual offering which they are giving now out of the required IRA distribution. The other was an IRA distribution from a former member. Thank you!

The Governance Board has decided to publish monthly givings rather than weekly givings moving forward. Offerings fluctuate a great deal from week to week, and it was determined a monthly overview is a better indicator of how we are doing financially. The monthly report will remain in the bulletin throughout the month giving members multiple opportunities to see how we are doing. If you would like to know the weekly numbers, please let Teresa in the office know and she would be happy to let you know what came in on any specific weekend.

Life Quotes: March 31 “The disciples and the first century Christians may have felt like they were on the losing side. They had their doubts and fears. Maybe you do, too. They may have lost some earthly things. You may, too. But Jesus takes away the fear and the doubt. You have hope in His resurrection. You have hope even through the trials of life. You have a living hope in your living Lord.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •*
lutheransforlife.org

CALENDAR:

April 8 – Life Line Screening @ BSLC (flyers are in your BSLC mailbox)

April 11—OGT Board Meeting @ BSLC, 9-noon

April 13—LWML Spring Rally @ Immanuel Lutheran in WI Rapids,
registration begins at 8am

April 21—LWML Spaghetti Dinner

April 28—Confirmation Sunday

April 29 – Men’s night at Mike’s wood shop



Friday Morning Bible Study: 10-11:30am, We have three weeks left in “God Never Gives Up On You,” a book by Max Lucado sharing scripture’s story of God’s grace through the life of Jacob in Genesis 25-35. This week’s lesson is “In the Shadow of Shechem.”

Complimentary Life Line Screenings Available: Life Line will be conducting screenings at Beautiful Savior April 8th . We have two Complimentary Screening Packages available (valued at \$159 each) and three Complimentary Individual Screenings. These are available to the first people who ask! Please call Teresa at church, 715-341-2898. Appointments must be made for those wishing to have the screenings, 844-591-7101.

Loose Change Collection: Next week’s loose change will go to Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in the U.S. in their own language, to strengthen their faith and encourage them to seek to learn more about Jesus.

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Prayer List : 3/31/2024 – 4-6/24

Ongoing prayers for Grief & Loss: (Named & Not Named)

Loved Ones –

Dave Norrgran--Mother Marlene; Paul Hansen – father Donald; Family of Bob Helmrick; Family of Robert Kowalski (Chad’s father); Family of Luan Wendlick (Cheryl Wagner’s mother); Family of Elaine Idsvoog, Ashley Pawlowicz— Mother Yvonne; Andy Weden—Father Gary; Marlys Gross—Brother Rev. Loren Delgehausen; Jeff Viegut—Mother Norma Viegut

Situations

Suicide Attempts, Cancer, Christian Parenting, Caregivers, AODA

Military:

Devante; Emily; Nick

Pending Diagnosis & Treatment: Ken Resch (Father of Julie Barge); Paula; Phil Idsvoog; Rose Janke (Karen Holman’s mother); Melissa (Caleb Schultz’s aunt); BSLC friend new cancer diagnosis; BSLC friend, Sarah, new cancer diagnosis

Hospitalized/Recovering: Sharon Hughes--Hospice

Circuit 17: St Luke-Rapids (starting the Call process for a Pastor)

Shut-ins: Merry Kampmeier, Mary S., and Anita C.

Birthdays:

3/31 Jonilee Gunn
4/1 Jeff Langenhahn
4/3 Lori Hopp

Baptism Birthdays:

3/31 George Diekelman

Anniversaries:

Missions:

First Choice Resource Center
Camp Luther
Peace Campus Center & Pastor Andy Weden
St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School
Wycliffe & Lutheran Bible Translators & Linda Jordan
J.P. & Aimee Cima & Family
Orphan Grain Train Center
Adam Tanney (Seminary Student)
Christ Care / Carpenter’s Crew

***Please let us know if you
have any prayer requests –
Thank you! ***

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 25:6–9

- 6 On this mountain the LORD of hosts
will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-
aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged
wine well refined.
- 7 And he will swallow up on this
mountain
the covering that is cast over all
peoples,
the veil that is spread over all
nations.
- 8 He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears
from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he
will take away from all the
earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
- 9 It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have
waited for him, that he might
save us.
This is the LORD; we have
waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his
salvation.”

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1–11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers,
of the gospel I preached to you, which
you received, in which you stand, ²and
by which you are being saved, if you
hold fast to the word I preached to you—
unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first
importance what I also received: that
Christ died for our sins in accordance
with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried,
that he was raised on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and
that he appeared to Cephas, then to the

twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than
five hundred brothers at one time, most
of whom are still alive, though some
have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared
to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last
of all, as to one untimely born, he
appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least
of the apostles, unworthy to be called an
apostle, because I persecuted the church
of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am
what I am, and his grace toward me was
not in vain. On the contrary, I worked
harder than any of them, though it was
not I, but the grace of God that is with
me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so
we preach and so you believed.

Holy Gospel: Mark 16:1–8

¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary
Magdalene and Mary the mother of
James and Salome bought spices, so that
they might go and anoint him. ²And
very early on the first day of the week,
when the sun had risen, they went to
the tomb. ³And they were saying to one
another, “Who will roll away the stone
for us from the entrance of the tomb?”
⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone
had been rolled back—it was very large.
⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a
young man sitting on the right side,
dressed in a white robe, and they were
alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, “Do not
be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth,
who was crucified. He has risen; he is not
here. See the place where they laid him.
⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he
is going before you to Galilee. There you
will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸And
they went out and fled from the tomb, for
trembling and astonishment had seized
them, and they said nothing to anyone,
for they were afraid.



Easter

About the Cover: On the first Easter, the morning sun helped to put an end to mourning. For it revealed that Christ’s tomb is empty. “He is not here,” the angel says (Mark 16:6). Jesus was laid in the place of death, but He did not stay there. Neither will the grave be able to hold all who believe in Him on the Last Day. Though there is much to cause mourning in this life, we know that it is all fleeting because of that first Easter morning. Christ is risen!