

*Jesus came  
and stood among them*

# Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

## BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Lay Leader David Lutz

Guest Pastor Dan Hinrichs

### 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**--Proof is surely what we want, but instead of the kind of proof that would remove the need for faith, God gives us His own marks of suffering to satisfy our fears. We find our refuge in the wounds of Christ. Thomas found them and the doubter became a believer. All of us find answers to the troubles and trials of this mortal life in the wounds of Christ, and from these wounds we confess to the world, "My Lord and my God!" Don't let your doubts and fears drive you away from Jesus. Go to Him with them all, and He has promised to build us up in faith.

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**WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS**

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

**✠ PREPARATION ✠**

 **HYMN** "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" LSB 487

**INVOCATION**

Lay Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Psalm 105:4, 8*

Lay Leader: Seek the Lord and His strength;

**People:** seek His presence continually!

Lay Leader: He remembers His covenant forever,

**People:** the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.

Lay Leader: Bidden by the Lord and confident of His steadfast love and mercy, let us confess our sins.

*Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.*

Lay Leader: Merciful Lord, almighty Father,

**People:** 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.

Lay Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I assure you with confidence that by your confession your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

Lay Leader: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People:** **Amen.**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### KYRIE

Lay Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Lay Leader: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Lay Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Lay Leader: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Lay Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**



### HYMN OF PRAISE “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

LSB 477, vs. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:

Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;

He who on the cross a victim For the world’s salvation bled—

Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

### SALUTATION

Lay Leader: The Lord be with you.

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

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lay Leader: Let us pray. Almighty God, who once delivered Thomas from his fears and strengthened his faith, grant us by Your grace the same Spirit to confront our doubts and so be made steadfast

and bold in faith and in the confession of Christ's saving name before the world; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior, whom with the Father and the Spirit, You are one God, one Lord, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** *Acts 5:12–20* (“Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalms 148* (Praise the Name of the LORD)

**EPISTLE** *Revelation 1:4–18* (To Him who loves us be glory forever.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 20:19–31* (Thomas confronts Jesus with his doubts and Jesus confronts him with His wounds to show that the news of the resurrection is true.)

Lay Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)


Lay Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

 **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

 **HYMN** “O Sons and Daughters of the King” LSB 470

**SERMON** “Believing Thomas” *John 20:19-31*

 **HYMN** “By All Your Saints in Warfare” LSB 517, vs. 1, 6, 3

**CREED** *Nicene Creed*

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under**

**Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lay Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.  
Grant us grace, O Lord, that we may not give in to temptation and doubt but with confidence confess the death of our Lord Jesus Christ and His resurrection and bless those who hear us make the good confession. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lay Leader: Grant us courage, O Lord, that we may not fear along the way but daily become bolder by the power of the Spirit to speak the name of Jesus and to live as His own in His kingdom here and in heaven forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lay Leader: Grant us peace, O Lord, that having full confidence in Your loving care, we may neither be distracted by cares or struggles of this life nor succumb to a suspicious heart, but daily grow closer to You through Your Word and live according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lay Leader: Grant us healing, O Lord, that those who suffer may rest all things into Your almighty arms, and, as You have promised, be kept to the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. [Hear us particularly for *names*, and those who grieve . . .], that they may abide in Christ by faith until we all behold You face to face. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lay Leader: Grant us wisdom, O Lord, that we may elect and be served by faithful leaders who acknowledge the voice of Your Word and be faithful in their stewardship of the public trust, providing equal justice and opportunity to all citizens. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lay Leader: Grant us hope, O Lord, that we may not be lost to the power of despair but delight in Your presence to give us strength and guidance. Bless our fellowship around the Holy Supper of our Lord that by this communion we may profess our unity in doctrine and our willingness to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the desire of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lay Leader: Grant us life, O Lord, that we may be kept by Your grace and Spirit that through the days of our trouble and by the merits of Christ alone we receive Your salvation, dwelling among the saints on high even as we rest from all our labors. Lord, in Your mercy:

**People: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Petitions appropriate to local needs may be added here.*

Lay Leader: Grant us, O Lord, all things beneficial to us and to our salvation and prevent from us all things harmful and enable us by faith to trust without fear in Your judgment and provision. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**OFFERTORY** (in offering plate at entrance to sanctuary)



**HYMN**

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” LSB 806

**✠ 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.**



**SANCTUS**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

LSB 507, vs.1

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Holy God, mighty Lord, from Your own goodness we have this bread and cup, the fruits of Your own creation. Through Your Son's own incarnation, death, and resurrection, we have been brought to faith and equipped by the Spirit to do His bidding and fulfill His holy purpose for us and for our salvation. Grant that what we now receive with our lips we may keep in holy hearts and live holy, upright, and godly lives that reflect Your goodness.

**People: Amen.**

## **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 Cor. 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, 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.**





## AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God” LSB 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
 Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## 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: Pastor will come around again, offering the COMMON CUP.**



## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”	LSB 474
“This Joyful Eastertide”	LSB 482
“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”	LSB 618

## COMMUNION DISMISSAL

**Pastor:** Now this, the Body and Blood of Christ, crucified, risen and ascended, strengthen you, nourish you and keep you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

**People:** Amen.

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Lay Leader:** Let us pray. O Lord, from Your goodness have come mercy after mercy. Give us one thing more—a grateful heart—that acknowledging Your goodness we may be made ever more confident of Your grace and content with Your mercy, until that day when all our labors shall cease, our doubts shall no more trouble us, and, with blessed Thomas, we shall wear the new and glorious flesh Jesus already wears; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**Lay Leader:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

**Lay Leader:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People:** Amen.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING**

**Pastor:** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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**NEXT WEEK’S EASTER READINGS:**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Acts 9:1-22

**EPISTLE** Revelation 5:8-14

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 21:1-14

**TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord**

Our “**tithes**” 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.)*

**March Financial Recap:**

March Givings (Thank you!) \$19,653.25

Monthly Need (5 Sundays): \$22,265.10

Shortage: - \$ 2,611.85

Parking Lot Project:  
\$69,118  
Goal: \$100,000  
((\$23,000 remains on the  
\$50,000 loan.)

YTD: We are \$888.57 short of being fully funded according to the approved budget for 2025 (this is factoring in the full cost of a pastor). What this means is that we have been able to put money into savings to help with the future moving needs and visits of a potential Pastor for Beautiful Savior. Praise God! Thank you for your offerings.

**Life Quotes: April 27** ““Knowing that God is always near as our Help moves us to reflect the Savior’s love in helping others. ‘Carry each other’s burdens’ (Galatians 6:2).” *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

## CALENDAR:

**Tuesdays**—9am Orphan Grain Train packing

**Fridays**—10-11:30am, Friday morning Bible study

**April 28**—LifeLine Screening @ Beautiful Savior

**May 18**—Congregational Meeting (State of the Congregation, mid-year mtg)



### Call Process:

Thank you to the volunteers serving on our Call Committee:

Karol Harris, Marv Hopp, Lee Loomis, Werner Gross, Kristi Philhower

Update: **Pastor Joseph Leech has been issued a call to serve at Beautiful Savior. Please continue to keep Pastor Leech and Gayle in your prayers as they deliberate this new call.**



**Grief Share Classes: Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm** through May 27. Pastor Dan is facilitating, and the topic of discussion on April 29th is Regrets. “Regrets are common after the loss of a loved one. But, left unchecked, they can lead to guilt, shame, and hopelessness, which can complicate your grief and slow the healing process. This week’s session will help you find freedom from these troubling thoughts.”

**Friday Study:** Pastor Dan is leading “You are Never Alone” based on the book by Max Lucado. This study explores Christ’s miracles and how He is still at work in our lives. May 2nd, lesson 8: “The Voice That Empties Graves.”

**Travel Ministry Opportunity:** Central Wisconsin travel ministry’s Creation Museum and Ark Encounter trip has a few spots that need to be filled before we can make it official! **The registration date has been extended to May 1<sup>st</sup>.** This trip is scheduled for July 29-Aug. 1. Contact Sue Lilienthal 715-344-5660 or [slilienthal@splpoint.com](mailto:slilienthal@splpoint.com) for more details.

**Life Line Screening , tomorrow at Beautiful Savior:** If you haven’t already, call to schedule an appointment! 888-814-0466 and use code: HSCA001. We also have a handful of Complimentary Screening certificates available, first come, first serve! Let Teresa know if you’re interested by calling the church office.

## **Beautiful Savior Lutheran Prayer List : 4/27/2025 – 5/3/2025**

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

Family of Art Holford; Schultz Family; Kubisiak family (Roy's mother passed away); Family of Sharon Hughes; Family of Lynda Helmrick

### **Situations:**

Suicide Attempts, Cancer, Christian Parenting, Caregivers, AODA (those struggling with alcohol and other substance abuse), those struggling with mental health

**Military:** Devante; Emily; Nick

### **Pending Diagnosis & Treatment:**

Ken Resch (Father of Julie Barge); Phil Idsvoog; BSLC friend, Sarah, cancer; Jane Dubois

### **Hospitalized/Recovering:**

#### **Circuit 17:**

St Luke-Rapids (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); Bethlehem-Nekoosa (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); **Beautiful Savior as we are in the Call process (Pastor Leech as he deliberates our call)**

**Shut-ins:** Mary S.; Anita C.

#### **Birthdays:**

4/27 John Rubel  
4/28 Michelle Lavin-Davis  
5/2 Kaylee Deater  
5/3 Tammy Kubisiak  
5/3 Tim Lipke

#### **Baptism Birthdays:**

4/30 Pam Lutz  
5/1 David Lutz  
5/3 Kyla Barge

#### **Anniversaries:**

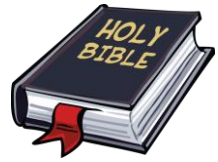
#### **Missions:**

First Choice Resource Center  
Camp Luther  
Peace Campus Center & Pastor Andy Weden  
St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School  
Immanuel Lutheran School  
Future Lutheran High School  
Wycliffe & Lutheran Bible Translators & Linda Jordan  
J.P. & Aimee Cima & Family  
Orphan Grain Train Center  
Christ Care / Carpenter's Crew

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

April 27-May 3, 2025

**Week 18 “Bible in a Year” Questions:**



**Numbers 4-10:**

1. What special vows did a Nazirite make? Who could be a Nazirite (ch.6)?
2. What were some of the offerings the Israelites brought for the dedication of the tabernacle and the altar (ch. 7)?
3. How did the Israelites know when it was time to leave Sinai (10:11-36)?
4. What prayer did Moses offer whenever the Israelites set out (10:35-36)?

**Song of Songs 2-8:**

1. What is the religious interpretation of Song of Songs? What does it symbolize?

**Psalms 38-47:**

1. Psalm 40: Can you think of a time God “lifted you out of the slimy pit” and gave you a “firm place to stand?” What is that firm standing place?
2. Psalm 42: What does it mean to “pant for God” like a deer “pants for streams of water?”
3. Psalm 46: This psalm begins with a “triumphant confession of fearless trust in God.” Why can we trust God completely? When can we trust Him?

**General Questions to consider:**

1. What did you learn from this week’s readings?
2. Is there something in these readings that surprised you?
3. What is one passage that encourages or challenges you? How?

## First Reading: Acts 5:12–20

<sup>12</sup>Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. <sup>13</sup>None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. <sup>14</sup>And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup>so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. <sup>16</sup>The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

<sup>17</sup>But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy <sup>18</sup>they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. <sup>19</sup>But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, <sup>20</sup>"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

## Second Reading: Revelation 1:4–18

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:  
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup>and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so, Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

<sup>9</sup>I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet <sup>11</sup>saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

<sup>12</sup>Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden

lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup>his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup>and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades."

## Holy Gospel: John 20:19–31

<sup>19</sup>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." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>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."

<sup>26</sup>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." <sup>27</sup>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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>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.



**About the Cover:** Jesus stood among His disciples to show them His hands and side. The marks of the nails showed that the Jesus who was crucified is the very same Jesus who has been raised and lives. Thomas was not there the first time Jesus appeared among His followers, but he wanted to verify with his own eyes and hands that Jesus lives. Jesus' hands still bear the marks of His love for us through His sacrifice upon the cross.