

First Lesson

Acts 4:8-12 NIV Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, 10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified but Whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. 11 He is "'the Stone you builders rejected, which has become the Capstone.' 12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under Heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Epistle

I John 1:1-2:2 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched - this we proclaim concerning the Word of Life. 2 The Life appeared; we have seen It and testify to It, and we proclaim to you the Eternal Life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete. 5 This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is Light; in Him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the Blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us

from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His Word has no place in our lives. 2:1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have One Who speaks to the Father in our defense - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the Atoning Sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Gospel (Sermon Text)

Luke 24:36-49 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at My Hands and My Feet. It is I Myself! Touch Me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." 40 When He had said this, He showed them His Hands and Feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, He asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and He took it and ate it in their presence. 44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the Third Day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His Name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what My Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✧ A.R. Burmeister 430-5859 ✧ Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

April 15th, 2018 ✧ Jubilate = Rejoice! (Cross & Comfort)

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long time), we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! **Blessed Easter to you!**

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or Our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before Communing. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. God bless you on Easter.

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On silver liturgy sheets and in (red) hymnal p.15.

Service		
Opening Hymn	535 (9v)	Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing
Psalm Hymn	-359-(4v)	This is the Feast of Victory for our LORD
Hymn of the Day	41 (4v)	Wondrous King, All-Glorious
Offertory Verse	655 (1v)	I Pray Thee, Dear LORD Jesus
Distribution Hymn	315 (15)	I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table
Closing Hymn	657 (4v)	Beautiful Savior, King of Creation

Suggested Bible readings for weekdays after the 3rd Sunday of Easter

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Micah 2:12-12	Isa. 30:29-26	Jere. 3:11-19	Ezek. 34:1-11	Ez. 34:12-22	Ez. 34:23-31
John 5:1-17	John 5:18-30	John 5:31-47	John 6:16-29	John 6:30-40	John 6:41-59

PROPERs for EASTER-4(3rd SUNDAY AFTER EASTER) APR 15TH

INTROIT Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! Sing out the honor of His Name; make His praise glorious. Alleluia! Say to God, How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You. ...from Psalm 66

COLLECT Almighty God, You show those who are in error the light of Your truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant that all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Kingdom may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our LORD, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns... C: ♪ A - - men.

GRADUAL C: Alleluia! Alleluia! The LORD has sent Redemption to His people. Alleluia! It behooved Christ to suffer and to Rise from the dead and therefore to enter into His glory. Alleluia! Ps.66

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on outside back page of the bulletin.)

PSALM "HYMN" for Easter: This is the Feast of Victory - Please SING along!

Refrain: This is the Feast- of Victory for our God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the- Lamb Who was slain, Whose Blood set us free to be the people of God. [Refrain] This is the...
2. Pow-er, riches-, wisdom and strength, And honor-, bles-sing and glory are His. [Refrain This is the Feast of...]
3. Sing- with all the- people of God And join in the hymn of all crea--tion. Refrain: This is the Feast- of Victory for our God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia.
4. Blessing, honor-, glory and might Be to God and the Lamb forever. A--men.

Last: This is the Feast- of Victory for our God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia!

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
Sue Smith (Bev Foster)	Sue battling pancreas & liver growths.	Sad but faithful
Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Both at home.	Jim's BP spikes
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee keeps plugging in Plant City.	Has in-home care
Angelo Pousa (Tom & Viv Temple's neighbor)	Angelo battling health issues	
Jon Sawyer (Andrea)	Jon Sr had (2) heart stents put in at TGH Thurs, April 5 th	
Joe Thacker (Bev Foster)	Joe was in & out of hospital with double pneumonia	
June Weyenberg	June back home (by herself) doing rehab from knee surgery	

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Joan Patrick	Barb Wolkens
Treaters	Bev & Don Wienke	Ilene & Alex Gourley

Statistics	Last week	Year to date / Avg.
Sunday Attendance (Communion)	20 / (- -)	26 / 23
Bible Class Attendance: Sun/Wed	6 / 3	7 / 6
Last Sunday Offering	\$.	YTD Total \$.,

Calendar of Events		
Today, April 15 th	8:30 am	Bible Study - Heritage Hymns Study 178
Easter-3 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Communion)
Jubilate' - Rejoice!	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!
Tuesday, 4/17	(midnight)	USA Taxes Due
Wednesday, 4/18	6:00 pm	OSL Bible Study -PARABLE: Rich Fool
Saturday, 4/21	10:00 am	OSLadies Guild April Meeting at church
Sunday, 4/22	8:30 am	Bible Study - Heritage Hymns Study 4
Easter-4 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (No Communion)
Jesus Good Shepherd	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!

Our Savior Elders are: Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Steve Wendt 858-3611 & Don Wienke 815-8892. Please contact with your concerns.

April 15th ▲ ELS Centennial: Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done: 1918-2018



Since the synod from its beginning already was in fellowship with the Wisconsin Synod and the Missouri Synod, the training of pastors and teachers in its early years occurred through these sister synods. In particular, the pastors often were educated at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. (The ELS did not have her own seminary 'til 1946.)

Sunday 4/22 Good Shepherd Sunday (p.5 No LS) 426 (359) 368 644 627 436

EASTER3(B) Luke 24:36-49; 1John 1:1-4 "GHOSTS DON'T EAT FISH" 22.04.12

NONE OTHER There is **no other saving Name** than the Name of **J-E-S-U-S**. No other savior than this Jesus who was crucified as an atoning sacrifice for sin. No one else has a death and Resurrection; no one else can rescue you from your sin and death but this Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, the Son of God. Visible, touchable, hearable Jesus.

DR. LUKE WRITES Luke gives his own version of the Easter upper room in today's Gospel. The disciples are frightened, discussing all the rumors that were flying faster than a gossip column. Two disciples claimed to have seen Jesus on the road to Emmaus. He taught them and broke bread with them. The disciples are discussing what this all means when suddenly Jesus appears literally out of nowhere, and says **"Peace be with you."**

POOR BOYS Those poor disciples. You have to feel for them. Their nerves are worn ragged. Crucifixion, burial, rumors of resurrection, empty tomb, Jesus sightings first by Mary, then the two on the Emmaus road. All in three days. And then without so much as a polite knock on the door, Jesus appears risen from the dead and says **"Peace be with you."** The disciples nearly jump out of their skin, thinking they're seeing a ghost. (Same as when Jesus walked on water, BTW)

REAL DEAL Jesus shows His hands and feet, those wounds that are our healing, the wounds that identify Jesus. Any Jesus without those wounds isn't the real Jesus, no matter how glorious He may appear. Remember that. Jesus said there would be **all sorts of false christs** near the end, so brace yourselves and be ready. You can tell the real One by His wounds. **"Those dear tokens of His Passion, still His dazzling Body bears."** He shows them to the Father as evidence of our redemption. **"See, I've paid the price,"** He says. He shows them to His disciples as evidence of His Resurrection from the dead.

GO (EAT) FISH **"Go ahead and touch me,"** Jesus says. You can't touch ghosts. Spirits don't have flesh and bones. And notice please, that Jesus has "flesh and bones" after His Resurrection. This is the Resurrection of the Body, not some sort of immortal spirit floating about in the clouds. And then to drive home the point, Jesus asks for a piece of broiled fish, and He eats it right before their eyes. Here's the rub: **Ghosts don't eat fish.**

(5) SENSES John says, **"We heard Him, we saw Him, we touched Him."** That's how real the Resurrection of Jesus is. Audible, visible, tactile. And though He isn't visible to us today, He remains quite audible in His Word. And though we cannot touch Him in the way that John did, He still touches us in all our "human" humanity. He Baptizes us with water; He gives us His Body to eat as bread. He gives us His Blood to drink as wine. Audible, visible, tactile, tasteful. **Real. It doesn't get more down to earth than that. Or more real.**

OPEN-CLOSED (MINDS) This touchable Jesus, with wounded Hands and Feet and Sides, Who eats fish, opens the closed minds of His disciples so they too can **understand the Scriptures at their very heart and core:** That the Christ must die and rise; and that the sinner must die and rise with Jesus in daily repentance to forgiveness; **"that repentance and the forgiveness of sins be preached in my Name to all nations."**

ONE-NAME **"In My Name"** is the Name of Jesus. There is no other name under Heaven given to men by which we must be saved. It's a devilish lie to say that God goes by many names and is worshipped in many ways. That's the world's way of syncretism, throwing all religions into a blender and spinning the blade. It's not all the same. There is **only One Who died and rose** from the dead, and **He goes by the Name of Jesus**. No other name can save you, because no one else but Jesus rose from the dead. **Ghosts don't eat fish.**

METANOIA Repentance is what the disciples were to preach. Did you catch that? Repentance. Not renovation, renewal, refreshment or retreat. Repentance. **Metanoia** in Greek. It means a change of mind, a turning around. With minds opened to the Scriptures, the Church is sent into the world to turn the minds of the nations. **We also have only one note to sound:** Repentance.

U-TURN Think of **repentance** as a complete **turnaround**, a new mind, a new self. Being turned inside out, away from self toward God, from sin to forgiveness, from fear to faith. It is a turning to the God who has turned so graciously and mercifully to you in Jesus. That's what the church is supposed to be preaching. Not health, wealth, happiness, fame, and fortune, but repentance in the Name of Jesus.

S/IN-BORN We are **born turned away from God**, turned **inward, self-centered** instead of **Christ-centered**. Don't deny it; denial is not the way of repentance. **"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."** That goes for the most innocent newborn to the most holy of senior citizens. We are born in that condition; we have sin. **"If we say we claim we have not sinned, we make God out to be a liar and His word is not in us."** Don't deny that either. Whatever we do has the fingerprints of a sinner on it.

4-GIVE/NESS (But) Here's the Good News: When we confess our sins, when we say back what God has said to us in His Law, when we own up to our sin God is faithful and just, and in His faithfulness and righteousness He forgives our sin and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. That's what the death of Jesus accomplished. Forgiveness and cleansing. Why does God put up with the world, with you and me? It's all for Jesus' sake. What does God love to do more than anything? **To forgive and cleanse; baptize, absolve, pardon sinners.**

NONSENSE The **religious world doesn't get this**. They would have no clue that God would actually want us to come into His presence not with excuses and bribes but with a confession on our lips, an honest admission of guilt that we have sinned in our thoughts, in our words, in our actions. And we are bringing our confession not to a judge or a jury so that punishments can be meted out, but to a Faithful and Righteous God who keeps His promises and swears by the Blood of Jesus that He will forgive you. That's something to tell the world, because the world doesn't have a clue that this is how God operates.

BUT WE DO SIN Of course, there will always be those who say, "Hey, if God loves to forgive so much, why don't I just **sin up a storm** and give Him even more to forgive." But that's not the way of repentance. John writes in all sincerity, as a father to his children, "My dear children, I write this so that you do not sin." But the reality is that we do sin. John knew that. He knew that of himself, and he knew that of his people. Every pastor, every apostle, every Christian must say, "I, a poor miserable sinner," or **we** are not telling the truth.

HE'S OUR GUY There is good news for the sinner: If anyone sins, he has an Advocate, a defense Attorney who speaks to the Father. **He bore the price of our sin on the Cross. He paid our debt.** He received our sentence and paid it in full. He's the defense attorney who receives the sentence of his guilty clients. And He stands before the Father's throne with those wounds: His Hands, His Feet, His Side and says, "Father, forgive them." And the Father has no choice but to forgive. The wounds of Jesus testify that the price has been paid.

...FOR ALL! Not only for our sins, but for the **sins of the whole world**. It's almost as though we are given to hear the Holy Spirit give John a nudge and say, "Don't stop there, John. Don't water it down. Pour on the Good News." Jesus is the atoning Sacrifice for our sins. And that's good for us to hear. But there's more, a whole world more. "Not just for ours sins, but the sins of the whole world." That means you can look anyone in the eye and say, "**Christ died for you.**"

ONLY ONE WAY FOR ALL Salvation in Christ is "**exclusively inclusive.**" (that's not an oxymoron) It is exclusively in Christ Jesus, there is no other name, no other way, no other door but the narrow door of His death and Resurrection. And yet it is inclusive, embracing "all nations," every sinner, every sin without exception. "Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world." - And it would all seem too good to be true, but for this one fact: Jesus Christ **IS** risen from the dead. He was seen, heard, touched. Ghosts don't eat fish. **This is most certainly true. J'N, Amen.**

SDG

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS
3rd Sunday in Easter  **SERMON: "Ghosts Don't Eat"**

Possible Prayer of Church for the Third Sunday of Easter ✠ April 15th, 2018

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. (Possible brief silence)

For the **Holy Church** throughout the world, that She would rejoice in the Lord and give thanks to His Holy Name; and that She would not be ashamed of the Gospel, but confess it, preach it and cling to it as the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Heavenly Father, with joy the Church continues to celebrate the Resurrection Victory of Your beloved Son. Look in Your mercy on all who have been Baptized into His death and Resurrection, and grant them grace each day to die to sin and rise to newness of life with Him. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fountain of mercy, You call Your people to **love and serve those in need.** Pour out Your blessing on all the mercy ministries of Christ's Church, that many may come to know and praise Your unspeakable kindness and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

King of kings and Lord of lords, to You we commend our **public servants** in this land. Bless and prosper them in their callings. Hinder everything in our common life that is contrary to Your will, and establish and strengthen every good endeavor. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of kindness and compassion, Your Son throughout His ministry healed the sick and relieved the distressed. Remember in tenderness those who are in need of His healing and comfort today [*especially* [OSL Prayer List](#)].

Sue Smith (Bev Foster) Sue battling pancreas & liver growths. Sad but faithful
Jim & Elma Hendricks LORD's will be done. Both at home. Jim's BP spikes
Dee Kurczewski (David) Dee keeps plugging in Plant City. Has in-home care
Angelo Pousa (Tom & Viv Temple's neighbor) Angelo battling health issues
Jon Sawyer (Andrea) Jon Sr had (2) heart stents put in at TGH Thurs, April 5th
Joe Thacker (Bev Foster) Joe was in & out of hospital with double pneumonia
June Weyenberg June back home (by herself) doing rehab from knee surgery

By the power of Your Holy Spirit, grant them grace to entrust themselves entirely to Your loving care. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Master, Your beloved Son summons us to His table to partake of His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, for a share in His own divine life, and for our everlasting salvation. Grant to us repentance and faith, that we may receive this Eucharist in a worthy manner and to our abundant blessing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Giver of the life that never ends, receive today our heartfelt thanks for all Your servants who have departed this life in saving faith and who live in You forevermore. In Your boundless love, bring us with them to share in the joys of the new Heavens and the new earth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**