

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

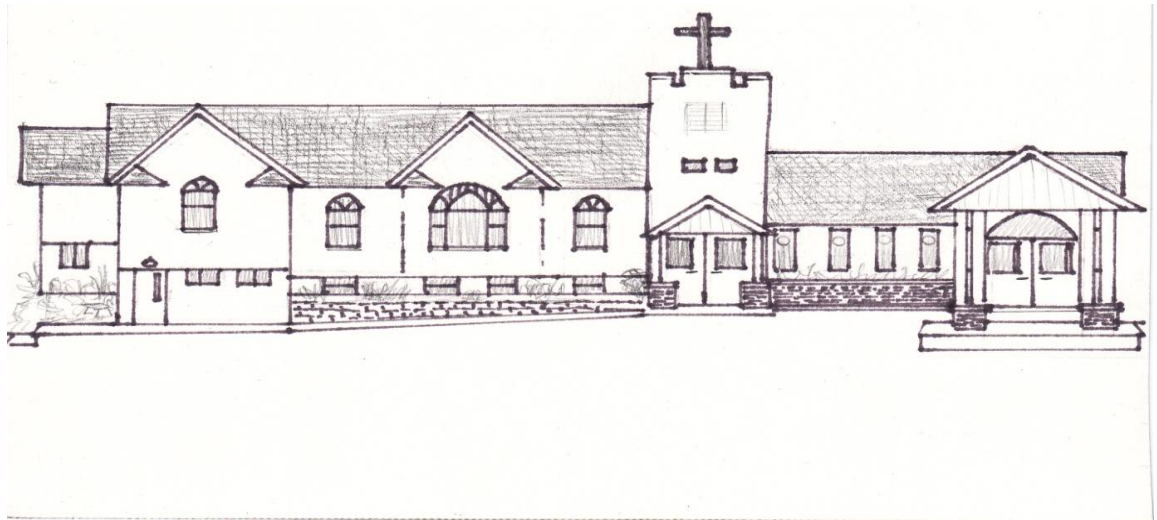
Stpeterlutheranchurch.net

13221 W. Todd School Rd.

Glasford, Illinois 61533

309-389-5342

Pastor Raymond Barclay



Sketch drawn by Alice Diver

Sunday, April 27, 2025
Second Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE: ORGAN / CLAVINOVA

[*] REQUESTS YOUR RISING IF COMFORTABLE

CALL TO WORSHIP BY OUR CHURCH BELL

GREETINGS

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY:



Introduction to the Worship Service:

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

***GATHERING SONG *Thine Is the Glory* (LBW 145)**

Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

***INVOCATION (WOV p. 46)**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

P The word is near you,

C **on your lips and in your heart.**

P If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C **and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

P Faith comes from what is heard,

C **and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.**

***SCRIPTURE SONG (WOV p. 47)**



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.



I Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na-tions.



Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.



II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,



for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (WOV p. 47)**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the festival of our Lord's resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Acts 5:27-32

A reading from Acts.

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

READER The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

You are my God, and I will exalt you. (*Ps. 118:28*)

- ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength¹ and my song,
and has become¹ my salvation.
- ¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents¹ of the righteous:**
“The right hand of the¹ LORD acts valiantly!
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD¹ is exalted!
The right hand of the¹ LORD acts valiantly!”
- ¹⁷ **I shall not¹ die, but live,**
and declare the works¹ of the LORD.
- ¹⁸ The LORD indeed pun-¹ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o-¹ver to death.
- ¹⁹ **Open for me the¹ gates of righteousness;**
I will enter them and give thanks¹ to the LORD.
- ²⁰ “This is the gate¹ of the LORD;
here the righ-¹teous may enter.”
- ²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have¹ answered me**
and you have become¹ my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the build-¹ers rejected
has become the chief¹ cornerstone.
- ²³ **By the LORD has¹ this been done;**
it is marvelous¹ in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the¹ LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be¹ glad in it.
- ²⁵ **Hosanna!¹ O LORD, save us!**
We pray to you, LORD, pros-¹per our days!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name¹ of the LORD;
we bless you from the house¹ of the LORD.
- ²⁷ **The LORD is God and has giv-¹en us light.**
Form a procession with branches up to the corners¹ of the altar.
- ²⁸ You are my God, and¹ I will thank you;
you are my God, and I¹ will exalt you.
- ²⁹ **Give thanks to the LORD, for the¹ LORD is good;**
God’s mercy en-¹dures forever.

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from Revelation.

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴ 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, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

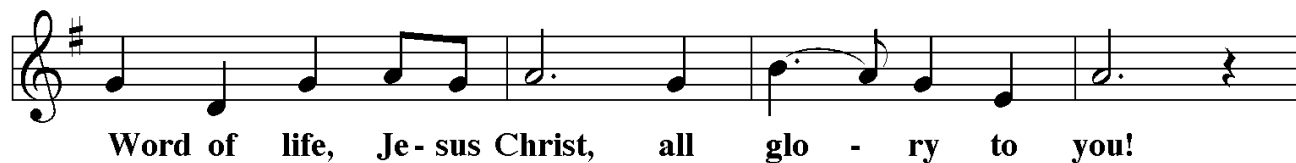
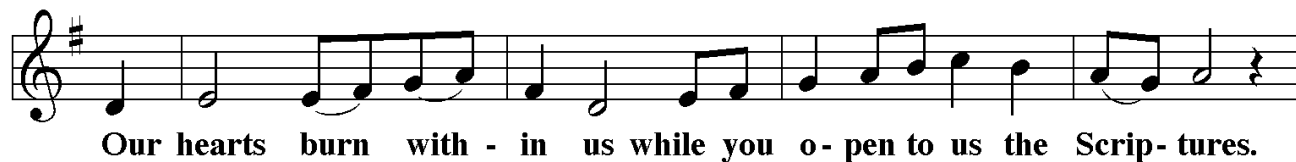
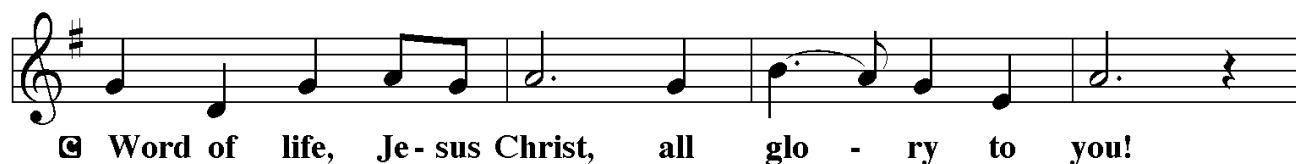
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

READER The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (WOV p. 48)**



***GOSPEL: John 20:19-31**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So 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.”

²⁶ A 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.” ²⁷ Then 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.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

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

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

LISTENING - FOR - GOD'S WORD: 'IT'S SIMPLE'

HYMN OF THE DAY *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!* (LBW 147)

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn-ful sigh?
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran-somed of the earth.
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,
He who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,
joined to him, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless-ings on his church be - low.
with the Lord, at his right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.
glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

***RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION (WOV p. 49)**

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**
P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C **pray in the Holy Spirit.**

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all
our sins.

C **Amen**

***PEACE (WOV p. 50)**

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share God's peace with one another.

***OFFERTORY (WOV p. 50)**



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

P Let us pray.

Gracious God,

C in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***THE PRAYERS**

P Let us pray to our risen Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another.

~ A brief silence ~

P Lord Jesus, you stand in the midst of the lampstands, your churches, filling them with imperishable light. Thank you for rescuing us from the darkness of sin. Thank you for dispelling clouds of grief and despair. Thank you for leading us into your everlasting life. Grant us grace to lead all people to you.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Breathe your Holy Spirit upon your Church, and fill it with your peace. Teach it to proclaim the Gospel graciously and boldly, so that all people may adore you as their Lord and their God.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Dwell in the midst of those are persecuted for your sake. Make them lampstands that shine with the radiance of your glory and grace. Fill them with the oil of faithful witness and steadfast endurance.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Pour your Holy Spirit upon this congregation. Give us a hunger for your Word; a thirst for your mercy; a vision of your love for all people; and a desire to serve you by serving others in your name.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Give us the persistence and kindness of the disciples who sought out Thomas and drew him back into your dear presence. Help us to share, with those who have lost hope, the hope that is in us.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Give to all peoples that peace which the world cannot give. Teach us repentance and humility. School us in generosity, gentleness, and justice. We need all these things to flourish – but mostly, we need your Spirit working your will in our hearts.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Give wisdom, courage, and integrity to our military, first responders, and all who serve the causes of liberty and justice throughout the world. Fill them with a love for your good and gracious will. Use them to establish justice, safety, and hope in places lacking those good things.

C Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Heal the bodies, cheer the spirits, and illumine the hearts of all whose lives are shadowed by sorrow and pain. This day we remember before you the needs of: {List}. Renew in them the gifts of faith and hope; raise them to fullness of life; . and restore them to joyful fellowship with all who love them.

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

P Lord Jesus, you promise your resurrection life to all whom you have redeemed. We entrust into your care our beloved dead. Wipe away the tears of all who grieve. Fill us with the faith to follow you fearlessly, and to encourage one another cheerfully. Lead us to your Father's house, where with all whom you love, we shall with endless joy acclaim you as our Lord and our God.

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

P Grant to us all that is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you are risen from the dead and dwell in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p. 52)**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

***BENEDICTION (WOV p. 53)**

P Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

REFLECTION

1. Do you think of yourself as a pretty simple person or pretty complex?
2. Although the Bible contains many wonderful quotes (sayings,) what is one of the simplest ones that Jesus uses?
3. Try to memorize it and use it as you 'think through' daily situations, moods and relationships.

Memory Verse: John 20:27

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for coming!

~ Strength & Healing Concerns~

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pam Rabe	Judy Livingston	Pat Janssen	Bill Juraco	Phyllis Fischer
Lyle & Mary Lou Nannen	Judy Wyss	Virginia Mahan		Pat Geltmaker
Richard Sathoff	Ray Hammerich	Cyndi Benson		Carl Satterlee
Dave Kroepel	Linda Meyer	Debra Watkins		Grant Blaza
Doug Rabe	Alice Lopez	Derek Cruitt		Heather Hayden
Lisa Pate	Marsha Shafer	Greg Strickfaden		Marie Haage
Greg Sewell	Linda Hollenback			

And All Soldiers Serving Our Country

~ THANK YOU ~

MUSIC: Linda Garmon
READER: LYO
GREETER: LYO

Would you like to be part of a committee to pick out parking lot lanterns? The council feels we should repair / replace them now while we are updating the island trees & lot. Contact Alice if interested. S

~ ST. PETER HAPPENINGS ~

April 27th – Non-Communion Sunday

Pound Sale @ 3pm

May 1st – 4H Meeting – 6-8pm Basement Reserved

May 4th – Communion Sunday

Rachel's Day

May 11th – Non-Communion Sunday

May 14th – 9am Sewing

6pm Council Meeting

May 17th – 8am Men's Breakfast @ Glasford Baptist

WELCA ladies are in need of sheets & fabric for quilting. Any size or type, we can even use flannel as batting.

We are also in need of cash donations for sewing kits. The average sewing kit costs \$15-20.00. Joann Fabrics is going out of business so I can get quilting material at a discount. Please give donations to Colleen, Alice, or Renee.

Thank you in advance!

Thank you to all the Spring Clean-up Crew!

- Charles & Karen Rice
- Bobbie Dean
- Sharon Phelps
- Joan Scott
- Lynne Huey
- Darrell Moore
- Tom & Rosemary Haynes
- Ed Fischer
- Marilyn Strickfaden
- Trish Deppermann

Thanks so much!!

GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 27, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scar Stories

Do you know a person without any scars? It is hard to imagine anyone getting through the years without a few cuts and scrapes, or worse. Some scars we regard with a sense of humor, even pride. These tend to be the marks of superficial injuries that we describe in stories with mostly happy endings. But other scars lay bare deeper physical and emotional pain—the scars of trauma, heartbreak, loss. These are precisely the wounds that benefit most from the attentiveness of others but may be harder to talk about.

If you were to guess what physical form the risen Jesus would take on Easter evening, would you imagine that any sign of suffering and shame would remain? And yet, his scars are intact. What remarkable continuity between the Jesus the disciples have known and the Jesus they encounter in resurrection.

Even more remarkable is Jesus' readiness to draw attention to his scars. "Peace be with you," he greets them (John 20:19). Then he immediately shows them his hands and his side, as if to say, "See my scars? These are the signs of my suffering. They will always be part of me, even though I've overcome them."

In this way, Jesus models courageous vulnerability. If he can tell his scar story, defying the shame of the cross, then maybe his friends can tell theirs too. Rather than locking their pain away, the disciples have permission to throw open the doors. They can own their grief instead of letting it own them.

Easter does not erase Good Friday. Risen life incorporates our scars. But by acknowledging our pain and the pain of others, we bear one another's burdens in the spirit of Christ. This mutual caring engenders trust and closeness. And together we can tell our scar stories with confidence, making way for healing and new life.

Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS023339. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-719536

