

May 4, 2025
Easter 3



St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Easter 3

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“St. Philip’s Evangelical Lutheran Church & School”

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

Pastor: Raymond Kimbrough

Principal: Jason Schapekahm

**Welcome, Friend!
You Have Come To The Right Place!
Jesus Loves YOU!**

WELCOME

**Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future.
For more information, please contact Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373
or Principal Jason Schapekahm at 414-659-4688.**

**BECAUSE HE LIVES
WE CAN SEE THINGS CLEARLY**

EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY

A recent survey asked Americans which of the five senses they would least like to lose. 77% chose sight. Navigating life blind poses a plethora of challenges that the sighted do not face. This is why Scripture often uses the concept of blindness as a metaphor for how hard it is to navigate life without a correct understanding of Christ. Spiritual blindness can take many different forms. In some cases, it is hostile opposition to the message of Jesus. In others, spiritual blindness might be demonstrated in confusion about Jesus’ true identity. In still others, spiritual blindness might be the inability to understand our spiritual condition.

No matter the form spiritual blindness takes, Easter has the power to replace it with sight. Easter allows us to see where we sinners stand with a holy God. It enables us to see the path through life that is worth pursuing (as opposed to those that lead to a dead end). Spiritual sight gives us the ability to see who holds our future in his hands and who is worth our eternal worship. Because he lives, we can see things clearly.

445 He's Risen, He's Risen

CW 445



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
 2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
 3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
 the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
 and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.
 Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
 pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
 In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
 The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;
 For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;
 Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.
 for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
 he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.
 re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.
 with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.
 Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887
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 Tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



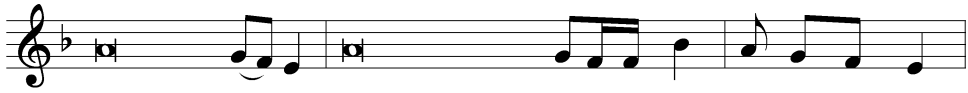
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



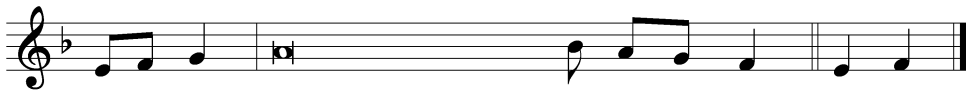
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 9:1–22

To get his attention, Jesus struck Saul blind. Then he not only restored Saul's physical sight but also gave Saul spiritual sight. Saul was given faith in the One who had risen from the dead.

¹Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶"Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

¹³"Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

¹⁵But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.

¹⁶I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

¹⁷Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes,

and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 30A – You Have Turned My Wailing into Dancing

Lay Reader: I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths

Congregation: and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

Lay Reader: LORD my God, I called to you for help,

Congregation: and you healed me.

Lay Reader: You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead;

Congregation: you spared me from going down to the pit.

Lay Reader: Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people;

Congregation: praise his holy name.

Lay Reader: For his anger lasts only a moment,

Congregation: but his favor lasts a lifetime;

Lay Reader: weeping may stay for the night,

Congregation: but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Lay Reader & Congregation:

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading

Revelation 5:11–14

While in exile on the island of Patmos, St. John was given special sight, the ability to see the sacrificial Lamb who is worthy of our worship and praise.

¹¹Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹²In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!”

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!”

¹⁴The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

2 Timothy 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ Jesus has destroyed death
and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

John 21:1–14

Many of the disciples first met Jesus while fishing near the Sea of Galilee. At the time they were spiritually blind, not realizing who Jesus was. The resurrected Jesus now appears again to these disciples while they are fishing, and this time they see him clearly through eyes of faith.

¹Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ²Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. ⁵He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered.

⁶He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, ¹²but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹³Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹⁴Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁵This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

459 Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

CW 459



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n a - gain; Christ has bro - ken
2 He who gave for us his life, who for us en -
3 He who bore all pain and loss com - fort - less up -
4 He whose path no rec - ords tell has de - scend - ed



death's strong chain. Hark, the an - gels shout for joy,
dured the strife, is our Pas - chal Lamb to - day.
on the cross lives in glo - ry now on high,
in - to hell; he the strong man armed has bound



sing - ing ev - er - more on high: Hal - le - lu - jah!
We too sing for joy and say: Hal - le - lu - jah!
pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hal - le - lu - jah!
and in high - est heav'n is crowned. Hal - le - lu - jah!

5 He who slumbered in the grave
is exalted now to save;
now through Christendom it rings
that the Lamb is King of kings.
Hallelujah!

6 Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiv'n,
how we, too, may enter heav'n.
Hallelujah!

Text: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Tune: Latin, c. 1100, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text – John 21:1-14

Sermon Theme - "From Emptiness to Abundance"

Big Idea: When we follow Jesus' guidance, He fills the emptiness in our lives with purpose and provision.

- 1. Empty nets. Verses 1-3**
Lesson: The Failure of Human Effort.
- 2. Divine power. Verses 4-6**
Lesson: Fruitfulness follows obedience.
- 3. Overflowing Blessings. Verses 7-11**
Lesson: God always provides in abundance.
- 4. Fellowship with Jesus. Verse 12-14**
Lesson: The most important catch is communion with Christ.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.

Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:

<https://members.myoffering.com/#/landing>.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.
Amen.

928 May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

CW 928

May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior and the Fa - ther's
bound - less love with the Ho - ly Spir - it's fa - vor
rest up - on us from a - bove. Thus may we a - bide in
un - ion with each oth - er and the Lord, and pos - sess in
sweet com - mun - ion joys which earth can - not af - ford.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807
Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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"Our Mission Statement"

(Our Purpose as a Church)

Our mission here at St. Philip's Lutheran is outlined for us in Matthew 28:19: 'Go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them and baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.' Making disciples includes proclaiming God's Word in its truth and purity, strengthening the faith of those under our care, and reaching out to the people of our community, (including our unchurched friends and relatives). Let us pray for and work together toward this goal.



St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

3012 N. Holton St.

Milwaukee, WI 53212

414 263-7614

splsoffice@stphilipmilwaukee.com

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

www.wels.net

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

Lay Reader

Thomas McNeal

Piano

Grace Sauer

In Our Prayers

Judi Tevich

Kitty Henderson

Natasha McCants

Sheila Kimbrough

David Ryles

Joyce Vernon

Belinda Whitley

Family of Greg Patterson

Next Week: May 11, 2025

Piano: Grace Sauer

Lay Reader: Thomas McNeal

Guest Preacher: Seminarian Joel Sauer

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Wednesday, May 7 Chapel 9:30AM – Led by WLHS

Friday, May 9 NO School – WLHS Track Meet

Sunday, May 11 Bible Class 9:30AM
Worship with communion 10:30AM
Mother's Day

CHURCH OFFERINGS UPDATE

	Week	Month	July to Date
	<u>4/21-4/27</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
Budget	\$ 3,490.57	\$ 13,962.26	\$ 152,547.17
Actual	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 13,196.40	\$ 125,066.73
Over (Under)	(\$ 1,705.57)	(\$ 765.86)	(\$ 27,480.44)

Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.
Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.



UPCOMING GRADUATIONS

Henry Schapekahm – Wisconsin Lutheran High School – May 24th

Caralyn Wilson – Wisconsin Lutheran High School – May 24th

If you have an upcoming graduation this spring please notify the church office. We would like to recognize all our St. Philip's graduates both from high school and college.



St. Philip's Lutheran Church & School

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough
3012 N Holton Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Church: 414-263-1373

Cell Phone: 414-254-6093

TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS

*This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person.
May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the
forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.*

*If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our
pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church
membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to
call on the pastor at any time.*

School Office Phone: 414-263-7614
Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373

Church Service – 10:30AM
Bible Class – 9:30AM