

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 3rd, 2016

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes!

The members of Shepherd of the Lakes are very pleased to have you worship with us today. We invite you to join with us in worshipping the Triune God: the Father who created us, the Son who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who sets us apart to be God's people through his powerful word. Our church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a group of Lutheran churches committed to the Bible's teaching about life and salvation.

God speaks to us from the Scriptures:

The First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

Fresh from the battle against the kings of the East, Abram has been blessed with full assurance that the Lord is his shield. Yet Abram longs to know the details of how the Lord is his great reward. Abram is assured the Lord's great reward would not only be a son but a nation. Abraham believed the Word of the Lord and it was credited to him as righteousness.

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 16, on page 68 in your hymnal

The Epistle Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Peter's testimony was certain because he was eyewitness. He had seen the glory of God in Christ on the mountain. He had seen the glory of life from death in the upper room. This word made more certain shines like light in the darkness of this world, illuminating our hearts and lives until the Morning Star returns.

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia. (John 20:29)

The Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

The visible and physical proofs demanded by Thomas anticipate future doubters of the Son of Man's divinity. In his grace we behold our risen Lord through Word and sacrament. How blessed by the Spirit are we: though we have not visibly seen, yet we see our Lord and God through eyes of faith.

Applying God's Word to our Lives this Week:

Sermon: **John 20:19-23**

Theme: To Forgive and Not To Forgive? That is the Question.

- I. Jesus and forgiveness
- II. Forgiveness and the disciples
- III. Forgiveness and the Christians
- IV. Forgiveness and today's Christian

Holy Communion: In Holy Communion we are receiving Jesus' true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, new life, and salvation. But that's not all. We also receive strength, encouragement, and comfort knowing that in this sacrament **we are at one with our God** through Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, **we are one in faith with those communing beside us**, and **we are joined with all the saints**, who share our common faith. For this reason we practice **close communion**, inviting only WELS or ELS members to partake of the sacrament so as not to call into question the communion that we share. **If you are a visitor, please speak to Pastor Seelow before communing.**

GOD'S PEOPLE GROWING AND SERVING

Usher/Altar Guild Schedule

April 10th — 3

April 17th — 1*

April 24th — 2

*denotes Communion Sunday

NEWS AND NOTES

Today's Theme Through eyes of faith we have seen the risen Lord!

Council Meeting The council will meet next Sunday following Bible Class.

Voters' Meeting The voters will meet on Sunday, April 24th.

Next Sunday Worship – 9am; Bible Class 10:15; Council Meeting 11:00

OUR PATH OF WORSHIP

“The Common Service”

PREPARATION p.10

Opening Hymn: #159

Confession of Sins: **p. 15**

Prayer and Praise: **p. 16-17**

THE WORD

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalm 16, page 68

2 Peter 1:16-21

Verse of the day, p. 18

John 20:19-31

Response, p. 18

Nicene Creed p. 18-19

Hymn of the Day: #165
vs. 1,5-9

The Sermon

Create in Me p. 20

The Offering

Prayers, p. 20

THE SACRAMENT
p.21-23

Distribution Hymn: #312
vss. 1,5,6

THANKSGIVING p. 24

Blessing, p. 25

Closing Hymn: #143

Shepherd of the Lakes
Ev. Lutheran Church

241 E. Federal Highway, Roscommon, MI 48653



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2016

Pastor Adam Seelow
Phone: Office: 989.275.3070 Cell: 989-324-7162
Email: Shepherdofthelakeswels@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/sotlwels