

# SATURDAY APRIL 11TH, 2026 -9:00 PM

## Second Saturday in Easter

### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love with all people*

#### WELCOMING WORD

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter, the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter.

Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.



#### WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

*Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.*

MINISTERS  
GUEST PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH  
REV. BRUCE ENGBRETSON



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C** = Congregation)

**PRELUDE** Ruth Heinecke

**+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #380** *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! (vs. 1,2,5)*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!  
**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*). Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ,

you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## GREETING

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

**And also with you**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; <sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' <sup>29</sup> "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption. <sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

## 1 Peter 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

<sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> 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 any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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." <sup>26</sup> 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." <sup>27</sup> 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." <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 come to believe." <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

+L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**MESSAGE** Reverend Bruce Engebretson

**+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN # #632 O God Our Help In Ages Past (vs. 1,5,6)**

**THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

**+THE PRAYERS** pg. 152

The leader concludes each petition with the words: "Lord in your mercy..."

**The people respond: Hear our prayer."**

**+SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**BENEVOLENCE**

**OFFERING**

**+OFFERTORY #186- Create in Me**

## **+OFFERING PRAYER**

L: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**+THE LORD'S PRAYER** pg. 154 (right hand column)

## **COMMUNITY WORD**

### **+BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN # 376** *Thine Is the Glory* (vs. 1,2)

### **+DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**"I am God's child, deserving of love and respect,  
and God will use me to change the world."**

*If you would like more information about ELC of Mount Horeb  
please fill out the visitor cards in the pew pads  
which are passed during offering*

## DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2026

**SHARE:** What are three things you are grateful for today?

**READ:** Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

**Monday,** Psalm 114, God's Wonders in the Exodus

**Tuesday,** 1 Corinthians 15:19-28, The Power of the Resurrection

**Wednesday,** Matthew 12:38-42, The Sign of Jonah

**Thursday,** Psalm 116:1-4; 12-19, Thanksgiving for Healing

**Friday,** Isaiah 26:1-4, A Song of Victory

**Saturday,** Luke 14:12-14, Who to Invite

**TALK:** Consider some of these ideas:

**“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” – John 20:29: b**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

- What do you do with your own doubts or questions of faith and theology? (John 20:19-31)
- If you were to write out the good news, what would the headlines and subheads be? (Acts 2:14-32)
- As a person of faith, how do you envision the future and life eternal? (1 Peter 1:3-9)

**PRAY:** Almighty God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**BLESS:** The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. Amen.