

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church



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Service Times: Sunday 8:00AM & 10:30AM - Wednesday 6:30PM

Radio Broadcast Sunday 8:00AM on WJIM 1240 on the AM dial

Live streaming 8:00 and 10:30AM follow the prompt on the website

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul J. Lindloff

Pastor Joel A. Voss

Notes for Visitors:

- **Welcome!** If you are a guest this morning, please fill out a cream colored card. These cards are placed in every pew. One side of the card is for members receiving communion, the other side is for visitors. You may place the card in the collection plate. Feel free to also speak with one of the pastors to introduce yourself or ask any questions.
- **Restrooms** are located in the hallway north of the sanctuary.
- **Nursery Room:** If you need a quiet place for your children, we have a room near the church offices. If you need help finding the room, please ask an usher for assistance.
- **Hymnals:** Use the blue hymn books in the rack ahead of your pew to follow along in the service. If you need help or guidance, please ask someone nearby to assist you.

April 7, 2024
Second Sunday of Easter

The Pastors' Notes

In the seven Sundays of Easter, the paraments (cloths on altar, lectern, and pulpit) are white, symbolizing the holiness and glory of our risen Lord.

This Second Sunday of Easter we turn our attention to the grace of the risen Jesus in the proof and peace his resurrection gives. When Jesus first appeared to his disciples, he made sure they knew of his peace. "Peace be with you," he often said. They had peace—and you have peace—because Jesus truly *is* risen from the dead. This peace means there is more to our existence than just our time on earth. This peace means eternal life is yours, a gift from your living Lord. This peace gives incredible joy and courage. Jesus lives. And he lives to tell you: "Peace be with you."

Order Of Worship: Setting Two pg. 172

Hymns.....	443; 456; 464; 449
Soloist.....	<i>Rejoice Now, My Spirit</i>
Sermon Theme.....	John 20:19-31

That's Pretty Hard to Believe

Prayer Of The Day

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one god, now and forever.

First Reading: Acts 18:1-11

1 After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them. 3 Because he had the same occupation, he stayed and worked with them, for they were tentmakers by trade. 4 Every Sabbath he led a discussion in the synagogue, trying to persuade both Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul was entirely devoted to preaching the word, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. 6 But when they opposed Paul and slandered him, he shook out his clothes and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on, I will go to the Gentiles!"

7 He left that place and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshipper of God, whose house was next door to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, the synagogue leader, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians, when they heard, believed and were baptized.

9 One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid, but keep on speaking, and do not be silent. 10 For I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, because I have many people in this city." 11 He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Psalm 16

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1-4

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have observed and our hands have touched regarding the Word of Life— 2 the life appeared, and we have seen it. We testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We are proclaiming what we have seen and heard also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. 4 We write these things to you so that our joy may be complete.

Gospel Acclamation

(Seasonal Verse: Easter)

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. (John 20:29)

Gospel: John 20:19-31

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." 22 After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

24 But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

26 After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

30 Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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