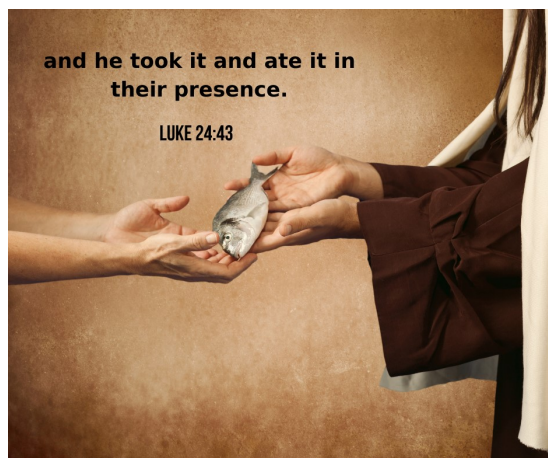




April 14, 2024

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**8:30 a.m.**



202 South Second Street  
River Falls, WI 54022

715-425-8294  
[www.ezekiellutheran.org](http://www.ezekiellutheran.org)

# Welcome to



We are pleased that you are worshipping with us today!

\*Please stand.

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<b>Prelude</b>	"Shine, Jesus, Shine"	Kendrick
	"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"	Elvey
	"Wait For the Lord"	Berthier

<b>Call To Worship</b>	"Be Not Afraid"	Jacques Berthier
	Chancel Choir	

## Welcome and Announcements

<b>Temple Talk</b>	Earth Fest	Sandy Tauferner
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## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: Look, here is water!

**All: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.  
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.  
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.  
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.  
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land.  
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.  
Look, here is water!

**All: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Pastor: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: Look, here is water!

**All: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“The Day of Resurrection!”

ELW 361


**\*Apostolic Greeting**

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

**All: And also with you.**


**Hymn of Praise**

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.


All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us




free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and




strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray.

**All: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### Chancel Choir Anthem

“How Beautiful”

arr. Benjamin Harlan

### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 4

Reader: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**All: “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

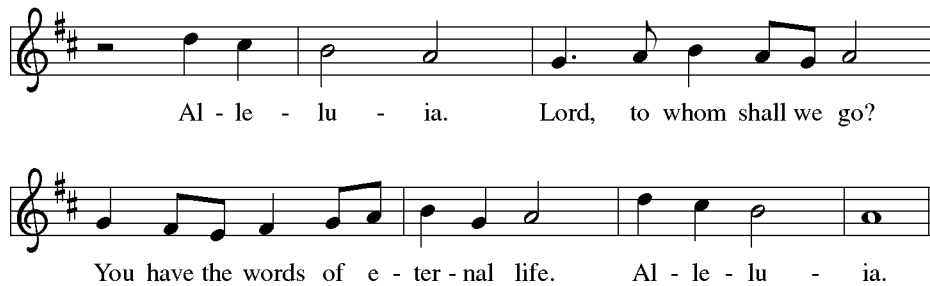
Reader: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me when I call.

**All:** Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
**speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**  
**Reader:** Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.  
**All:** Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”  
**Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**  
**Reader:** You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.  
**All:** In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

### Children’s Message

Allison Klein

### Gospel Acclamation



### The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48 (page 91 in pew Bible)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke the twenty-fourth chapter.  
**All:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**  
*(The Gospel is proclaimed...)*  
**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord.  
**All:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Word of the Day

Pastor Steve Dow

### Hymn of the Day

“Around You, O Lord Jesus”

ELW 468

**\*Apostles' Creed**

Pastor: With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

**\*Prayers of the Church**

Pastor: God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**Sharing the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Please share a sign of peace with each other.

*(People may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and say:*

*"Peace be with you.")*

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**Offering**

*We will be passing the offering plates or you may give online at:  
[www.ezekiellutheran.org](http://www.ezekiellutheran.org). Know that Ezekiel is most grateful for the gifts of support that  
you are able to give. May God bless you in your giving.*

**Offering Hymn**

"Come to the Table"

ELW 481

**Offering Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**All: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God...and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name.

### **Thanksgiving at the Table**

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **Lord's Prayer**

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

**All: 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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Pastor: The risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## Communion Distribution

*As Lutherans, we believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord. All who desire to receive the gifts of grace, forgiveness, and new life are welcome to come to the Lord's table. You do not need to be Lutheran or a member of Ezekiel to receive these gifts from God. Children that have not received their First Communion are invited forward for a blessing. It is helpful to servers if they cross their arms as a clear sign. We will be receiving communion by bread and cup. Both red wine and white grape juice, at the center of the serving tray, are provided. Gluten-free is available. The ushers will direct you to the front to be served.*

“The body of Christ, given for you.” and “The blood of Christ, shed for you.”

## Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Communion Hymn

“As We Gather at Your Table”

ELW 522

## Sending of Communion

Pastor: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick or homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

**Blessing**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Pastor: The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✚ bless you now and always.  
**All: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

“The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”

ELW 366

**Dismissal**

Pastor: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude:**

“This Little Light of Mine”

Boyer

**THIS WEEK AT EZEKIEL****April 14 - April 21****Sunday, April 14**

7:50 a.m. Prayer Before Worship, Chapel

**8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sanctuary**

9:40 a.m. Sunday School, 56 Club

**10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sanctuary****Tuesday, April 16**

1:30 p.m. Ruth Support Group, Rm 100

6:30 p.m. Church Council, Rm 190

**Wednesday, April 17**

9:00 a.m. Mom’s &amp; Dad’s Group, FH

10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Kuss), Rm 190

5:30 p.m. Confirmation

5:30 p.m. High School, Group, Rm 200

6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir, Music Room

**Thursday, April 18**

1:00 p.m. Bible Study (Bjerstedt), Library

**Saturday, April 20**

8:00 a.m. Worship Band, Sanctuary

**Sunday, April 21**

7:50 a.m. Prayer Before Worship, Chapel

**8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sanctuary**

9:40 a.m. Sunday School, 56 Club

Milestone Event

**10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship,  
Sanctuary**

4:00 p.m. Girl Scouts, Rm 100

**WELCOME TO EZEKIEL!**

In worship and community, we seek to grow in love for God and for our neighbor. We trust that we are called and transformed to create a world of abundance.

**Are you visiting today?** We look forward to meeting you. Feel free to introduce yourself to those around you and fill out the red welcome pad.

**Hearing Devices** are located underneath the stairs in the back of the sanctuary.

**Children in worship...** We love the joyful noises that little ones make! Kids of all ages are invited to come up front for the Children’s Message. If your child needs a break or a creative outlet, check out the Playground located along the southwest wall of our sanctuary. For older students, we have an Activity Corner located by the stairs in the back of the sanctuary where they can select a few items to take back to their pew. Children’s Bulletins are located in both areas.

**WE’RE HAPPY YOU’RE HERE!**

**Women of the ELCA** 

**Morning of Renewal**  
 St. Croix Valley Conference  
 Saturday, April 20  
 8:30 AM-12:30 PM  
 First Lutheran Church, New Richmond

.....

Registration Fee is \$15 at the door with lunch provided.

**EARTH FEST 2024** 

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20**  
 UW-RIVER FALLS UNIVERSITY CENTER



**12-4 PM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
**FREE!**  
**Family-Friendly**

Activities  
 Entertainment  
 Sustainability Fair  
 Giveaways  
 Food Sampling  
 Electric Vehicles, Tools, & Rebates

**Ezekiel will no longer lend out tables and/or chairs.**  
**Thank you.**



**Just Sing**  

Presented by  
**The Pierce County Ecumenical Choir**

Ezekiel Lutheran Church  
 Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 PM

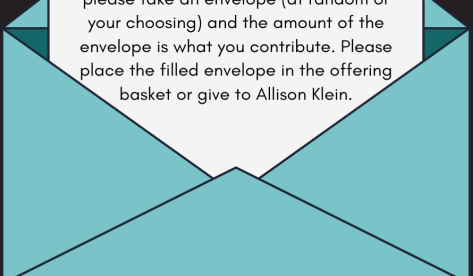
Refreshments following concert.

Free Will Offering  
*A portion of the proceeds will be donated to local charities.*

**ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER**

**What's with the envelopes?**  
 This is a fundraiser to support students attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

**How does this work?**  
 We ask that if you'd like to donate, please take an envelope (at random or your choosing) and the amount of the envelope is what you contribute. Please place the filled envelope in the offering basket or give to Allison Klein.



**Word for the Day**  
**Mon** - Psalm 150  
**Tues** - Acts 4:5-12  
**Wed** - Psalm 23  
**Thurs** - 1 John 3:16-24  
**Fri** - John 10:11-18

## Prayers of Healing, Care, and Joy This Week

Please Pray for:

- Woody Fangmeir, prayers for healing.
- Jason Binger (Ken and Ruth Lee's son-in-law), prayers for healing.
- Sue Myers (John Henning's sister), prayers for healing from surgery and a cracked vertebrae.
- Mark Henning (John and Joni Henning's son), prayers for healing from heart surgery.
- Vivian, Karen Olson's mother, prayers for healing.
- Ed Schramm, prayers for healing.
- All caregivers.

*Thank you for all the prayers for Bobbie Anderson, they are much appreciated. She is doing better.*

### Ezekiel

- Father, as we meet together in this place, help us to listen, to understand and to remember. Make us aware that we are meeting not simply with one another, but with you. Let your presence be real to each of us. Hear our confessions of those things we have done and of those things which we have left undone. Hear our praise and thanksgivings for your blessings and unearned grace given to us. It is in the name of Jesus, your beloved son, that we pray. Amen.

### World

- Father God, we pray for our world today. We pray for people in the Middle East who have been impacted by conflict. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. In Jesus' name, Amen.

If you have a prayer concern please submit your prayer request to the church office 715-425-8294 or [info@ezekiellutheran.org](mailto:info@ezekiellutheran.org). All prayers are confidential.

**If you or someone you know** is going through a rough time, we have Prayer Shawls available. A shawl filled with prayers wrapped around your shoulders can be very soothing and healing! Contact Lana Bjerstedt at 715-781-1677.

**Prayer Chain:** If you have a prayer request, please e-mail Jan Ingersoll at at [2ingie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:2ingie@sbcglobal.net). Jan will forward it on to the 39 members of the Chain. You must have permission from the family to submit a request.

**Prayer Team:** The prayer team is available for private prayers after services, or by special request made by phone or email. If you see one of us with our Prayer Team tag feel free to approach us for prayer.

- |                 |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| ♦ Katelyn Asmus | ♦ Roger Hammond | ♦ Ed Schramm      |
| ♦ Joyce Breen   | ♦ Jan Ingersoll | ♦ Sandy Schramm   |
| ♦ Jerry Breen   | ♦ Anne Janda    | ♦ Sandy Tauferner |
| ♦ Ruth Emerson  | ♦ Ruth Lee      | ♦ Velma Waalkens  |
|                 | ♦ Max Neuhaus   | ♦ Anne Waxon      |

### Worship Assistants

Pastor:	Pastor Steve Dow
Musicians:	Dick Seebach, Greg Carter
Cantor:	Anne Janda
Reader:	Katelyn Asmus
Sound:	Zach Falkner
Recording Tech:	Ashbach Family
ProPresenter:	Ashbach Family
Acolyte:	Mary Flaherty
Ushers:	Evelyn Ashbach, Jim Ashbach, Josh Ashbach, Mary Ashbach
Communion Servers:	Theresa Jonas, Ellie Richards, Betty Skelton
Altar Guild:	Cathy Hjersjo, Nicky Thompson, Sandy Tauferner
Coffee Hour:	Leah Gavin, Ron Gavin, Harriet Link, Patti Graf-Rudesill

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### **Help Wanted: Full Time Custodian**

Ezekiel Lutheran Church in River Falls, WI is seeking a full-time custodian (30-35 hours per week). Work hours are flexible and vary depending facility use and seasons. Work performed would include general cleaning of our church facility, our preschool classrooms and restrooms, and child care area, along with some light maintenance. High school diploma or equivalent required. Candidate must have knowledge of standard cleaning procedures, chemicals, cleaning products, and equipment. Must be able to stand, climb, walk, bend, and operate medium-weight equipment. Must pass background check. Must be able to read and understand labels and instructions, particularly on the use and application of cleaning chemicals and products. The right candidate must be able to interact positively with all staff, church members, and the community. Some prorated benefits may be available.

Please contact Steve Devine-Jelinski, Business Administrator for application or more information. [sjelinski@ezekiellutheran.org](mailto:sjelinski@ezekiellutheran.org) Phone: 715-629-5431

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*Portions of our service and today's hymns can be found in the Evangelical Worship  
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