

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026



Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”* - arr. David Cherwien
Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

Gathering Song: *“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”* - ELW #377

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.

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.

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.**

“Now the Feast” - Marty Haugen

Refrain
Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1
Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2
Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
 for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3
Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
 make us peo - ple of God; to make
 all things new. *to Refrain*

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.**

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶ “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

“Kum Ba Yah” - African American Spiritual

Memorial Choir with soloist Oliver Lotz

Congregation please join in the final stanza: “Someone’s singing Lord...”

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person’s work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation - from "Now the Feast and Celebration" - Marty Haugen

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35

The Gospel according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides

all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?”²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Christ has Arisen, Alleluia!” - ELW #364

Apostles Creed

**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 Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Risen Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *"O Happy Day" - arr. Lloyd Kauffman*
Memorial Choir with soloist Sarah Miller

Offering Prayer

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

The Meal

This is Christ's table and Christ's meal. All are welcome here. Kids are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher or the pastor know so that we can bring you Communion at your seat.

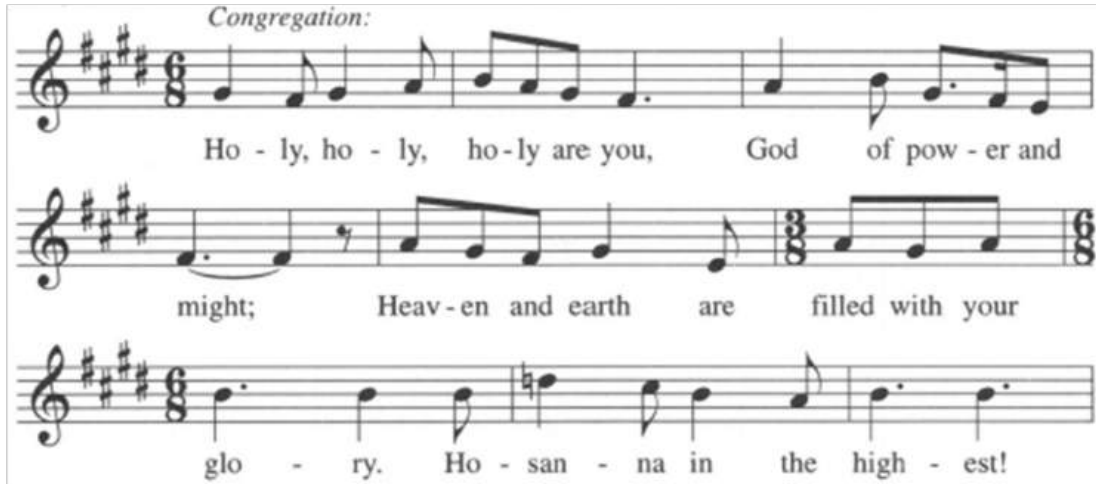
Great Thanksgiving - from "Now the Feast and Celebration" - Marty Haugen

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music. The first line is for the Presider: "The Lord be with you." and the Congregation: "And al-so with you." The second line is for the Presider: "Lift up your hearts." and the Congregation: "We lift them to the Lord." The third line is for the Presider: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." and the Congregation: "It is" The fourth line is for the Congregation: "right to give God thanks and praise." The music is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4.

Preface

It is our duty and delight ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Words of Institution

The 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.**

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

Hymns during Communion

***"Lamb of God"* - *"Now the Feast"* - Marty Haugen
"Abide, O Dearest Jesus" - ELW #539**

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

Congregation

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
Congregation:
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.
Amen.

Sending Song: “Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen” - ELW #548

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: *“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”* - arr. Paul Manz
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep the family of Joan Stensland in your prayers following her death

Please keep Shelley Ludeman and family in your prayers following the death of her sister, Rhonda Thompson

Mel Craven	Wayne Kinyon	<i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>
Beverly Johnson	Loren Bryant	Wayne Johnson
June Rush	<i>brother of Arlys Neal</i>	Troy Vincent
<i>sister of Joan Ridgway</i>	Jill Rhodes	Johann Thiel
Nan Jungst	Connie Robinson	Mike Neal
Paul Johnson	<i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Christina King
Mary Brinkman	Barb McDaniel	Sherry Kluever
Ashley and Ming Xu	Ken Huffaker	Kim Elliott
<i>friends of Aly Sassman</i>	<i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Pr. Marcia Kisner
Julia Zaffarano	Emma Nelson	Marlene Waddell
Kathy Lynn Johnson	<i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>
Teresa Krebs	Ardith Forsyth	Cassie Harrell
Kari Toot	Eileen Miller	Jean Smith
Tanya Sorem	Karen Anderson	Easton Farrington
Julie & Craig Sutherland	Caleb Roof	Janice Hartz
June Copenhaver	Evelyn Onstot	Jackie Byers
<i>mother of Diane Martin</i>	Katy Beno	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Pastor Andrea Myers	<i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Donna See
<i>wife of Pastor Ronald Myers</i>	Eric Forsyth	Norma Dannan
Charlie Lloyd	Crystal Vines	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Bert Ann Ray	Katie Bass	

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Save the Date

TODAY: Celebration of Pr. Kathleen's 5-Year Anniversary @ Memorial

When: Following service

Where: Fellowship Hall

Lutheran World Relief Work Day - packing for shipping

When: Wednesday, April 15, 1:00 PM

Wednesday Night Live and Confirmation

When: Wednesday, April 15, 6:30 PM

Council Meeting

When: Thursday, April 16, 7:00 PM

"Feeding Haiti's Kids" Food Packing Event

Volunteers needed! Contact Pr. Kathleen if you can help.

When: Friday, April 17, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Where: Northminster Presbyterian, Ames

Wednesday Night Live and Confirmation

When: Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 PM

Bible Study

When: Thursday, April 23, 8:30 AM

Where: Chapel

Luther College Collegiate Chorale Concert @ Memorial

When: Thursday, April 23, 7:00 PM

Where: Sanctuary

Announcements

Memorial Needs You - Share Your Spark!

Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary

You're invited (and encouraged!) to attend a brief informational meeting to learn what Memorial has to offer and where you might see yourself fitting in to the picture. Join us Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 PM to learn how you can "share your spark"!

Memorial Musicians Spring Concert "Gospels, Spirituals, Hymns, and more!"

Sunday, May 3, at 4pm

Mark your calendars for this annual event featuring Memorial's Handbell and Vocal choirs along with special guest instrumentalists. Your attendance encourages the music ministry of our church and gives thanks and appreciation for their dedication and faithfulness throughout the year. Thank you for your support!

Luther College Collegiate Chorale to Perform at Memorial!

Thursday, April 23, at 7pm

We are excited to share that the Luther College Collegiate Chorale (of which Sarah Miller is a member!) will be performing at Memorial on Thursday, April 23 at 7:00 PM as part of their tour!

As a host, Memorial will be providing food and access to lodging for the 49 choir members, and we are looking for families or individuals willing to host a minimum of 2 choir members for a night. If you would be interested (or know of others in the community who would be), please contact Lois Theesfield or the church office for details. In addition, if you can bring a dessert to share for the choir's supper held that evening, or if you can help with clean-up, please see the sign-up sheets.

Thank you for your support of this exciting opportunity!

Conductor Adrianna Tam shares the following about the ensemble's program: "In the 250th year since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Collegiate Chorale's spring program considers multiple facets of Lady Liberty's message of welcome, immortalized by the poetry of Emma Lazarus. Through music from diverse styles and cultures, we reflect on what awaits the "huddled masses" who arrive at her "teeming shore" -- loving welcome or otherwise? We discover many who still yearn "to breathe free," and we dream of how we can joyfully build a "Beautiful City" (Schwartz) together." No tickets are required; freewill donations will be accepted to help defray the cost of the ensemble's travel. We hope you'll join us for a beautiful evening of music with this choir of juniors and seniors from Luther College!

Prayer Shawl & Quilt Invitation

As we prepare for the 2026 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, congregations across the synod are invited to help surround this gathering in prayer, comfort, and peace blessings. The theme, "Peace be with You," will be embodied through the gift of handmade prayer shawls and lap quilts; creations that offer color, warmth, and care from the hands and hearts of people across our synod. Can you knit, crochet, or sew? Would you be willing to donate a prayer shawl, a lap quilt, or a quilt? Please let us know in the office!

Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code.



Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/> give or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can set up one-time or recurring gifts to the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Drive for the Drive Pavement Project, Sanctuary Screens Fund, Sanctuary Carpet Fund, and more!***





Memorial Lutheran Church
701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
Phone 515-382-6509
pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org
emily@mlcnevada.org
www.mlcnevada.org

@memluthnevada  Memorial Lutheran  Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian

Texts and graphics from From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20739. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
