

Holy Humor Sunday  
9am In-Person Worship & Live Stream  
Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023



**HEAR IT, FEEL IT, LIVE IT, SHARE IT – GOD’S LOVE**  
OUR SAVIOR’S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)  
N6450 530TH St Beldenville WI 54003  
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**Pastor Lucas Ladnier**

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Website – [www.oursaviorschurch.info](http://www.oursaviorschurch.info)

In-Person Worship: 9:00am Livestream: 9:00am SS Hour 10:00am

**Welcome Visitors!** Please sign our guest book located in the narthex. \*Indicates that those who are able please stand. We use the cranberry colored hymnals that are located in the pews. The page numbers for the liturgy are in the front of the book. The # sign in the bulletin refers to the hymn number in the back of the book. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday and is open to all. We believe that Jesus is present in the bread and the wine. Communion is offered with wafer or bread and small cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available. Children are welcome to commune or receive a blessing whichever they do in their home Church.

## **GATHERING**

Announcements

Thanksgiving for baptism:

In baptism we are washed in the waters of salvation and are joined to Christ in his death and in his resurrection. By its waters, we can take ourselves less seriously, and bathe in the humor and delight of God's redemption. Let's remember the gift of baptism.

*Silence for reflection.*

God of pools and streams, God of water balloons and super soakers, God of hose water and slip-n-slides, reminders of your salvation are all around us. Over the waters of creation you brought joy into existence as you invited the universe into being. It was with water that you saved Israel from the power of Egypt, turning the sea from a trap to a pathway to freedom. With the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized with the Holy Spirit. With water you connect us to all the baptized of every time and place, and this water is found in the silliest of places: in splash pads and community pools where children's laughter echoes; with water balloons and squirt guns that remind us of the lightness of joy; in warm relaxing hot tubs and curling surfing waves by the shore that point us to relaxation and wholeness. Let all the water we encounter remind us of your salvation: the salvation won through that most excellent trick you played on Satan, pulling your Son from the grasp of death and defeating its powers forever. To you we give all honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** Take time to be funny to the tune of  
(# 834 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)

**Take time to be funny, rejoice in the Lord**

**Let laughter explode and have fun with God's Word**

**For laughter is healing, gives strength to the weak**

**God loves to see smiles, they lift up the meek.**

**Take time to be silly, it's good for the soul**

**Too many are somber, all grabbing control.**

**Let go and let God's love wash over your soul**

**For Jesus is risen; God's joke makes you whole!**

**God's humor is hope to those bound by the Fall**

**God's joke is salvation poured freely on all**

**Though Satan thought victory was in his grasp**

**Christ rose and his joke undid death's pow'r at last!**

**For humor is holy, it sanctifies life,**

**Replenishes hope; brings deep healing to strife**

**It undercuts sorrow, deflates haughty pride**

**So smile and hang on, God brings us new life!**

## **Kyrie (spoken)**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: (to the tune of “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”)

**Hark the herald angel said,**

**“Why seek Jesus with the dead?**

**He's not here, as you can see,**

**graveclothes lie where he would be.**

**On your way now, tell the others,**

**Jesus will be with his brothers.**

**Sisters, too, he wants to see**

**on the hills of Galilee.”**

**Hark the herald angel said,**

**“He is risen from the dead!”**

Credit: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/03/holy-humor-sunday-resource-index.html>

## **Prayer of the day**

Lord of laughter, **open our eyes to see through the absurdities of this world and to confront them with good humor rather than faithless despair. When we take ourselves too seriously, laugh at us until we come to our senses. For your love's sake; Amen!**

*Credit: Bruce Prewer, <http://www.bruceprewer.com/>*

## **WORD**

Children's Time

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], <sup>22</sup>“You that are 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 freed him from 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.” This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names up-on my lips.**

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

**I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading: 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. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Gospel Acclamation: pg. 151

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

\*Gospel: John 20: 19-31

The Holy Gospel According to John 20<sup>th</sup>, **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked 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, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon:

Hymn of the Day: Sing a Happy Alleluia

(to the tune of # 864 “Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven)

**Sing a happy alleluia,**

**sing it out with heart and style—**

**we’re the echo of God’s laughter,**

**we’re the image of God’s smile.**

**Alleluia, all creation, alleluia, everyone!**

**We’re the proof of God’s good humor,**

we're the twinkle in God's eye,  
made to shine, reflect the glory,  
given light and space to fly.  
Alleluia, all creation, alleluia, everyone!

Sarah laughed at God's good timing,  
Mary sang and David danced,  
Jesus smiled and hugged the children—  
so is life for us enhanced.  
Alleluia, all creation, alleluia, everyone!

Every day sing alleluia!  
We are loved, though so absurd,  
human, foolish, chosen people,  
God still takes us at our word!  
Alleluia, all creation, alleluia, everyone!

*Credit: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/03/holy-humor-sunday-resource-index.html>*

With the joy of the whole church, let us confess our trust in God using the words of the Nicene Creed. **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession:**

God of grace, God of love and laughter, we thank you that we are so wondrously created and that we are made for relationship with you and with one another. We thank you for laughter with friends and loved ones. We thank you for the laughter of children, and the song it creates in our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

By your great unending love, you inspire in us a spirit of imagination and creativity. Help us to use that spirit to play more, to laugh more, and to create beauty in every way possible. Remind us to laugh out loud, for doing so will heal some of the wounds within us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God, we pray for those who cannot find their laughter today. For those who are grieving, or suffering illness of body, mind or spirit, for those who are lonely and in need of someone to share their time and friendship, for those who have not yet moved into the season and spirit of Easter and find themselves stuck in the gloom of Good Friday, We pray especially for **Bev, Lemoine, Allen, Mary, Rick, John, Wayne, Joe, Ann, Eldon, Mary Jo, Kristen,** and all those we name now before you, whether out loud or in our hearts... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

May these and the troubles of all your people be soothed, blessed, and comforted by your holy presence. May we each find the laughter within us that sets our spirits free, and in that freedom, may we take your love into every part of our lives. These and all the prayers of our hearts we offer now in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace and exchange:

Knock knock. **Who's there?**

Peas. **Peas who?**

"Peas" be with you! **And also with you!**

Let us share a sign of peace.

Offering: The ministry of Our Savior's continues and thanks to your generosity, and God's work continues through all of us! Offering can be received either by mailing it to the church at N6450 530<sup>th</sup> St. Beldenville, WI 54003, dropping it off, online at [oursaviorschurch.info](https://oursaviorschurch.info) under the "give" tab, or simply text your donation amount to 833-506-0632 and follow the instructions on your phone to complete your donation.



\*Offertory Hymn: # 184

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering prayer: Let us pray, God of joy, you put laughter in our hearts by bringing hope to our lives. Accept these gifts of thanks that you have first given us, ever reminding us to take the world less seriously because you have redeemed it. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Laughter:

O holy Source of laughter, thank you for giving us the gift.

For all things harmlessly quaint, incongruous and unexpectedly absurd:

for pomposity that falls on its face,  
for children chuckling over a riddle,  
for lovers enjoying each others quirks of character,  
for cartoonists poking fun at political arrogance,  
for explorers cracking jokes in the face of danger,  
for the terminally ill who laugh with their nurses,  
for the saints who throw laughter into the jaws of evil.

**Thank you, God, for giving us laughter.**

For Jesus and his quirky sayings;

the camel attempting to squeeze through the eye of a needle.  
the man with a plank in his eye who tries to shift a speck from a neighbor's eye.  
the woman who bakes far too much bread for her family,  
the man who lights a lamp, only to put it under a bed.  
the dead who want to bury the dead,  
the woman who on finding one lost coin, throws a party,

**Thank you, God, for giving us laughter.**

For the New Testament faith that can laugh because it knows  
nothing can cut us off from the love of Christ:

“neither a host of troubles nor deep distress,  
neither persecution nor starvation,  
neither nakedness, peril nor sword,  
not anything in life or in death, will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**Thank you, God for giving us laughter.**

O holy Source of laughter, thank you for giving us the gift,  
and for the faith and hope that allows us to employ it to the full.  
We laugh because you first laugh on our behalf! **Amen.**

*Credit: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/03/prayer-source-of-laughter.html>*

## **SENDING**

\*Blessing/Benediction:

The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord's face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. **Amen.**



Sending Hymn: # 763 My Life Flows on in Endless Song

**1 My life flows on in endless song;  
above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
that hails a new creation.**

***Refrain***

**No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?**

**2 Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain***

**3 What though my joys and comforts die?  
The Lord my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain***

**4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain***

Dismissal:

The Laughing One called us together  
**so we could share in the laughter of life.**

The Laughing One sends us out,  
**to carry the joy of life and love to the world.**

Go out to laugh, to live, to love. And when you hear a good joke...  
**remember that sharing is a great thing!**



**“OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED, NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS”**

**Please continue to pray for the following people:**

Bev Kiefer, Lemoine Baker, Allen Constant, Mary Jurkowski, Rick Foley, John Paape, Wayne Peterson, Joe Minder, Ann Leonard, Eldon Schellfeffer, Mary Jo Bjork, and Kristen Anderson.

If you know of anyone that should be on our prayer list please contact the office. The names will be on the prayer list for two weeks unless specified.

**Announcements:**

**Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> 9am** Worship, **10am** Fellowship Hour (Sunshine Crew),  
**10am** Sunday School

Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup> **6pm** Confirmation Banquet

**Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 9am** Worship (Affirmation of Baptism), **10am** Fellowship Hour (Property Committee),

**Happy Birthday!** April (16<sup>th</sup>) Dakota Pittman (17<sup>th</sup>) Hallee Place (18<sup>th</sup>) Dennis Kiefer, Megan Taplin (19<sup>th</sup>) Stacy Hansen, McKenna Minder, Bonnie Peterson



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:** The Pierce County Food Pantry continues to need certain items. For the month of **APRIL**, we will be collecting **Bath soap, toothpaste and toothbrush, ramen noodles, instant potatoes.**

Please put the items in the grocery cart in the back of the church. Thank you for showing your concern. Money donations accepted as well. Did you know that every dollar donated can purchase \$7 worth of food? Online donations @[hungerpreventioncouncil.net](mailto:hungerpreventioncouncil.net), call 715-273-2070 or to arrange a food drive sponsored by your family or organization. Let's help end hunger in Pierce County.



**The Evangelism Committee** Now through mid-May, the Evangelism Committee is collecting new and used winter coats, snow pants, boots, mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for Basics for Local Kids, benefitting families here in Pierce & St Croix County. All items must be clean with working zippers/snaps, and with no rips or tears. Now that spring is finally here, watch your favorite stores for sales on new cold-weather items as they clear out winter merchandise. You can drop those items here at Our Savior's in the big box in the narthex, or there is a permanent collection box by the Basics for Local Kids building on Chestnut Street (the old Pierce County Herald building). Any questions? Ask Pauline Laughnan, Darlene Halverson, or Heather Johnson. Thank you for supporting this great local charity!

**Our Savior's WELCA** is a distributor for Equal Exchange coffee, tea and chocolate. Equal Exchange works with small farmers and cooperatives in third world countries to change how trade is done in the world: directly with the growers in Central America and Africa and SE Asia. We carry drip grind regular and decaf coffee, whole bean regular and decaf, green and herbal teas as well as chocolate chips. This is usually the coffee we serve on Sunday mornings. Check out our cupboard in the basement by the toy room for the display of your choices.



**Mark Your Calendars!** APRIL 30TH is the Annual Men In Mission PANCAKE breakfast, serving from 10am-11:30am.

Menu: Pancakes with real maple syrup, scrambled eggs with ham, coffee, milk and juice. All proceeds raised go to **THE PIERCE COUNTY FOOD**

**PANTRY.** Come, enjoy, and help them out with a generous donation.

**Fundraising Opportunity to raise money for fuel bill.** Every year we budget for fuel and with rising fuel costs we come up short. To help this - we have signed up to work at the FFA Tractor Pull on June 10th. If we supply 10 people to work they will pay the Church \$ 1,000.00 and if we get more - they may pay more than that. This would be selling tickets at the gate, working in our stand selling concessions, grilling outside of our stand, selling pop in the bleachers, working in the beer garden, picking up garbage. You would arrive about 4 pm and be assigned a location. The Rain Make up day is Sunday the 11th and that would start at noon. It is a lot of fun and helps the FFA keep this amazing Fundraiser going, which raises the money for the scholarships the FFA hands out and helps our Church as well. A few hours of your time would be an amazing gift to give and will help many people and our Church. Please reach out to Donna Constant if you have any questions. 715-307-0451.



\*Heads up - we are signed up to do the same thing at the Cheese Curd Festival and that one pays an hourly wage plus a percentage of the profit. Watch for more info on that in the near future.

**St. Francis School** invites you to celebrate our 75th anniversary during our "School of Rock" Gala on **April 22, 2023**. "We shall teach rock to the world..." with dueling pianos, featuring Piano Men Trey Grimm and Dan Satterburg. The School of Rock will be in session beginning at 5 pm in the St. Francis Parish Hall for an evening of live music, dining, raffles and games, silent and live auctions, and a moving pledge. Tickets are available online at [stfrancisellsworth.org/gala](http://stfrancisellsworth.org/gala) and in the St. Francis School Office. Can't make the event? You can still participate in the auctions on our website beginning on April 18 and watch the event program live on the school's Facebook page @stfrancisellsworth on April 22 at approximately 7:30 pm.

## Youth News!



**Sunday School Hour!** Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> 10am -11am.

Sunday School families are invited to join us for games, crafts and ice cream sundaes.

**Join me for S.O.S. Kids Crew!** I had 12 youth join me outside playing kickball and enjoying time together and the beautiful weather. I had 7, 5<sup>th</sup> graders receive a treat to celebrate their last S.O.S. Kids Crew.

A Special Thank You to Nadalie Place for preparing and serving the meal for us.

**The 2023 Confirmation Banquet** will be Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will Honor the 2023 Confirmands. \*Confirmation Youth and Parents of 6th - 8th grade are asked to help prepare and serve the food that evening. Details have been emailed to the confirmation families.

**Please keep the 2023 Confirmands in your prayers as they begin their own faith journey.** Omar Coulson, Nora Feuerhelm, Carly Girdeen, Alex Knight, Parker Peterson, George Rohl, and Pearl Shelley.



**REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMP AT LUTHER POINT.**

<https://lutherpoint.org/summer-camp>. Select the tier payment when registering. Tier 2 is the advertised cost in the brochure. For example:

Most weeklong camps are priced in the brochure at \$405. This is 70% of the actual full cost of the camp. Luther point subsidizes this by paying the other 30%. If you wish to pay the full price of the camp, select Tier 3. The full price of the weeklong camp would be about \$600. Regardless, the Men In Mission will pay half of the registration fee for all campers and any friends they bring from outside Our Savior's. **WHEN REGISTERING, PAY ONLY THE DOWN PAYMENT.** Completed payment will take place on arrival at camp. Note: Friends of our Savior's campers must indicate so on the registration form to receive the Men In Mission discount.

If you have questions, see Clair Severson

**2023 Mission Trip:** Mission, South Dakota, July 9<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>. **Participants are;** Ada Erlandson, Karli Foley-Nelson, Matthew Lundstrom, and Breken Young. Chaperones; Patricia Peterson and Mike Rehbein.