



Sunday, April 5, 2026

**The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
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Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God
Presider ~ Pastor Eric Hanson
Organist ~ Judy Rusch
Assisting Minister ~ Upper Church– Trudy Spike
Lower Church– Carolyn Lien
Acolyte ~ Upper Church– Caitlin Terland
Lower Church– Paige Reinstad
Lector ~ Upper Church– Peggy Luther
Lower Church– Kristen Lien
Greeter ~ Upper Church– Marilyn Gunderson
Lower Church– Terland Family
Ushers ~ Upper Church– Kory & Diane Luginbuhl
Lower Church– Kurt & Barb Klemp
Offering Counters ~ Cheryl Nuental & Andy Christensen
Choir Director ~ Vicki Schuh

Sermon One with Children

Gathering Hymn **Jesus Christ is Risen Today ELW365 LBW 151**

Confession and Forgiveness

We serve a risen Savior yet we live as if in chains. **Amen**

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of the risen Savior by confessing our sins and receiving God's forgiveness. Almighty God, **Creator of the heavens and earth, we confess that we do not always live into the message of hope and salvation, the promise of eternal life. We live in ways that make the here and now more important than the future. We live in ways that put ourselves and our own success first over the needs of others and the long-term needs of the world. Forgive us for our selfish ways and call us into the path of Christ, who humbled himself and gave himself up for us on the cross, so that death might be no more and that all can share in the joy of salvation and eternal life, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

The stone is rolled away, the tomb was found empty. Mary calls out, "I have seen the Lord!" We have seen Christ, too, in every helping hand, in every heartfelt gift, in every choice to restore life in this world. We are called to this new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation. You are forgiven; accept your forgiveness and

know that God loves you and desires great wholeness for all life. Walk forward on this journey of faith, knowing your brothers and sisters are with you. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Choir The Tomb is Empty— 9:00am Service

Refrain: The tomb is empty, praise be to God. The tomb is empty, praise be to God. The tomb is empty, praise be to God. Jesus lives again.

First Reading Jeremiah 31:1-6

¹ At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.² Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest,³ the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.⁵ Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit.⁶ For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: “Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God’s mercy endures forever.

² **Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”**

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

¹ If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew 28: 1-10

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mathew 28:1-10

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said,

“Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Two

Hymn of the Day **Thine is the Glory ELW 376 LBW 145**

Apostles Creed

C: 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

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ’s victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus’ resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain *especially*, Henny, Marlene, Kurt, Ron, Danelle, Ronald, Jackie, Judy, Mary Lou, Lisa, Landon, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert and Karen. Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

**Noisy Offering-For Sunday School Mission Project for
ELCA World Hunger**

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.**

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

P: 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, 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

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

C: 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

Prayer after Communion

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

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

Sending Song Hallelujah! Jesus Lives! ELW380 LBW147

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

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Calendar

Sunday, April 5, 2026

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Easter Worship Upper Church

9:00 a.m. Easter Worship Lower Church

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

No Worship or Confirmation

Sunday, April 12, 2026

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Announcements

We are glad you joined us! We hope that you will experience the good news in mind, body, and spirit as we pray, listen, sing and share the peace of Christ and the meal of Holy Communion. You are invited to worship in as many ways as you are comfortable and able. In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates congregation's responses.

Pastor Eric will be on vacation April 6-12

NO Wednesday worship or Confirmation on April 8, 2026

Pie Auction in Fellowship Hall April 19 after Worship.

Auctioneer : Tyce Bettenhausen

If you would like to donate a pie for the auction, please sign up on the sheet in Narthex. All proceeds will go to the camp scholarship fund. Thank you for your support!

Our church will once again be hosting the Cambridge Community Meal. We will be hosting a little earlier this year, it will be on Thursday, May 7th, at the Cambridge High School. The meal is served from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. In addition to helping with food, we are needing volunteers to help set up, serve and clean up. This is a very enjoyable time to meet and visit with your neighbors and friends. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Schroeder at 608-220-2008.

You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! **Online giving directions**, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.