



# **Wisconsin Rapids Moravian Church**

310 First Avenue South 715-423-0180

[www.wrmoravian.org](http://www.wrmoravian.org)

*“Sharing Christ, Serving People”*

Sunday, April 12, 2026 ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE: “I’ll Fly Way”

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 16: 5-11 (adapted)

L: The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup; you hold our lot.

**C: The boundary lines have fallen for us in pleasant places; we have a goodly heritage.**

L: We bless the Lord, who gives us counsel; in the night also our hearts instructs us. We keep the Lord always before us; because God is at our right hand, we shall not be moved.

**C: Therefore our hearts are glad, and our souls rejoice; our bodies also rest secure.**

L: For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful ones see the Pit.

**C: You show us the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

\*HYMN #607 “I Am Thine, O Lord”

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

(Please sign Welcome Pad)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE with PASTORAL PRAYER

Concluding with: **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**

\*LITURGY of Adoration - pg. 18

SCRIPTURES: 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.<sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,<sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### John 20:19-31

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 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.”

26 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.” 27 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.” 28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 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.”

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. 31 But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN #369 (vs.6-9) tune (361) “O Sons and Daughters”

MESSAGE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: “I Saw the Light”

\*RESPONSE

**Praise God, who blesses from above;  
Praise Jesus Christ, God’s living love;  
Praise God, whose Spirit in us lives;**

**We praise you God through what we give. Amen.**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

\*HYMN #713 “We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight”

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Will the Circle Be Unbroken”

\*Stand as able

**IN OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING**

Ministers..... All who serve Jesus Christ  
Pastor.....Rev. Beth Rohn-Habegger  
Scripture Reader.....Stephanie Ott  
Keyboardist.....Julie Rucks  
POP Musicians..John Gunn, Wayne Swiggum, Milo & Kathy Plante

**WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK**

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. 1 Peter 1:3

# Peace Behind Locked Doors

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Today's Gospel, John 20:19–31, places us behind locked doors with the disciples, overwhelmed by fear, confusion, and doubt. Just days after the crucifixion, they were not celebrating. They were hiding. It was into that fear that the risen Christ came, not with condemnation, but with peace: "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). The disciples were locked away—emotionally and physically—because their world had collapsed. In 2026, many of us can relate. Global unrest, political instability, the lingering effects of pandemics, climate anxiety, and economic uncertainty have left many feeling like the disciples: isolated and afraid. The locked doors may not be literal, but we too hide—behind screens, ideologies, and even faith that struggles to believe.

But Jesus walks through locked doors. He enters not with wrath, but with wounds. He does not shame Thomas for doubting but invites him to touch and see (John 20:27). In a world that often silences questions, Jesus dignifies doubt and meets it with presence. Historically, John's Gospel was written to a community facing exclusion from the synagogue and pressure from Rome. The story of Thomas wasn't to shame doubters but to encourage a persecuted church that had never seen Jesus in the flesh (John 20:29). Today, that encouragement remains: Faith isn't the absence of doubt. It's the decision to trust in the presence of Christ, even when we struggle to see.

During this season and beyond, let us be a church that welcomes the Thomases, that offers peace in a world of anxiety, and that carries the breath of the Spirit into all locked places (John 20:22).

***Heather Robinson Owens, pastor, Egg Harbor City Moravian Church***

Egg Harbor City, New Jersey

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**The Moravian Church**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**

April 12, 2026