

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 12, 2026

WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Our service is printed for you in this worship folder. Or you can follow the projections on the front wall.

Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hall as you enter into the school.

Quiet room Parents may use the library in the back of this worship space which still enables you to hear/see the service.

A **Connection Card** and pen are found in the pocket of the chair in front of you. Time will be provided to fill it out during the service. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

THEME: EASTER 2 – EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING: FEAR TO PEACE

Frightened disciples hide behind locked doors. Death, decay, war, trial, guilt and disappointment fill our world and give us every reason to be afraid (from a purely human point of view). But *EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING!* The living Jesus, victorious over death speaks no mere greeting, but the eternal life, world altering reality of His redeeming work: “Peace be with you.” This Peace means not even death and decay can hold those who trust in Jesus. Neither can grief or trial ultimately harm them, for the risen Christ shields His people with the gift of faith a “living hope” (i.e. – real, always true, not a mere wish). Hearts anchored in this unshakable Peace of Jesus are emboldened to speak this Peace to the world. *Risen Lord Jesus, also change our FEAR TO PEACE in You.*

PLEASE RESPECT OUR PRACTICE OF “CLOSE COMMUNION”

Christ says the Sacrament is an expression of unity (1 Co 10:16-17). We WANT to be unified with you on the basis of Christ and His doctrine! Honesty compels us to ask you to WAIT before communing with us: 1) until you’ve had a chance to find out what we teach; 2) until you make your unity with us evident by membership at Peace. Regular classes are conducted for this purpose (837-5346). WELS & ELS guests please sign a Connection Card.

NOT A DAY, BUT A SEASON, A LIFE

For nearly two millennia, Christians have recognized that Jesus' resurrection from the dead is so important that we do not celebrate it for a single day or even a week, but rather a whole 40 day season leading up to the Ascension and Pentecost. (This follows how our Lord Jesus continued to show His visible presence as proof of the Resurrection for 40 days). Indeed, believers have long called every Sunday a little Easter. More than that, Jesus' life and death frees us to live a new resurrection life in Him every day into eternity!

“EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING”

Throughout the Easter Season we will explore the ways the fruits of Jesus' victory bless us, how *Easter Changes Everything* for God's people. Last week at the Easter Vigil, Sunrise and Festival services we saw how Jesus' resurrection changes: *Darkness to Light, Tears to Joy and Death to Life*. Here are the upcoming themes of this life and eternal life changing good news from Jesus' victory over death:

Easter Changes Everything:

<i>Fear to Peace</i>	April 12/13
<i>Despair to Hope</i>	April 19/20
<i>Straying to Belonging</i>	April 26/27
<i>Stumbling to Solid Ground</i>	May 3/4
<i>Futility to Purpose</i>	May 10/11
<i>Peril to Security</i>	May 17/18

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider	Rev. Jordan Ertl
Sermon	Rev. Shaun Arndt
Accompanist	Mrs. Monica Wintrone
Flutes	Gus & Mina Matson
Projection Slides	Brittany Kuehl

OPENING HYMN

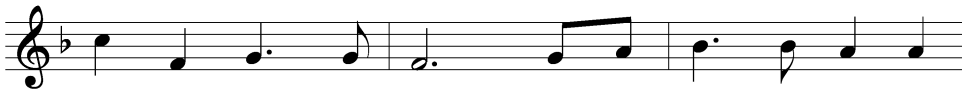
Like the Golden Sun Ascending | CW 470



1 Like the gold - en sun as - cend - ing, break - ing through the
 2 Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to you, O
 3 You have died for my trans - gres - sion, all my sins on
 4 For the joy your ad - vent gave me, for your gos - pel's



gloom of night, on the earth its glo - ry spend - ing so that
 Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er o'er us, you have
 you were laid. You have won for me sal - va - tion, on the
 great re - ward, for your bap - tism which has saved me, for your



dark - ness takes to flight, thus my Je - sus from the
 con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause you did a -
 cross my debt was paid. From the grave I shall a -
 sup - per and your Word; for your death, the bit - ter



grave and death's dis - mal, dread - ful cave rose tri -
 rise and have o - pened par - a - dise! None can
 rise and shall meet you in the skies. Death it -
 scorn, for your res - ur - rec - tion morn: Lord, I



um - phant Eas - ter morn - ing at the ear - ly pur - ple dawn - ing.
 ful - ly sing the glo - ry of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.
 self is tran - si - to - ry; I shall lift my head in glo - ry.
 thank you and ex - tol you, and in heav'n I shall be - hold you.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.
 Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667
 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY (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.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

CW 1040

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN



1 To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth,
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, you take all sin a - way;



for God has shown his fa - vor in Je - sus' ho - ly birth!
ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.



Al - might - y God and Fa - ther, our hum - ble thanks we bring;
With God the Ho - ly Spir - it, at God the Fa - ther's throne,



we wor - ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: Melchior Teschner Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 710622 Tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a,22-32

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them:

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. ²³This man, who was handed over by God's set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. ²⁴He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

²⁵“Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart was glad,

and my tongue rejoiced.

My flesh also will rest in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon my life to the grave,

nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life.

You will fill me with joy in your presence.

²⁹“Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

³²“This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 16

Introduction (first time only)



Refrain



My heart, there-fore, is glad, and my tongue re-joic - es;



my bod - y al - so will rest, will rest se - cure.

Tone



LORD, you alone are my portion / and my cup;
you make my / lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant / places;
surely I have a delightful in- / heritance.

I keep my eyes always / on the LORD.

With him at my right hand, I will not be / shaken. *Refrain*

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue re- / jices;
my body also will / rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the realm / of the dead,
nor will you let your Holy One / see decay.

You make known to me the / path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at / your right hand.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 20:29



Refrain



Tone



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GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed | CW 447

SERMON

John 20:19-31

When Peace Is with You

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy this during this Easter season, for you have risen and conquered the grave. Through the good news of your resurrection victory renew our hope and revive our faith. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you, so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love. Direct their eyes to your empty tomb and ease their pain by reminding them that their loved ones will one day rise again. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts. Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to them. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Stay by the side of all who are suffering. In your wise mercy, heal those who are sick, or hurting in body or mind. Remind them that your victory over death is a fact, and comfort them with your promise to raise them and give them and all believers new, glorified bodies like yours. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and in the feast of your Sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.

Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

A musical offering follows – for meditating on the sermon and signing Connection Cards. Offering plates are found by the doors of the worship space.

Please stand

The Sacrament

PREFACE (Spoken)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

CW 1047

Tune: ELLACOMBE



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

CW 1054

Tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN



1 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Christ, who takes a - way
2 Je - sus, in your mer - cy, make us pure with - in;
3 Let your end - less mer - cy ev - er - more in - crease;



all the world's trans - gres - sions, lis - ten as we pray:
cleanse us by your per - fect sac - ri - fice for sin.
com - fort us with par - don, calm us with your peace.

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Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of “Close Communion,” meaning we commune members of Peace and churches affiliated with Peace. For more explanation, please see the cover. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

O Sons and Daughters of the King | CW 456

He's Risen, He's Risen | CW 445

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace.

Amen.

Please stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

He Is Arisen! Glorious Word | CW 461



He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled is



God, my Lord; the gates of heav'n are o - pen.



My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, and Sa - tan's ar - rows



bro - ken lie, de - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.



O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, ris - ing glo - rious,



life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742–1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Setting Eight (German) from Christian Worship

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