

# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 19, 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 3 – EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING: DESPAIR TO HOPE

Everyone can point to a life-changing event in their lives. How about one that took place about 2000 years ago, but completely turns things around for us today? Such was the resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the resurrected Christ spoke with the Emmaus disciples he lifted them out of confusion and dismay and set their hearts on fire with hope. The same Peter who offered Baptism to the despairing crowd (who had just come to realize that they had crucified the Lord of glory), also wrote later to the Church that because of His resurrection, “your faith and hope are in God.” Easter changes despair to hope!

## 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 and give it to an usher before communing. Thank you.

## WORSHIP NOTES

- 1) *Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide* – Hymn 641 – We are singing this hymn during the distribution. It is based on the Gospel Lesson and the request of the Emmaus disciples: “Lord, stay with us, for it is almost evening.”
- 2) The other way around... For most hymns the words are composed first and then a musician composes a melody for them. The words to *This Joyful Eastertide* were written to fit an already existing melody – a popular Dutch melody from the 1600s. The words were written by George Woodward, a pastor and highly accomplished church musician. As a result of his work, the once-secular Dutch tune has become identified exclusively with Church music.
- 3) The large new candle in the center is called the Paschal Candle. It represents the presence of the risen Lord among His people. It was first lit from a newly kindled fire during the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday) with a special rite called The Service of Light which dates back to the Third Century AD. It will continue to be lit throughout the Easter Season. It will also be lit for baptisms and funerals. The Paschal Candle stands next to the Baptismal Font to remind us how in Baptism we are joined to Jesus’ death and Resurrection (see Romans 6).

Elements on the Paschal Candle:

- The cross with 5 red wax nails for the 5 wounds of Christ reminds us that “by His wounds we are healed” (Isaiah 53).
- The year (2026) along with the Alpha and Omega (Greek 1st and last letters) recalls Revelation 22:13 and Hebrews 13:8 – that Jesus Christ is the First and the Last – Lord over time and eternity.
- The Lamb reminds us Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider ..... Rev. Luke C. Werre  
Communion Assistant..... (8:00) Elder Todd Larson; (10:30)  
Accompanist ..... Mrs. Lisa Schoenherr  
Vocalist..... Mrs. Karen Riley  
Grades 1, 2 & 3 Teachers .....Mrs. Lisa Myhre, Mrs. Lynn Proeber,  
Miss Kiernan Handy, Miss Jennifer Lindloff  
Projection Slides ..... Amy Larson

# THE COMMON SERVICE<sup>1</sup>

## OPENING HYMN

*Awake, My Heart, with Gladness* | CW 443:1-4

*Please stand*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.<sup>2</sup>

C: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy  
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.**

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<sup>1</sup> You may notice the minister is wearing a new stole. A whole new set of stoles has been purchased as the old ones had become frayed. The stole represents a yoke under which a beast of burden labors. It is a sign of the pastor's ordination and signifies his burden of responsibility for the souls under his care.

<sup>2</sup> This is called the Invocation. We are invoking God's name to do what only He can do – to visit us in Word and Sacrament and to bring us His forgiveness and all the gifts of heaven.

# PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## GLORY TO GOD



Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -

ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray ... O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

**Acts 2:14a, 32-41**

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

<sup>32</sup>“This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that. <sup>33</sup>So, after he was exalted to the right hand of God and after he received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he poured out what you are now seeing and hearing.

<sup>34</sup>“For David did not ascend into heaven, and yet he says:

The Lord said to my Lord,

‘Sit at my right hand,

<sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies

a footstool under your feet.’

<sup>36</sup>“Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

<sup>37</sup>Now when the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Gentlemen, brothers, what should we do?”

<sup>38</sup>Peter answered them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>40</sup>He testified solemnly with many other words and was appealing to them, saying, “Escape from this crooked generation.”

<sup>41</sup>Those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The congregation is invited to sing verses 2 and 4.

PSALM OF THE DAY<sup>3</sup> (10:30 & 6:30 Services)

Psalm 30

The presider will sing the first half and the congregation will sing the second half of each verse.



Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;  
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment,  
but his favor lasts a lifetime;

weeping may remain for a night,  
but rejoicing comes in the morning. *Refrain*

To you, O LORD, I called;  
to the Lord I cried for mercy:

“Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me;  
O LORD, be my help.”

You turned my wailing into dancing,  
that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain***

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<sup>3</sup> The Psalms are the Word of God. They are also spiritual songs. Most of them were composed by King David in the Hebrew language 1000 years before Christ. They all speak about Christ and His work of redemption.

## SECOND LESSON

## 1 Peter 1:17-21

<sup>17</sup>If you call on the Father who judges impartially, according to the work of each person, conduct yourselves during the time of your pilgrimage in reverence, <sup>18</sup>because you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, not with things that pass away, such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like a lamb without blemish or spot. <sup>20</sup>He was chosen before the foundation of the world but revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. God raised Christ from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death,  
**because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. Alleluia** (*Acts 2:24*)

## GOSPEL<sup>4</sup>

## Luke 24:13-35

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!**

<sup>13</sup>Now, on that same day, two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>They were talking with each other about all of these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing this, Jesus himself approached and began to walk along with them. <sup>16</sup>But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>He said to them, “What are you talking about as you walk along?” Saddened, they stopped.

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<sup>4</sup> Why are we standing for this Bible reading? For the same reason you stand for the American flag during a parade or for the bride at a wedding. It shows respect. The Gospel Lesson comes from one of the four “Gospels” – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. These are the four biographies of Jesus’ life. We are standing to welcome Him as He “makes His appearance” so to speak in today’s service.

<sup>18</sup>One of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

<sup>19</sup>“What things?” he asked them.

They replied, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup>The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be condemned to death. And they crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we were hoping that he was going to redeem Israel. Not only that, but besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup>Also some women of our group amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning. <sup>23</sup>When they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb. They found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”

<sup>25</sup>He said to them, “How foolish you are and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and to enter his glory?” <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup>As they approached the village where they were going, he acted as if he were going to travel farther. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, since it is almost evening, and the day is almost over.”

So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he reclined at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and began giving it to them. <sup>31</sup>Suddenly their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. Then he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was speaking to us along the road and while he was explaining the Scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup>They got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem. They found the Eleven and those who were with them assembled together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, “The Lord really has been raised! He has appeared to Simon.” <sup>35</sup>They themselves described what had happened along the road, and how they recognized him when he broke the bread.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

5



**Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!**

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<sup>5</sup> What’s the deal with these sung responses? Imagine a hero is passing by in a parade. As he approaches and as he passes the crowd cheers for him. We are cheering for Christ who comes to us in the Gospel Lesson.

## 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 in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*Please be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*This Joyful Eastertide | CW 449*

*When things are unclear, Christ is our clarity.*

*Please stand when presider indicates*

**CREATE IN ME<sup>6</sup>**

Cre - ate in me a  
 pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -  
 in me. Do not cast me a - way from your  
 pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from  
 me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -  
 hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*Please be seated*

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<sup>6</sup> Why are we singing this song after the sermon? It is our soul's response to hearing the Word of God. Our prayer is that God would send the Holy Spirit to sanctify our thinking and our hearts. This song is a segment of Psalm 51.

## 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*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Father in heaven, were not our hearts burning within us as we celebrated the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ two weeks ago? We thank you for changing our despair to hope by means of an empty tomb! Even today as we continue to follow the post-Resurrection events and hear the testimony of those who witnessed the living Christ, continue to fill us with your Holy Spirit and remove from our hearts all fears, doubts, and anxious thoughts. Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Holy Father, your Son is the only way of salvation, and yet we are appalled at ourselves - how often we have dismissed Him as “just another thing,” or have treated His Sacrament as optional. Forgive us. Help us to find comfort in the cleansing water of Baptism by which you wash our guilt away and restore our standing with you. Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, the price of redemption was worth more than all the gold and silver in the world. It was the blood of your eternal Son. Help us to regard the elderly, the weak, the disabled, the lowly, the very young, and the disadvantaged among us with this price in mind and treasure them as you do. Give us such a mind to say, “What else are we here for, but to serve?” Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer**

*Prayers of Intercession*

Even as you were faithful, dear Father, in fulfilling your promise to raise Christ from the dead, help us to be confident that you will be faithful to every other promise you have made. And with such confidence help us as we pray...

## 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.**

## THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.<sup>7</sup>**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is good and right so to do.**

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,

and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his 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:

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<sup>7</sup> You'll notice the same greeting on page 4 of this worship folder in connection with the Prayer of the Day. This greeting introduces "the Service of the Word" and also "the Service of the Sacrament" – the two main divisions of the worship service. These are the two ways God is present "with" us: in Word and in Sacrament.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -  
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -  
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION<sup>8</sup>

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.**

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<sup>8</sup> Why does the minister make the sign of the cross as he speaks these words? To emphasize the word "is." The bread and wine do not merely *represent* Christ's body and blood. They *are* Christ's body and blood.

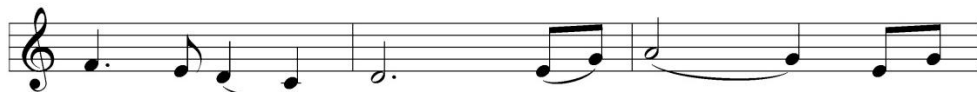
## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD<sup>9</sup>



O Christ, Lamb of



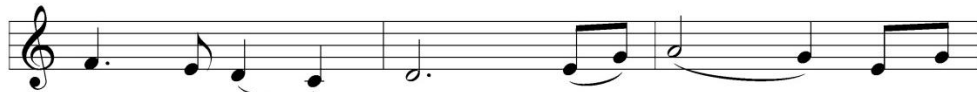
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

*Please be seated*

<sup>9</sup> This song presents the central doctrine of the Bible: Objective Justification. This means that by His death on the cross, Jesus atoned for the sins of the whole world. Are you part of the whole world? Then you can take it to heart when Jesus says that the forgiveness of sins offered in the Sacrament is “for you.”

## DISTRIBUTION<sup>10</sup>

*Please respect our practice of “Close Communion,” meaning we commune members of Peace and churches affiliated with Peace. For further explanation, please see inside the front cover of this worship folder. Thank you.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*Christ Is with Me | CW 681*

*Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide | CW 641*

*Please stand when presider indicates*

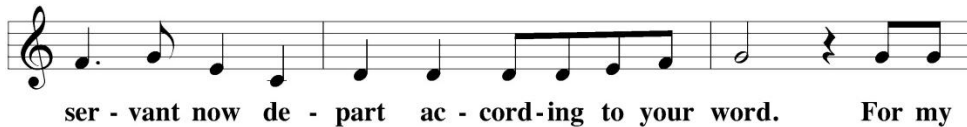
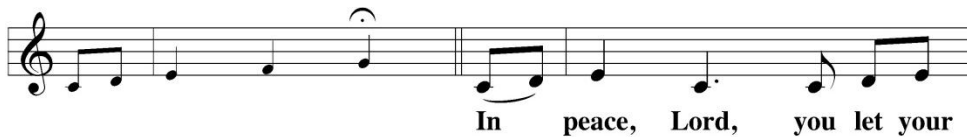
### COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith into life everlasting. Your sins are forgiven. The peace of God is with you.

**Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

### SONG OF SIMEON



<sup>10</sup> Christ is meeting us here in this Sacrament! It would be appropriate to bow slightly after the pastor dismisses each group with the words, “Go in peace.”

ev-'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the  
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

## PRAYER<sup>11</sup>

We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. 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.**

*The closing hymn is on the following page.*

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<sup>11</sup> Notice the two things we want the Sacrament to induce in us: 1) stronger faith; 2) increased love for one another.

## CLOSING HYMN

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness | CW 443:5

5 He brings me to the por - tal that leads to  
bliss un - told, where - on this rhyme im - mor - tal is  
found in script of gold: "Who there my cross has  
shared finds here a crown pre - pared; who there with  
me has died shall here be glo - ri - fied."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.  
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

***Please stay for a financial update between services here in the worship space.***

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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