

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 26, 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: GOOD SHEPHERD / CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING: STRAYING TO BELONGING

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead changes everything! Once we were 'like sheep going astray' (1 Peter 2), but now through the saving work of our Savior risen from the dead, we belong to the Lord, our Good Shepherd, who makes us part of His chosen flock (Psalm 100). In Christ, our Good Shepherd, who comes to us in Word and Sacrament, we have "life abundantly" (John 10) – now and eternally!

Today is youth confirmation at Peace. Confirmation is a profession of the Christian faith, after a time of instruction. The confirmand is recognized as one who is properly prepared to receive Holy Communion. Today, 13 young Christians profess their faith and desire to follow Christ, the Good Shepherd who brings His sheep to dwell in the 'House of the LORD forever" (Psalm 23).

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. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION ROBES

The white robes worn by the youths symbolize the righteousness of Christ they have been clothed in through God-given trust in Christ. This symbolism is drawn from Galatians 3:27: **all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ** and Revelation 7:14: **they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb** (Jesus Christ whose blood purifies us from all sin).

WHY A PROCESSIONAL CROSS?

The confirmands will process into the sanctuary led by a processional cross during the opening hymn. This reminds us 1) that Christ is their Shepherd who leads them, and 2) that Christ Himself enters this service in Word & Sacrament to give us all the blessings He earned for us by His death on the cross.

PASCHAL CANDLE

The large candle next to the font is the Paschal (i.e. – Passover/Easter) Candle. It represents the presence of the risen Lord among His people. Along with the crucifix it flanks the baptismal font recalling how Romans 6 teaches we have been joined to Jesus’ death and resurrection in Holy Baptism, so that we now have “life abundantly” (John 10).

PICTURES FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Feel free to come up to the front of the worship space for photographs with your family’s confirmand after the congregation has been ushered out.

PART OF A LARGER CHURCHBODY

Peace Lutheran Ministries is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. To learn more see www.wels.net.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider Rev. Shaun Arndt
Sermon Rev. Jordan Ertl
Keyboard Mrs. Lynn Proeber
Processional Cross Dax Beauclair
Projection Slides Amy Johnson

The 10:30 service will begin with a procession from the back of the worship space during the first hymn. Chimes will precede the opening hymn and signal the start of the service.

OPENING HYMN

Christ Is with Me | CW 681



1 We were bur - ied with him in - to death, that as he was raised
2 I have now been graft - ed to the vine, draw - ing life from roots
3 I have now been cru - ci - fied with Christ, I no long - er live,



by God's glo - ry, we might walk in life made new by grace;
rich in mer - cy, bear - ing fruit as I a - bide in him,
Christ lives in me; now I live by faith in God's own Son—



hav - ing died with Christ, we shall live with him.
fruit for - ev - er fresh, glo - ri - fy - ing God.
one who loved me so, gave him - self for me.

Refrain



Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go;



nev - er to leave me, this I know.

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953, alt.

Tune: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953, alt.

Text and tune: © 1992 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 710622

Please stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.¹

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

ABSOLUTION

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.

¹ This is the Word of God used with the water in Holy Baptism, where God adopts us into His family, personally placing His saving name and all the benefits of Jesus saving work upon us (Galatians 3, Titus 3, Matthew 28).

LORD, HAVE MERCY

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 RESPONSE

*All Glory Be to God on High*² | CW 935:1



1 All glo - ry be to God on high and thanks for all his



fa - vor; no harm can touch or ter - ri - fy a child of



God for - ev - er. God shows his good and gra - cious will and



grants his peace, the world to fill; all strife at last has end - ed.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
Text: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: License no. 130004679 Tune: Public domain

² A portion of the *Gloria* (the song of the angels at Christ's birth in Luke 2) gives us God's answer to our cry for mercy: Jesus Christ in the flesh to save His people.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.³

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They continued to hold firmly to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers. ⁴³Awe came over every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They were selling their possessions and property and were distributing the proceeds according to what anyone needed.

⁴⁶Day after day, with one mind, they were devoted to meeting in the temple area, as they continued to break bread in their homes. They shared their food with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷as they continued praising God and being viewed favorably by all the people. Day after day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

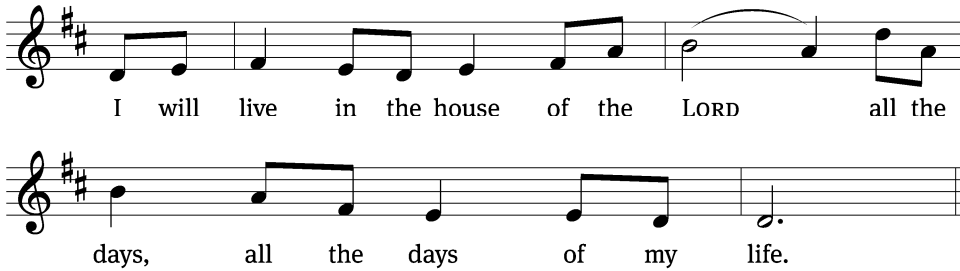
Thanks be to God.

³ See how quickly the Lord has answered this prayer for us as we now hear His saving Word in the Scripture lessons!

PSALM

Psalm 23⁴

Refrain



I will live in the house of the LORD all the
days, all the days of my life.

Tone



The LORD is my / shepherd,
I lack / nothing.
He makes me lie down in green / pastures,
he leads me beside quiet / waters,
he refreshes / my soul.
He guides me along the right paths for his / name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no / evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they / comfort me. *Refrain*

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my / enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup / overflows.
Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days / of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for- / ever.

**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***

Tune: Mark Haas
Setting: Mark Haas
Music: © 2014 Mark Haas. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 710622

⁴ God gave us Psalm 23 through the lips of King David, who was a shepherd and a king. By the Holy Spirit, David also speaks here of His descendant (according to the human nature) Jesus Christ, who is both our Good Shepherd and King of kings and Lord of lords (see also the Hymn of the Day).

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹For this is favorable: if a person endures sorrows while suffering unjustly because he is conscious of God. ²⁰For what credit is it to you if you receive a beating for sinning and patiently endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and endure it, this is favorable with God.

²¹Indeed, you were called to do this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example so that you would follow in his steps. ²²He did not commit a sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. ²³When he was insulted, he did not insult in return. When he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself carried our sins in his body on the tree so that we would be dead to sins and alive to righteousness. By his wounds you were healed. ²⁵For you were like sheep going astray, but you are now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia. Christ is risen, he is risen indeed. Alleluia. I am the Good Shepherd;

I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 10:1–10

¹“Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The doorkeeper opens the door for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own sheep; he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰“A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is | CW 552

SERMON

Acts 2:42–47

Hold Firmly to Your Shepherd

8:00 & 6:30 SERVICES

Continue with the Apostles' Creed on the next page.

10:30 CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Continue with the Musical Offering on page 10.

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'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.

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

Lord God, heavenly Father, in your fatherly goodness you have been mindful of us poor, miserable sinners and have given your beloved Son to be our Shepherd, not only to nourish us by his Word but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us so that as our Shepherd knows us and provides for us in every affliction, we also may know him, and trusting in him, seek help and comfort in him, obey his voice with all our hearts and obtain eternal salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.⁵

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.

8:00 & 6:30 Services conclude on page 16 with the Closing Hymn.

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.

⁵ Good Shepherd prayer by Lutheran Theologian Veit Dietrich.

Rite of Confirmation

VOWS

PRAYER

INDIVIDUAL BLESSINGS (Using Confirmation Passages)

Hannah Ruth Barrett

Baptized 10/9/11

Joshua 1:9

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua Paul Dahlke

Baptized 08/12/12

Joshua 1:9

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Christian John Dobberfuhl

Baptized 09/16/12

1 Corinthians 10:31

Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Nolan Matthew Guenterberg

Baptized 08/07/11

Psalms 55:22

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

Steven Michael Gustafson

Baptized 04/29/12

Romans 8:28

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Easton James Jimenez

Baptized 07/24/12

Psalms 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

Elin Elizabeth Kapets

Baptized 04/08/12

Psalm 37:24

Though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

Harper Rose Nauman

Baptized 11/11/12

Jonah 2:2

In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.

Olivia Anne Ostrowski

Baptized 05/06/12

Psalm 46:5

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Evan Michael Schwoch

Baptized 04/01/12

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Aiden Matthew Van Ostrand

Baptized 08/02/21

Revelation 2:10

Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

Gwenyth Grace Weittenhiller

Baptized 08/27/14

Psalm 46:5

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Regan Kay Zuberbier

Baptized 12/18/11

Matthew 28:20

Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please stand

The Sacrament

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

Sanctus (Amer) | CW 1011

Tune: WEBB



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.

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.

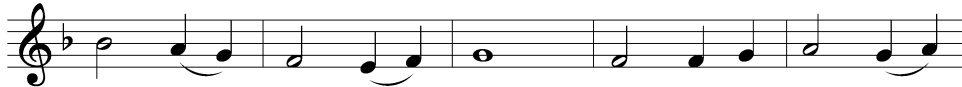
O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus (Amer) | CW 1013⁶

Tune: HAMBURG



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled



cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will



took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Lowell Mason

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Tune: Public domain

Please be seated

⁶ We have been walking through the life of Christ in this ancient liturgy. In the Gloria, we heard of Jesus' birth as our Savior. In the *Holy, Holy, Holy*, we recalled Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday with the Hosannas. The Words of Institution take us to the upper room on Maundy Thursday as Jesus instituted this saving Meal. In the *O Christ, Lamb of God* we have stood at the foot of the cross where the Savior took our sins away. Now in the distribution, we celebrate Easter as the risen Christ comes to us with His real body and blood to touch our lips and hearts with His Peace.

DISTRIBUTION

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

The Confirmation Class will commune first. After they have communed, the presiding minister will give instructions for the distribution for the WELS and ELS members who wish to commune.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus | **CW 704**

The Lord’s My Shepherd | **CW 553**

Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord | **CW 661**

COMMUNION BLESSING

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.

Lord God, heavenly Father, in your fatherly goodness you have been mindful of us poor, miserable sinners and have given your beloved Son to be our Shepherd, not only to nourish us by his Word but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us so that as our Shepherd knows us and provides for us in every affliction, we also may know him, and trusting in him, seek help and comfort in him, obey his voice with all our hearts and obtain eternal salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.⁷

Amen.

⁷ Good Shepherd prayer by Lutheran Theologian Veit Dietrich.

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

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb | CW 804:1,3

- 1 I am Jesus' little lamb;
ever glad at heart I am,
for my Shepherd gently guides me,
knows my need and well provides me,
loves me ev'ry day the same,
even calls me by my name.**

- 3 Who so happy as I am,
even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
by his angel host attended,
he shall fold me to his breast,
there within his arms to rest.**

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–1782; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

At the 10:30 service the confirmands will recess during the closing hymn. There will be no announcements. Please dismiss yourselves after the hymn. There will be a receiving line to greet and congratulate the confirmands in the main entry hall.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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