

# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 10, 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 6 – EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING: FUTILITY TO PURPOSE

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. In the Gospel Lesson we hear the risen Christ preparing the disciples for the Day of Pentecost with the promise to send them the Holy Spirit after He has ascended into heaven. Their purpose will be to proclaim the Gospel to all the world as Paul did in Athens. In his epistle Peter exhorts us “always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” We are no longer on an aimless journey here on earth. Christ has given us a purpose. Christ’s resurrection changes futility to purpose.

## 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.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

**The Service – Setting One** ..... pg. 154 in the blue hymnal

## Hymns

Opening Hymn	<b>459</b>	<i>Christ the Lord Is Risen Again</i>
<b>Psalm of the Day</b>	<b>Psalm 104</b>	page 104 in the blue hymnal
Hymn of the Day	<b>707</b>	<i>Cling Tightly to the Word of God</i>
Distribution Hymns	<b>557</b>	<i>Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice</i>
	<b>705</b>	<i>Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways</i>

## Scripture Lessons

First Lesson	Acts 17:22-31
Second Lesson	1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel Lesson	John 14:15-21

## Sermon

*Real Purpose*

**Acts 17:22-31**

## HOW ONE SUNDAY AFFECTS THE NEXT

Today in the Gospel Lesson Christ promises to send the Holy Spirit to empower His disciples after He has ascended into heaven. Next Sunday we will celebrate the Ascension itself. The following Sunday we will celebrate Pentecost – when the ascended Christ poured out the promised Holy Spirit on His disciples.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

<b>Presider</b> .....	Rev. Luke C. Werre
<b>Sermon</b> .....	Rev. Shaun Arndt
<b>Keyboard</b> .....	Mrs. Sarah Bilitz
<b>Projection Slides</b> .....	Amy Johnson

## FIRST READING

**Acts 17:22-31**

<sup>22</sup>Then Paul stood up in front of the council of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I was walking around and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, ‘To an unknown god.’ Now what you worship as unknown—this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup>“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made with hands. <sup>25</sup>Neither is he served by human hands, as if he needed anything, since he himself gives all people life and breath and everything they have. <sup>26</sup>From one man, he made every nation of mankind to live over the entire face of the earth. He determined the appointed times and the boundaries where they would live. <sup>27</sup>He did this so they would seek God and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘Indeed, we are also his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>“Therefore, since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and planning. <sup>30</sup>Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has set a day on which he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he appointed. He provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM OF THE DAY

**Psalm 104**

## SECOND READING

## 1 Peter 3:13–22

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should happen to suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not be afraid of what they fear, and do not be troubled. <sup>15</sup>But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. <sup>16</sup>But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

<sup>17</sup>Indeed, it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, <sup>18</sup>because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. <sup>20</sup>These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. <sup>21</sup>And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup>He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## GOSPEL

**John 14:15-21**

<sup>15</sup>“If you love me, hold on to my commands. <sup>16</sup>I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Cling Tightly to the Word of God | CW 707*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## WORSHIP NOTES

- 1) Hymn #557 “Dear Christians One and All Rejoice” – This hymn is traditionally sung every year on the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Season of Easter. It was written by Martin Luther and is autobiographical. In other words, he is telling his own story – which really is the story of every believer
- 2) We are still in the Season of Easter. The opening hymn, #459, was chosen because it is a resurrection hymn that also references Christ’s descent into hell (see verse 4). 1 Peter 3:18-19 (from our second Scripture Lesson today) is one of two Scripture passages to which the Church has always pointed as the basis of Christ’s descent into hell. The other is Colossians 2:15.
- 3) Hymn #707 and 705 were chosen because they reflect three truths from the Scripture lessons today. First is a reference to Baptism in the life of a believer (see 707 verse 2). Baptism is spoken of in the lesson from 1 Peter 3. The second is the truth Jesus expressed in the Gospel Lesson: *Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me.* Third is the fact that Jesus would bolster the disciples with the Holy Spirit to prepare them to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. We see this with Paul’s proclamation of the Gospel to the Gentiles in Athens (see 707 verse 4).
- 4) Psalm 104 was chosen because it speaks of the work of the Holy Spirit and, if you look at it closely, it reflects the Apostle Paul’s approach in his sermon to the people of Athens – first speaking to them about the God who created all things and then moving from there to Christ’s work of redemption for the people He created.