

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 17, 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 7 – THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING: UNCERTAINTY TO SECURITY

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. Today is the 7th Sunday of the Season of Easter. We are also celebrating the Ascension of Our Lord. The readings, hymns and sermon will set forth how the ascension of our risen Lord changes uncertainty to security.

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.

To prepare for the Lord’s Supper you may wish to use page 295-6 in the blue hymnal.

WORSHIP NOTES

- 1) We are grateful to our Sunday School children for edifying us in song. Thank you parents for bringing them. Thank you Sunday School staff for your faithful work all year.
- 2) Hymn 473 “Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious” – here is an example of a hymn from our previous red hymnal (Christian Worship 93) which the hymnal committee discovered through surveys was not used very often in Sunday worship. The committee did not want to jettison this hymn as they felt the words were powerful and it was worth preserving. They decided to assign it a new melody in hopes that this might revive it and it might gain more frequent use. There are many hymns like that in our blue hymnal. So, we’re giving it a shot!

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider..... Rev. Shaun Arndt
Sermon Rev. Luke C. Werre
Accompanist..... Mrs. Lynn Proeber
Sunday School..... Andrea Kratz, coordinator
Jennifer Werre, music director; Dayna Proeber, accompanist
Projection Slides Kayla Frank

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.¹

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature² 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.

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,³ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

¹ 2 Corinthians 13:14

² Scripture teaches “original sin,” meaning we have inherited a sinful nature from our parents going all the way back to Adam and Eve. This sinful nature deprives us of a free will in spiritual matters and makes it impossible for us to find our own way to salvation. Salvation comes from Christ alone which He reveals to us in His Word.

³ As the pastor announces it, it is the same as if Jesus Himself were announcing it (John 20:21-23).

LORD, HAVE MERCY⁴

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise hear our prayer, O Lord.



Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

⁴ “Lord, have mercy” – in Greek “Kyrie eleison” is one of the oldest prayers in the Church. Indeed it expresses the most basic impulse of faith: more than anything else, we need and want God’s mercy. Everything else is secondary to this. “Kyrie” is not “lord” as in master or commander. It is the name for the God of grace and salvation.

O LORD, OUR LORD



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



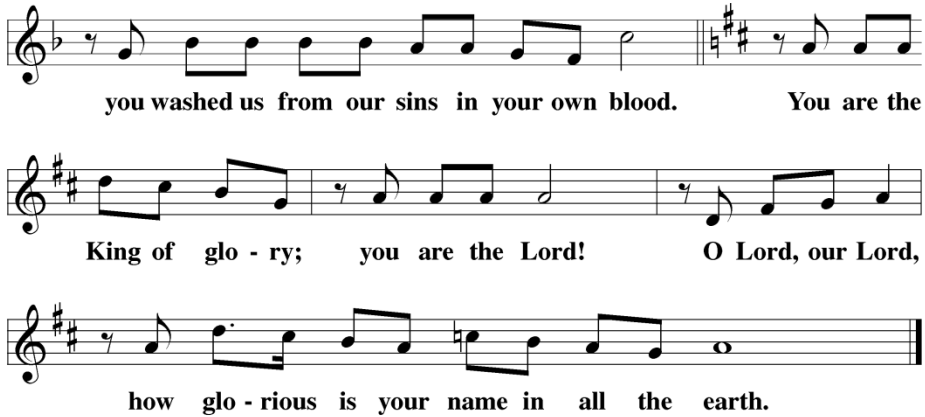
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.



O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,



you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;



you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Lord Jesus, King of glory, you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Please be seated

SUNDAY SCHOOL (8:00 & 10:30)

Go Into the World
 by Natalie Sleeth

*Go ye, go ye, into the world,
 and make disciples of all the nations.
 Go ye, go ye, into the world,
 and I will be with you there!*

*Go ye, go ye, into the world.
 and make disciples of all the nations.
 Go ye, go ye, into the world,
 and I will be with you there,
 and I will be with you there!*

*I am the vine, you are the branches,
 ever the fruit to bear.
 I am the Light, you the reflection,
 everywhere!*

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:1-11

¹I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ²until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. ⁵For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they were together with him, they asked, “Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

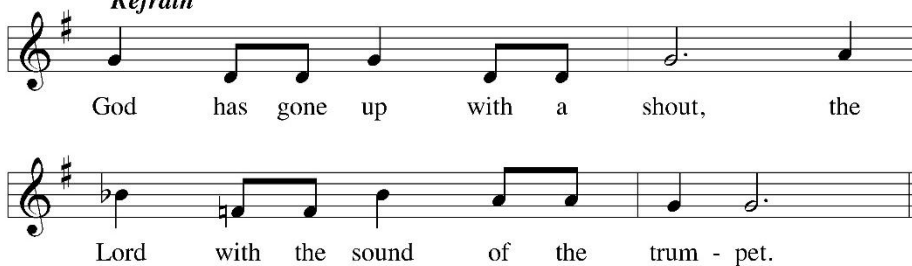
⁹After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 47

Refrain



God has gone up with a shout, the
Lord with the sound of the trum - pet.

Psalm Tone



Clap your hands, all you nations;
shout to God with cries of joy.

How awesome is the LORD Most High,
the great King over all the earth!

God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne. **Refrain**

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.

**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****

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵Ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is, ¹⁹and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. ²⁰It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church. ²³The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The Gospel of our Lord.



Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious | **CW 473**

A vocalist will sing verse 1.

SERMON

Acts 1:1-11

What the Ascension of Christ Means for Us

Please stand when presider indicates

CREED (from Luther's Large Catechism)⁵

We believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**The little word "Lord" simply means as much as Redeemer,
that is, the One who rescued us from the devil to bring us to God,
from death to bring us into life,
from sin to bring us into righteousness,
and now keeps us safe where He has brought us.**

**In order to conquer sin He became man,
conceived and born without sin of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered, died, and was buried
in order to make satisfaction in my stead and pay what I owed,
not with silver or gold, but with His own precious blood.**

All this He did in order to become my Lord.

For He did none of this for Himself, nor did He need to.

**Then He rose again from the dead,
swallowed up and devoured death,
and finally ascended into heaven and assumed rulership at the right
hand of the Father.**

**Thus the devil and all powers must be subject to Him and be under His feet,
until on the Last Day He will separate and sunder us completely from the
wicked world, the devil, death and sin.**

**The entire Gospel that we preach depends on our thorough grasp of this
article.**

Upon it rests our entire salvation and joy.

Please be seated

⁵ "I believed, therefore I have spoken" (2Co 4:13). A creed gives expression to our faith. Today's creed is an excerpt from Luther's Large Catechism. He wrote the Large Catechism about the same time that he wrote the Small Catechism in 1529. His intent was for the Large Catechism to be used by pastors and teachers in the Church. However, it reads like a book and soon became popular among the populace. The Lutheran Church regards the Large Catechism to be one of its official "Confessions," meaning an official document defining our faith.

MUSICAL OFFERING

A musical offering follows for meditating on the sermon and signing Connection Cards.

As we worship God in word and song we also worship Him with our offerings.

Everything belongs to God – our hearts, our voices, even our possessions. Offering plates are by the doors.

If you give electronically, when was the last time you re-evaluated and/or adjusted your offerings?



This QR code may be used to give an offering using your phone.

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Risen and ascended Savior, strengthen our faith with the truth that you are seated at the right hand of your Father and have all governing authority. Protect the elderly among us from those who would take advantage of them. Guard our teens and college students from the destructive traps satan sets for them. Shield our little ones from the blast of inappropriate media and from careless talk. Shelter our young mothers and the homes they nurture from this predatory world. Make Christian men strong, especially husbands and fathers, to lead and defend those you've entrusted to their care. In every circumstance, let us be encouraged by the truth that nothing happens without your permission. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord of the nations, bless our United States of America. Bless our nation's leaders in the current conflict with Iran and bring about a resolution that will provide peace and stability for the world. Bless President Trump, Governor Evers, Mayor Stocker, and all legislators, judges and magistrates under whose authority you have placed us. Guard them from those who wish them harm and use them to foster an environment that enables us to live a quiet and godly life in service to you. Turn the hearts of our nation back to you in repentance and faith. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Jesus on high, help us to be your witnesses to the world. From the right hand of your Father, pour out your Holy Spirit and give power to your Gospel. Bless our missionaries who proclaim your Gospel to other lands. Help us here at Peace to be a beacon of truth in Sun Prairie. In parks, across backyards, at little league games, in the breakroom, around the dinner table - give us the right words to say that will draw people to the good news of salvation through faith in you. Let your Kingdom come to this place and everywhere. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Intercessory prayers

All these things we ask with confidence that you are interceding for us at God's right hand. And with such confidence we also 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.



C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.⁶



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.⁷

⁶ "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ?" (1 Corinthians 10:16)

⁷ These sentences are called the "Proper Preface" which present the reasons we are giving thanks in connection with the Sacrament.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

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 \mp 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 \mp 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.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: 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.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of "Close Communion." For explanation, please see the inside cover of this worship folder. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing | CW 472
On Christ's Ascension I Now Build | CW 476

Please stand when the presider indicates

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

THANKSGIVING

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

8



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, the Lord Is King | CW 524

⁸ Why do we sing “Amen” three times? One “amen” for each of the three parts of the blessing. Why is it a three-part blessing? It reflects the work of the three persons of the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This blessing is found in Numbers 6:24-26. By singing “amen” we are saying, “Yes, we go along with this. We believe this is true!”