

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 12, 2026

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

Weekly Update



1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org

Sunday, April 12, 2026

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

OUR CONGREGATION

*Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler | Joy Caveney
Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller
Craig Reichow | Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead*

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

*Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow
Friends of Thomas Newcomb currently serving in Iran*

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

*Erin Barden (sister of Andrew Barden)
Joy Brown (friend of Kate Flegal)
Symphony Calvillo & her two boys (friend of Kate Flegal)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Gianna Carter (granddaughter of Sam & Sharon Carter)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Jason Greenwalt (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Madilyn Gross (cousin of Desirae Peral)
Uwe Gutschmidt (nephew of Ellen Atwell)
Roseanne Heim (family member of Suzanne Flegal)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Michael Levrini (friend of Jared Lem)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Dale, John, and Jeff MacPherson (friends of Jared Lem)
Sue Mason (sister of Pam Darby)
Sharon Massen & Dorie Miller (friends of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf and Laizu (friends of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Tracy Radican (daughter of former HCLC pastor, Pastor Harper)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark & Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Nancy and Steven Swancutt (sister and brother of Lynn Russo)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Michelle White (friend and coworker of Kate Flegal)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)*

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Family and friends of Silas Kulkarni (Cousin of Tibbie Preston)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor:	Pastoral Candidate
Director of Music and Liturgy:	Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician:	Bob Thompson
Video Technician:	Sylvia Moran

Serving April 12th: Second Sunday of Easter

Assisting Minister:	Rob Coffman
Reader:	Helen Wolfe
Acolyte:	Gary Wolfe
Greeter:	Lauren & Devon Gist

Serving April 19th: Third Sunday of Easter

Assisting Minister:	Anne Geiger
Reader:	Vivian Jefferson
Acolyte:	TBD
Greeter:	Vivian Jefferson

FLOWERS: Today's flowers are given by Pam Darby in loving memory of her parents' anniversary.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: APR 12 – APR 19

SU 12	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Kingdom Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Second Sunday of Easter
	11:30 am	Special Congregation Meeting ~ Sanctuary
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH
TU 14	6:30 pm	Bldg. Use: Boy Scouts Troop 12
W 15	11:30 am	Lunch for the Soul ~ FH
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing
SA 18	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204
	10:00 am	Quilting Group ~ Rm 202
	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist ~ FH
SU 19	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Kingdom Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Third Sunday of Easter
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee ~ FH
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH

LENTEN APPEAL – FELLOWSHIP SQUARE



This year's Lenten Appeal will be donated to Fellowship House, which is one of the leading providers of affordable housing and services to low-income seniors, owning 670 units (240 of them jointly) in the DC Metro region serving more than 850 older adults. The last day to donate is

Sunday, April 19. To donate: <https://tinyurl.com/38nx93ma>

CONGREGATION MEETING

You are invited, as we convene a Special Meeting of the Congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church to call a new pastor on **Sunday, April 12th**, following the 10:00 AM service. At that meeting we will vote on two items: the candidate and the candidate's compensation package.

HYMN MADNESS 2026

Holy Cross was feelin' the Easter vibes this year—give it up for **"Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!"** as our 2026 Hymn Madness Song Champion! A big congratulations to **Denise Robinson** for being our **2026 Hymn Madness Bracket Winner!** Denise has won the right to select all of the hymns for a worship service this summer!! Thank you to everyone who played along this year and thank you to those who donated to the Transition Fund along the way! Last thing, **we need your feedback!** When you have a moment, please check out the **"Feedback"** link under **"Current Links"** on our **Holy Cross website** to let us know how to improve!

LINK FOOD PANTRY

Don't forget to pick up a grocery bag for your donation to LINK on the first and third Sundays! They are located in the narthex. Filled bags can be dropped off in the LINK box in the narthex or placed on the altar during the offering.



Volunteers are needed to deliver bags to the LINK pantry after services. Go to the following link or scan the QR code to sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/2wfyue7t>



THANK YOU!

What a wonderful Easter celebration! The tables were overflowing with great food, breads, and, of course, desserts. Many thanks to all who contributed to the feast, and to Denise Robinson for being a great sport and breaking up the chocolate bunny centerpiece. Easter wouldn't be the same without some chocolate! A special thank you to those who helped get everything ready on Saturday afternoon setting up tables and making the Hall look festive. The kind souls who stayed after the brunch to take down tables and clean up were appreciated. I know many probably had family affairs to go home to, but stayed anyway to help. Thank you!

—*Beverly Siecker, Fellowship Chair*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

As Easter arrives, so does the celebration of flowers in the sanctuary, reminding us of God's enduring faithfulness.

There are slots available to dedicate flowers in the coming weeks. Up to two vases can be dedicated each Sunday. Scan the QR code and sign up to celebrate a life event or remember a loved one.



HOME COMMUNION

If you or a loved one is unable to attend worship due to illness, age, or mobility issues, and would like to receive Communion, you can schedule a visit by contacting the office at Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org or 703-437-1883.

APRIL QUEST



Pick up a hard copy in the narthex or under the mailboxes.

This month's crossword puzzle prize was a \$25 Jimmy's gift card—congratulations to **Craig Swanson** for submitting all the correct answers first!

Be sure to keep an eye out for **May's surprise gift card** sponsor.

THANK YOU! PROPERTY CLEAN UP CREW

A big thank you to all who joined us for Property Cleanup Day on such an unusually warm day! Your time and hard work in caring for our church property truly mean so much.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion at that part of the service. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026 ~ 10:00 AM

The church keeps Easter for eight Sundays. Early Christians referred to Sunday as the eighth day, as if the extraordinary day of the resurrection could not fit within the normal week of seven days. The resurrection begins a new recording of time. The fifty days culminates at Pentecost. Each Sunday, individually and communally, we meet the risen Christ in word and sacrament.

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship.



WE GATHER



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Please stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Assembly: **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Assembly: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Pastor: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

Rooted in the story of Thomas and the risen Christ's appearance to the disciples, "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" gives voice to the tension between doubt and belief. Written by Henry Alford in the 19th century, its text reflects the experience of those who trust Christ without physical proof: "We may not touch his hands and side..."

This hymn creates space for honest faith as we gather. Faith that wrestles, questions, and still reaches toward Christ. It names the reality that belief is not always immediate or certain, yet it is sustained by Christ's presence among us. In this way, it prepares us for the movement of today's worship: from uncertainty to proclamation. What begins here in quiet trust will be sent out into the world with bold joy.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

Assembly: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

Assembly: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Pastor: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

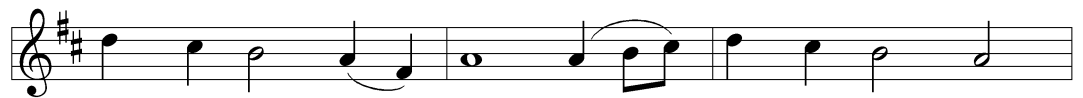
GATHERING HYMN

(WOV 675)

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK. Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

GREETING

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
 Assembly: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.
 Assembly: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

(Setting 9)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



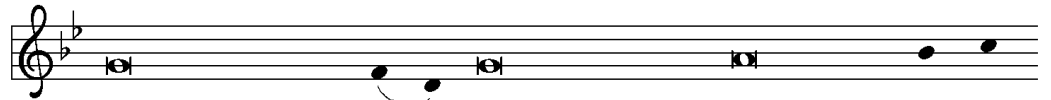
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



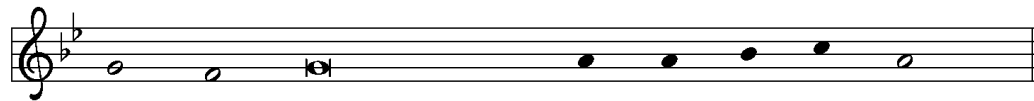
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



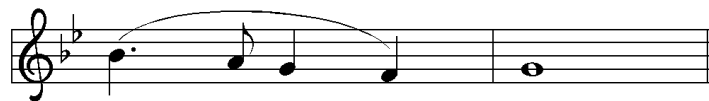
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

(Setting 9)



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of
 all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The prayer of the day is based on one for the second Sunday of Easter in the 1985 Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada. Both we who believe and we who doubt pray for "the fullness of Christ's blessing."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Please sit.

ANTHEM

Peace
 Joyful Ringers

by Joshua Kramer



LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS

Throughout the Sundays of the fifty days of Easter, passages from Acts proclaim the meaning of the resurrection. Although many contemporary Christians do not share Luke's hermeneutic, we build this Sunday upon this early Christian proclamation of God's raising Jesus from the place of the dead to be the power of the church emerging throughout the world. Each Sunday we are witnesses of the resurrection.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 22-23

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

The church continues the pattern alluded to in John's gospel, of assembling on the first day of the week to receive the Spirit of the cross and resurrection and to exchange the peace of Christ. As we expect of John, the narrative in chapter 20 testifies to the identity of Christ as Lord and God. For Christians, to touch Christ is to touch God, and we do this in the flesh of our neighbor's hand at the peace and with the bread of Christ in our palm at communion.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

Reader: A reading from the first letter of Peter:

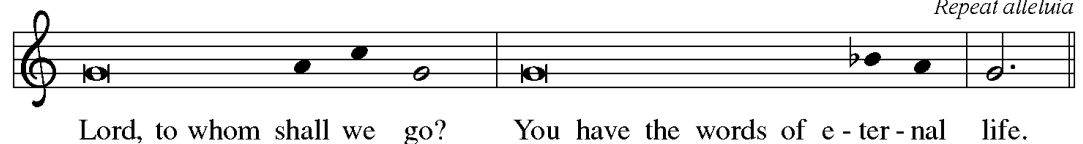
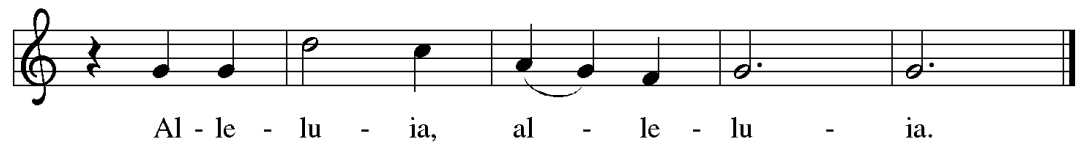
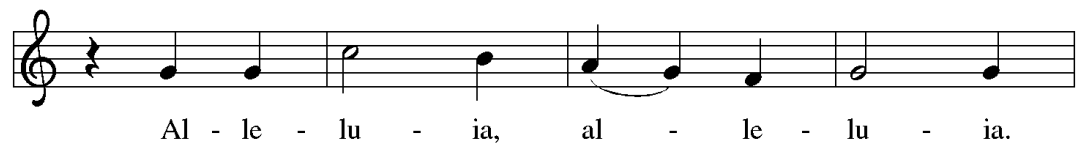
³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia

The church continues the pattern alluded to in John's gospel, of assembling on the first day of the week to receive the Spirit of the cross and resurrection and to exchange the peace of Christ. As we expect of John, the narrative in chapter 20 testifies to the identity of Christ as Lord and God. For Christians, to touch Christ is to touch God, and we do this in the flesh of our neighbor's hand at the peace and with the bread of Christ in our palm at communion.

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

Pastor: The Gospel according to John the 20th chapter.
Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
Assembly: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

SERMON

In "The Peace of the Lord," we echo the very words of the risen Christ in today's Gospel: "Peace be with you." In that locked room, filled with fear and uncertainty, Jesus comes not with rebuke but with peace, breathing the Holy Spirit into the disciples and sending them out in mission.

This gentle, meditative hymn invites us into that same moment. Its simple refrain mirrors the passing of the peace in worship, reminding us that Christ's peace is not just spoken to us, but shared through us. As Thomas moves from doubt to faith we, too, are drawn into a deeper trust in the risen Christ, whose peace meets us even in our uncertainty.

Singing this hymn, we become both recipients and bearers of that peace, sent into the world just as the disciples were: forgiven, restored, and commissioned in Christ's name.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(ELW 646)

The Peace of the Lord *La paz del Señor*



1 La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

2 *La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
 la paz del Resucitado:
 se hace presente ahora y aquí
 apréstate a recibirla;
 se hace presente ahora y aquí
 apréstate a recibirla.*

3 *La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
 la paz del Resucitado:
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
 apréstate a compartirla;
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
 apréstate a compartirla.*

APOSTLES' CREED

Assisting Minister: With the whole church let us profess our faith,
Assembly: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the
 dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Assisting Minister: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to
 heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for
 the needs of all creation.

*We pray for the greater
 church.*

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call
 into existence things that do not exist. Breathe
 your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed
 day by day. Merciful God,

Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for creation.

Assisting Minister: Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new
 every morning. Open us to the wonders of
 creation, from the beauty of flowers to the
 complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,

Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for justice.

Assisting Minister: God of peace, in every place where conflict rages,
 sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation.
 Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to
 work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,

Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for those in need.

Assisting Minister: Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way, including those we name before you now (*the assembly offers names*). Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation.

Assisting Minister: God of promise and new beginnings, we give you thanks for this day of discernment and hope. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this congregation, filling us with joy, unity, and trust in your guidance. Strengthen us in your love and lead us forward together into the future you are unfolding. Merciful God,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We remember the saints.

Assisting Minister: Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Assembly: Amen.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Assembly: And also with you.

Please sit.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

We Have Seen the Risen Lord
 Sanctuary Choir

by Stan Pethel

Please stand as you are able.

The sharing of The Peace is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

Assembly: **Amen.**



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

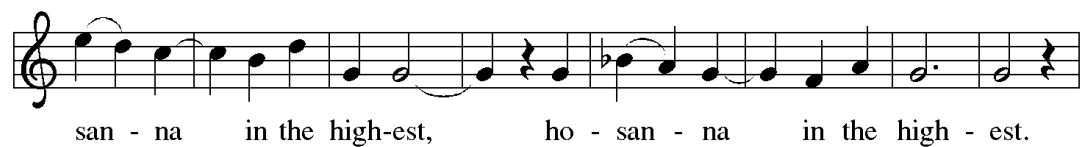
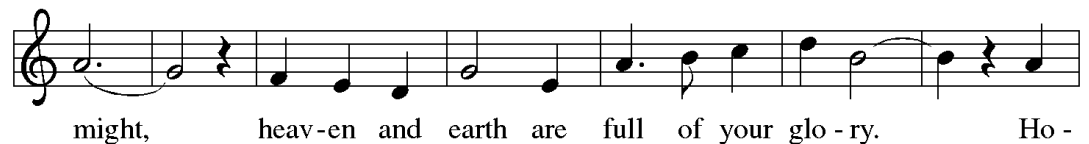
Assembly: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Pastor: It is our duty and delight... and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

(Setting 9)



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Assembly: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to

live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Please sit.

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ's table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God's banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. Communion will be by station. The pastor will be in the center with the bread. All the bread we use here is gluten free. On either side will be someone with a tray of red wine and white grape juice. Empty cups can be placed in the basket on either side of the aisle. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms on your chest.*

AGNUS DEI

(Setting 9)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

I've got peace like a river ~ with ~ Amazing Grace

*I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul.*

*I've got love like the ocean
I've got love like the ocean
I've got love like the ocean in my soul.
I've got love like the ocean
I've got love like the ocean
I've got love like the ocean in my soul.*

*I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.*

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.*

*Choose whichever
melody you'd like to
sing!*

*The Lord has promised
good to me;
his word my hope
secures
he will my shield
and portion be
as long as life
endures.*

*I've got peace, love, and joy like a river
I've got peace, love, and joy like a river
I've got peace, love, and joy like a river
in my soul.*

*I've got peace, love, and joy like a river
I've got peace, love, and joy like a river
I've got peace, love, and joy like a river
in my soul.*

*When we've been there
ten thousand years,
bright shining as
the sun,
we've no less days
to sing God's praise
than when we'd first
begun.*

*I've got peace, love, and joy like an ocean
I've got peace, love, and joy like an ocean
I've got peace, love, and joy like an ocean
in my soul.*

*I've got peace, love, and joy like an ocean
I've got peace, love, and joy like an ocean
I've got peace, love, and joy like an ocean
in my soul.*

*I've got peace, love, and joy like a fountain
I've got peace, love, and joy like a fountain
I've got peace, love, and joy like a fountain in my soul.
I've got peace, love, and joy like a fountain
I've got peace, love, and joy like a fountain
I've got peace, love, and joy like a fountain in my soul.*

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

Assembly: **Amen.**



WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE



With roots in the early Christian church, this joyful Easter hymn was written by John of Damascus and later translated by John Mason Neale. Its exuberant text proclaims the resurrection not as a quiet or hidden event, but as a truth meant to be shared: “Earth, tell it out abroad!”

Having gathered in the honest, searching faith of “We Walk by Faith,” we are now sent out in confidence and joy. The same disciples who once hid

SENDING HYMN

(ELW 361)

The Day of Resurrection!

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!

*behind locked doors
are sent into the world
as witnesses, and we
are sent with them,
bearing the living hope
proclaimed in 1 Peter.
This hymn gives voice
to that transformation:
from doubt to belief,
from fear to
proclamation, from
quiet trust to alleluias
that cannot be
contained.*

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

BENEDICTION

Pastor: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the
Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now
and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Assembly: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing!

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

*As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more
inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain
from applauding during worship and after the postlude.*

THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church

Sunday, April 19, 2026

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

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FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

[Anselm, Anselm of Canterbury, ed. Jasper Hopkins and Herbert Richardson (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen, 1974), 93.]

O Lord, I acknowledge and give thanks that you created in me your image so that I may remember, contemplate, and love you. But this image has been so effaced by the abrasion of transgressions, so hidden from sight by the dark billows of sin, that unless you renew and refashion it, it cannot do what it was created to do. Lord, I do not attempt to comprehend your sublimity, because my intellect is not at all equal to such a task. But I yearn to understand some measure of your truth, which my heart believes and loves. For I do not seek to understand in order to believe, but I believe in order to understand. For I believe even this: that I shall not understand unless I believe.

—*Anselm*

One depiction of Thomas and the Risen Christ was painted in 1308 by Duccio di Buoninsegna for an altarpiece in Siena, Italy. As is traditional, Christ is wearing royal red, and his arm is raised in blessing.



There is a hearing-assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

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