



PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Thursday, April 2, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastor and members of Peace! Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection, Jesus saves all sinners. We learn these truths from the Bible — God's complete plan for our salvation and his guidebook for our lives. Peace greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

SERVICE THEME – Look Up to Get a Glimpse of Heaven

We need to be washed clean in the blood of Jesus. Our own need can distract and overwhelm us with the details of our sin and our guilt. Blood always gets our attention, but it can make us feel queasy and uneasy. Jesus wants to lift our eyes above all that to his marvelous promise of forgiveness. Where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. The Lord's Supper gives us a glimpse of the heavenly feast where we will eat of the eternal manna and drink from the river of God's delights forever.

Preparation for The Lord's Supper

God wants his people to prepare for the Sacrament of Holy Communion because it's a powerful meal. For help with personal preparation, see page 156 in the red hymnal.

Service Participants

Computer Organist: Zack Sickmann

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR HOLY THURSDAY

This order of service highlights the impactful nature of Holy Week and puts special focus on the Lord's Supper through message, lesson, prayer, and songs. Believers receive Christ in the sacrament and respond with thanks and praise.



Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, all who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing



tempt - er's pow'r; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - raigned. Oh, the worm - wood and the gall,
at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,



watch with him one bit - ter hour. Turn not from his
oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"



griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
pain, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

The name of
the triune God
and the sign
of the cross
remind
worshippers of
their
baptisms.

Invocation

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

Worship Preparation

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

Confession

Please stand

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Hymn

I lay My Sins on Jesus sts. 1-3



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, the spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus, all full - ness dwells in him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, this wea - ry soul of mine;



he bears them all and frees us from the ac - curs - ed load.
he heals all my dis - eas - es, my soul he does re - deem.
his right hand me em - brac - es, I in his arms re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus to wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, my bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



white in his blood most pre - cious till not a spot re - mains.
he from them all re - leas - es, he all my sor - rows shares.
like fra - grance on the breez - es his name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt. Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

Silence for meditation

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

Cleanse me from my sins.

Release me from my guilt.

Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

Absolution

The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

After his resurrection, Jesus promised that when Christians forgive each other's sins, their words are as valid and certain as his (John 20:22-23).

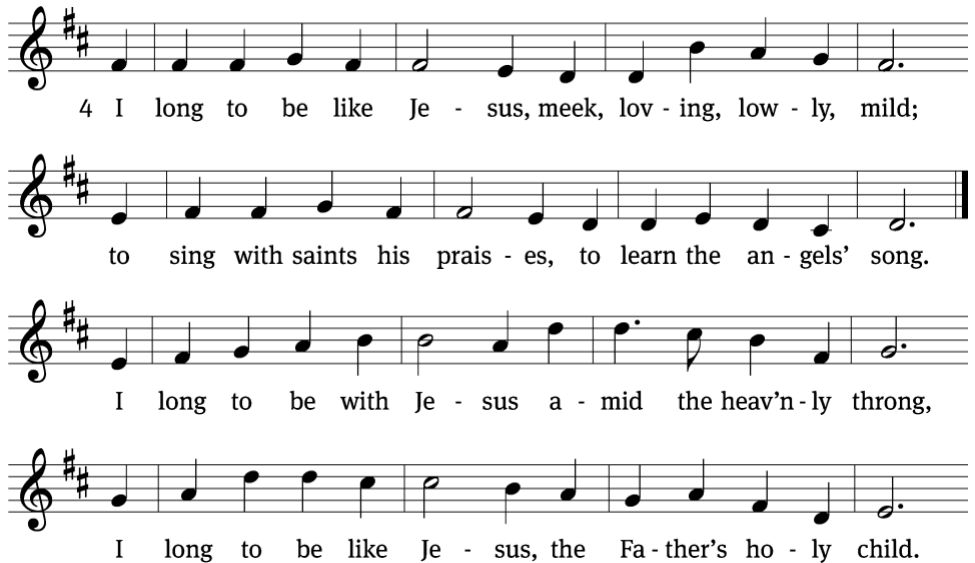
Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I say to you what God says: all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another, and extend to each other the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn

I lay My Sins on Jesus st. 4



4 I long to be like Je - sus, meek, lov - ing, low - ly, mild;
to sing with saints his prais - es, to learn the an - gels' song.
I long to be with Je - sus a - mid the heav'n - ly throng,
I long to be like Je - sus, the Fa - ther's ho - ly child.

Prayer of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on a cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gospel

John 13:1–15,34

¹It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

⁹"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

¹⁰Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

*Jesus opens
the eyes of his
disciples to a
life of service.*



¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. ¹³“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

³⁴“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

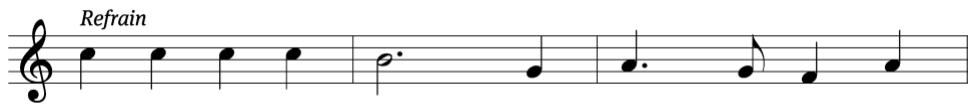
The Lamb sts. 1, Ref, 2



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, one per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
 The Lamb, the Lamb, let earth join heav'n his praise to sing.



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on his throne.

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953

Tune: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953

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Sermon Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23–28

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

²⁷So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

St. Paul maintains that every time we celebrate the sacrament, our eyes are lifted to the death of Jesus on the cross.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn

The Lamb sts. Ref, 3–5

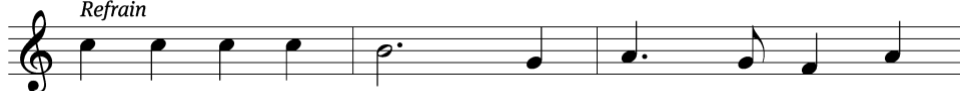


3 The Lamb, the Lamb, as way-ward sheep their shep-herd kill
4 He sighs, he dies, he takes my sin and wretch-ed-ness.
5 He rose, he rose, my heart with thanks now o-ver-flows.



so still, his will, on our be-half the law to fill.
He lives, for-gives, he gives me his own right-eous-ness.
His song pro-long till ev-'ry heart to him be-long.

Refrain



Wor-thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his



own! The Lamb is reign-ing on his throne.

Please stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord God, heavenly Father, author of the everlasting covenant and giver of the cup of salvation,

We gather in your courts to offer you our sacrifice of thanksgiving.

For fulfilling your promise to establish a new covenant through the blood of your Son, Jesus Christ,

We give you humble thanks and praise.

As our Lord Jesus Christ gave thanks to you when he broke the bread, as he gave thanks to you when he took the cup,

We give you humble thanks and praise.

Precious Savior, both Priest and offering, awe and wonder fill our hearts as we partake of your body, broken for us, and your blood, shed for us.

We praise you, bless you, and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In our poverty of righteousness, we have nothing to offer. Without your tremendous sacrifice, we would still be in our sins,

But through your sacrament of the New Testament, we are assured that our iniquities are forgiven and our sins are no longer remembered.

O Holy Spirit, dwell within us as we remember our Lord's death in this sacrament. Enter our hearts to strengthen our faith and fill us with gratitude for your great mercy.

Move us to encourage one another to love and to do good works.

As our Lord served his disciples by washing their feet, so may we also humbly serve one another.

Help us live our lives as sacrifices of thanksgiving to him who first loved us. 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.



The Sacrament

Please stand

We believe what God's Word says. God's Word clearly teaches that along with the bread and wine we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:26,28; Mk. 14:22,24; Lk. 22:19-22). God's Word also tells us that those who take Communion together are to:

1. Recognize that Christ's true body and blood are miraculously present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 10:16; 11:29),

2. Examine their hearts (1 Cor. 11:28), and

3. Be united in faith with the congregation with which they commune (1 Cor. 10:17).

Therefore we ask that those who have not had the opportunity to understand our Scriptural confession would speak with the pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. If you would like to come forward to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms as the pastor approaches. It is our sincere desire to share in the blessings of the Lord's Supper with you according to the pattern Jesus himself has given in his Word.

The pastor and congregation will sing responsively. Sing to the tune of O Sacred Head,
Now Wounded



Leader: "Come un - to me, you wea - ry, and I will give you rest."



People: O Bless - ed Je - sus, hear me, and heal my heart o - ppressed!



Leader: We hum - bly come be - fore you, re - ly - ing on your grace.



People: Oh, help us love and serve you. In heav'n grant us a place.

Words of Institution

The pastor speaks the words of institution as found in 1 Corinthians 11.

After the pastor speaks the words of institution, the congregation will join to sing the stanza below.



What lang - uage shall I bor - row To thank you, dear - est Friend,



For this, your dy - ing sor - row, Your pit - y with - out end?



Oh, make me yours for - ev - er, And keep me strong and true;



Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er Out - live my love for you.

Distribution

Please be seated after the song. Communicants will come forward at the usher's direction.

Response to the Sacrament

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.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The final hymn is printed on the next page.

Stripping of the Altar

The altar is solemnly stripped during the final hymn to recognize the Lord's abandonment by his disciples and in preparation for Good Friday.

There is no blessing at the end of the service.

The lights will be dimmed at the conclusion of the hymn.

Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm



this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse
down be-neath God's right-eous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown
Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme,
free, I'll sing his love for me, and through e-ter-ni-ty



for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul.
I will sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

You may remain for prayer and meditation before departing quietly.

- **Good Friday** – April 3 – 6:00 pm
- **Easter Sunday** – April 5
 - Easter breakfast - 9:00 am
 - Easter Service – 10:15 am
 - Easter Egg Hunt – 11:30 am



PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Peacehoughton.org

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ, to gather college students and the local community into a family of believers, and to share the message of hope and the promise of salvation through grace.