



What Makes Christians *Different*

Christians Trust God to Provide

PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, August 16, 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!

About Our Service

The gospel (or good news) is not just information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts, transform our lives, and give us lasting peace. Therefore, Lutheran Worship places the gospel in central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In the message and meal (Holy Communion), in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out on the following pages. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red or blue hymnals located on the chair in front of you.

Current Worship Series: What Makes Christians Different?

The Bible says Christians are different. Christians are people who believe in Jesus as their Savior. But they often look the same as those who do not believe in Jesus. How are Christians different? The answer is often something internal, attitudes or perspectives that come only from the work of the Holy Spirit in Word and sacrament. Ultimately, Christians are people who run to Christ for forgiveness because they have failed to live perfect lives. As we receive the mercy of Christ, it moves us to strive with all our being to do all the things that Jesus says Christians do, things that make Christians different.

July 19 – Christians Find Rest in Jesus

July 26 - Christians Live as Wheat Among Weeds

August 9 - Christians Are Planted by the Word

August 16 - Christians Trust God to Provide

Today's Focus: *Christians Trust God to Provide*

The hardest times to trust God are the times we need him most. It's easier to trust God when your job is going great, your health is fine, your relationships are fine, and your family is good. It's easier to trust God when the sun is shining, but what happens when your life is suddenly overshadowed by dark days?

When tragedy strikes, we may wonder if God continues to care for us. At those times, Christians do not despair like those who have no hope. Instead, Christians focus on certain foundational facts. We are chosen and adopted as God's dear children. God provides us innumerable spiritual blessings and promises us an eternity of peace and joy. If we recognize those spiritual blessings, how can we doubt that God will give us everything we truly need at the right time? Christians trust God to provide.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Mary Ann Krug

Pastor of Peace: Tommy Welch



THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to
2 Hith - er - to thy love has blessed me, thou hast drawn me
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -

sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
to this place; and I know thy hand will lead me
strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,

call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
safe - ly home by thy good grace. Je - sus sought me when a
bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee: prone to wan - der, Lord, I

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise his
stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God; he, to
feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my

name, I'm fixed up - on it, name of God's re - deem - ing love.
res - cue me from dan - ger, bought me with his pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813, ed. John Wyeth

Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

**We have done those things that we should not have done,
and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

Have mercy on us, Lord!

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

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 say to you what God says. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

You are at peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

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

Psalm 32:1-2

The use of the keys of absolution is that special right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to proclaim the forgiveness of sins through Jesus. See John 20:21-23.

Glory to God

Gloria

Tune: ELLACOMBE

Jesus said that
the angels in
heaven rejoice
over one sinner
who repents. In
response to the
repentance
expressed
through
confession and
absolution, the
church sings as
the angels sang
on Christmas
night: "glory be
to God on
high."



1 To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth,
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, you take all sin a - way;
for God has shown his fa - vor in Je - sus' ho - ly birth!
ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.
Al - might - y God and Fa - ther, our hum - ble thanks we bring;
With God the Ho - ly Spir - it at God the Fa - ther's throne
we wor - ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784

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Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The Word

First Reading

1 Kings 17:1–6

¹Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

²Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ³“Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”

⁵So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. ⁶The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

In dark times with a wicked king, the Lord provided food for his faithful prophet.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children’s Lesson

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3–10

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

God provided for our eternal needs by choosing us to be his beloved children.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Romans 8:32

For centuries
in preparation
for hearing
the Gospel,
Christians
have sung or
spoken
“Alleluia!” and
a Scripture
verse
reinforcing
the theme of
the day.

After an introduction, the congregation will join to sing the verse.



Alleluia. He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—
how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Alleluia.



Gospel

Matthew 14:13–21

Jesus
graciously
provides for
the needs of a
great
multitude.

¹³When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹⁵As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

¹⁶Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

¹⁷“We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

¹⁸“Bring them here to me,” he said. ¹⁹And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. ²⁰They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ²¹The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Hymn of the Day

Across the Lands



1 You're the Word of God the Fa - ther from be - fore the
2 Yet you left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and
3 With a shout you rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry



world be - gan. Ev - 'ry star and ev - 'ry plan - et has been
save the lost, and ex - changed the joy of heav - en for the
from the grave, and as - cend - ed in - to heav - en, lead - ing



fash - ioned by your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -
an - guish of a cross. With a prayer you fed the
cap - tives in your way. Now you stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of your voice. Let the skies de -
hun - gry, with a word you calmed the sea, yet how si - lent -
Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for your own; from each tribe and



clare your glo - ry, let the land and seas re - jice!
ly you suf - fered that the guilt - y may go free!
tongue and na - tion you are lead - ing sin - ners home!

Refrain



You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, you're the Lord of ev - 'ry



man, and your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands.

Please stand

Nicene Creed

Credo

Public
confession is
faith's
response to
God's saving
Word.
Christians
composed the
Nicene Creed
in the fourth
century to
defend the
Bible's
teachings that
both Jesus
Christ and the
Holy Spirit are
true God,
equal to the
Father in one
eternal,
undivided
Trinity.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated

Offering

The members of Peace have joined together in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) to do the Lord's work of sharing the message of Jesus. Visitors need not feel obligated. You are our guests!

Members and visitors, kindly fill out one of our Connection Cards. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

Reception of New Member

Friend in Christ,

After a review and instruction in the simple teachings of the Bible and our Lutheran church, you have requested to become a member of this congregation. You have come to worship today to confess your unity with us and to take your place as a part of this faith community. I now ask you:

Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If so, answer: I do.
I do.

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and this congregation, as you have come to know them, are faithful to the Word of God? If so, answer: I do.
I do.

Do you desire to remain faithful to the teachings of Christ, be diligent in the use of God's Word and sacraments, and lead a godly life as the Lord gives you strength? If so, answer: I do, and I ask God to help me.
I do, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your desire to join us in worship and mission and support this work with your prayers and gifts? If so, answer: It is, and I ask God to help me.
It is, and I ask God to help me.

With sincere joy we welcome you as a member of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church.



Brothers and sisters,

As we welcome this new member to our Christian family, I encourage you, in the name of Jesus, to keep her in your minds, hold her in your hearts, and pray for her again and again. Show her the face of friendship and offer her a hand of support. Encourage her with your “works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

The peace of Christ be with us all. Amen.

Gracious Father, we thank you for leading Alex Navarro to desire to become a member of our congregation and for giving her joy to confess her faith to us. Guide us with your wisdom as we worship and work together. Mold our minds and hearts in a single Christlike will so that we may be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

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.

Introduction to the Lord's Supper

Everyone ought to examine their hearts before partaking of the Lord's Supper.

1 Cor. 11:28

I confessed my transgressions to the Lord and he forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

Everyone ought to recognize the true body and blood of the Lord in this Supper.

The bread that we break and the cup that we bless are a participation in the body and blood of Christ.

1 Cor. 11:29

Those partaking of the Lord's Supper are to be united in fellowship as one body.

1 Cor. 10:16

Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

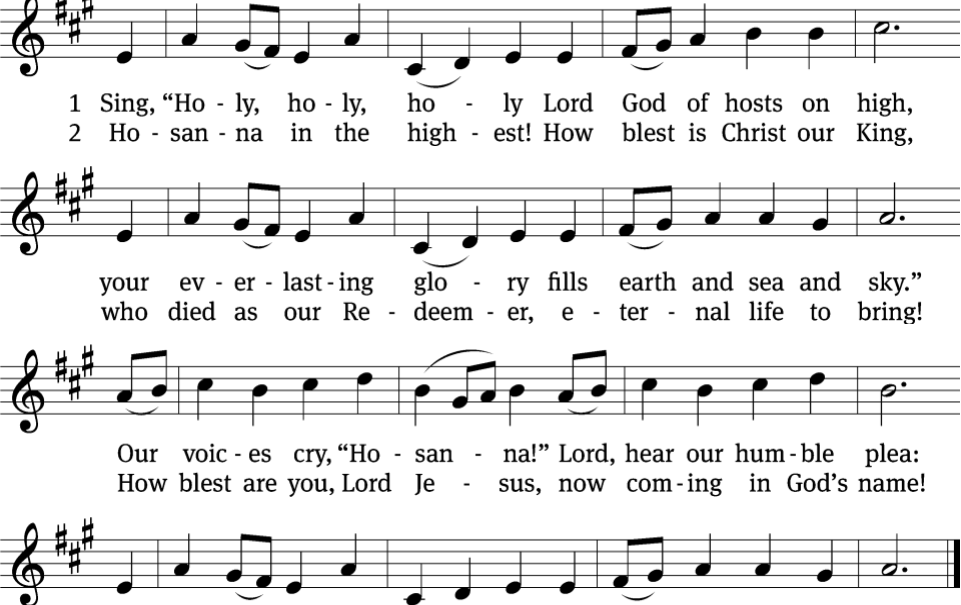
1 Cor. 10:17

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Tune: ELLACOMBE

Sanctus means
“holy.” This
canticle
echoes the
song that the
seraphim (six-
winged
angels) sang
before Isaiah.
The angels
sang the triple
“holy,” giving
glory to our
Triune God.
The Sanctus
has been used
in celebration
of the Lord’s
Supper since
the second
century.



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.

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.**

Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

Tune: SUANTRAI

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 took our
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will nev - er

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

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Gaelic, 19th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

John the Baptist declared Jesus to be God's Lamb, who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

Distribution

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

Closing Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalms 118:1

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

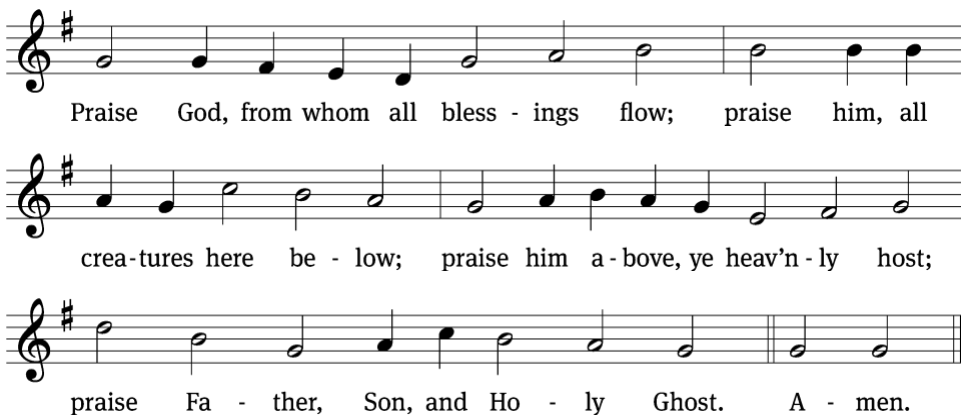
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

Numbers 6:22-27

Hymn

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The third staff contains the melody for the third line, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Announcements

Foundations of Faith Class

Foundations is for everyone: people interested in becoming members, those looking to build their faith, or the curious observer who wants to study the Bible without feeling obligated to join a church. This study is Bible-based and discussion-centered. Classes can be arranged to fit personal schedules.



To get plugged in or to request more information, contact Pastor Welch (pastor@peacehoughton.org) or scan the QR code. Childcare is available upon request.

Online Offering Option

If you would like to give an online offering today, please scan the QR code. All online donations are safe and go directly to Peace.



Volunteer Schedule

Date	Usher	Counter	Computer	Snacks
August 16	Steve	Scott	Mary Ann	Amy Spahn
August 23	Steve	Steve	Mary Ann	Heather
August 30	Cody	Cody	Mary Ann	Sarah
September 6	Steve	Scott	Mary Ann	Mary Ann

Volunteers Needed

The church needs help with weekly cleaning and mowing. If you are interested in signing up to help or learning more about the required duties, please see the blue table in the entryway.

Wednesday Meals

The students will be returning soon and it's time to get ready! One of the staples of our campus ministry is the Wednesday dinners and Bible studies. These dinners are sometimes prepared by members and other times by students. Please consider providing a meal this semester. You can prepare it in advance and leave it for the students to serve on their own, or you can stay and serve the meal if you would like. Either is just fine. If you decide to help out, please reach out to our administrative assistant, Judy Limpert.

Congregational Meeting Recap

Last week after worship, we made a crucial decision in the life of our church. We voted to hire Excel Engineering to provide us with 1) a program which will define the needs of our building project, 2) a master plan, 3) a site plan, floor plans, and exterior work, 4) renderings, and an initial budget. Please pray for our church as we jump into this exciting phase of the project and ask for his blessing!



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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.