



exactly
what i need

PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, March 22, 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.

Series Explanation: Exactly What I Need

I didn't know I needed that" is a common expression of surprise and realization. It suggests that something, whether it's a piece of information, a lesson learned, or a newfound understanding, has come to light and is now recognized as being essential or valuable, even if it wasn't previously apparent.

Lent is the season of the Church Year when I recognize my greatest needs. During Lent, I realize that in Christ all my greatest needs are met. God knows what I need even when I don't have any idea. The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.

Lent Worship Series Schedule: Exactly What I Need

Ash Wednesday (February 18): Forgiveness

February 22: A Champion

March 1: Faith

March 8: Water

March 15: Sight

March 22: Life



Today's Focus: Life

I recognize the danger of death. I am tempted to wonder whether my life was worth it if I do not leave a legacy or live on in the memories of my loved ones after I die. When my soul separates from my body, will I also be eternally separated from God in hell? Jesus promises much better. He promises life. One day I will be reunited with my believing loved ones, both soul and body. I will live with Jesus forever in eternity. Jesus raised people from the dead to prove his power over death. That's exactly the power I need.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Nate Crowder

Ensemble: Sack Sickman, Ella Erdmann, Emma Bohme, Nathaniel Groth, Liesel Fiebke

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch



THE SERVICE

Hymn

My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone



1 My soul finds rest in God a-lone, my rock and my sal -
2 Find rest, my soul, in God a-lone a - mid the world's temp -
3 I'll set my gaze on God a-lone and trust in him com -



va - tion; a for - tress strong a - gainst my foes, and
ta - tions; when e - vil seeks to take a hold I'll
plete - ly; with ev - 'ry day pour out my soul and



I will not be shak - en. Though lips may bless and
cling to my sal - va - tion. Though rich - es come and
he will prove his mer - cy. Though life is but a



hearts may curse, and lies like ar - rows pierce me, I'll
rich - es go, don't set your heart up - on them; the
fleet - ing breath, a sigh too brief to mea - sure, my



fix my heart on right-eous-ness, I'll look to him who hears me.
fields of hope in which I sow are har-vest-ed in heav - en.
King has crushed the curse of death and I am his for - ev - er.

Refrain



O praise him, hal-le - lu - jah, my de - light and my re - ward;



ev - er - last - ing, nev - er fail - ing, my Re - deem - er, my God.

Please stand.

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

When God's children rebel against him and wander from his ways, he desires that they return to him for pardon and peace through his Son. The courts of heaven resound with joy when a single wayward child returns home.

There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

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

Luke 15:10

Children of God, the time to turn to our Father for forgiveness is now. God made Christ our sin that we might become his righteousness. He implores us to be reconciled to him, promising:

**In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.**

2 Corinthians
5:21-6:2

Response

Today Your Mercy Calls Us st. 1



To - day our Fa - ther calls us, his Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
his bless - ed an - gels gath - er a - round the heav'n - ly gates.
No ques - tion will be asked us how of - ten we have come;
al - though we oft have wan - dered, it is our Fa - ther's home.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
Merciful Father in heaven,
I am altogether sinful from birth.
In countless ways I have sinned against you
and do not deserve to be called your child.
But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray:
Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love.
Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Silence for reflection

Our Father assures all who approach his throne of grace that none will be turned away. He swore through his prophets of long ago:

"I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more.

Jeremiah 31:34

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.

God's promise of forgiveness was fulfilled through the life, death, and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ. As our great high priest, he was tempted as we are, yet was without sin. In his death on the cross, he redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. Since there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 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. **Amen.**

To - day your gate is o - pen, and all who en - ter in
 shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come and par - don for their sin.
 The past shall be for - got - ten, a pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 a fu - ture grace be prom - ised, a glo - rious crown in heav'n.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For minds set on heavenly things, for hearts that long for heavenly glory, and for the will to bear our earthly crosses, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For the gifts of humility and repentance, for faith that finds security in Christ and does not use God's patience as an excuse for sin, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For hearts set free from the condemnation of the law, for minds governed by the Spirit and not the flesh, and for lives devoted to what pleases God, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For perspective to see that gain is loss apart from Christ and loss is gain in Christ and for perseverance to press on to take hold of our heavenly prize, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

O all-em-bracing Mer-cy, O ev-er-o-pen Door,
what should we do with-out you when heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem a- gainst us, to drive us to de- spair,
we know one gate is o- pen, one ear will hear our prayer.

Having received the gift of the Lord's forgiveness, we now make our requests on the basis of his mercy.

Throughout the service, titles like "Kyrie refer to the Latin names for the ancient text of the church's liturgy.



The Word

Prayer

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through 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

First Reading

2 Kings 4:17–37

God enables the prophet Elisha to prove to a grieving mother that God can and will raise people from the dead.

¹⁷But the woman became pregnant, and the next year about that same time she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her.

¹⁸The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹He said to his father, “My head! My head!”

His father told a servant, “Carry him to his mother.” ²⁰After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. ²¹She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.

²²She called her husband and said, “Please send me one of the servants and a donkey so I can go to the man of God quickly and return.”

²³“Why go to him today?” he asked. “It’s not the New Moon or the Sabbath.”

“That’s all right,” she said.

²⁴She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, “Lead on; don’t slow down for me unless I tell you.” ²⁵So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, “Look! There’s the Shunammite! ²⁶Run to meet her and ask her, ‘Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?’ ”

“Everything is all right,” she said.

²⁷When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said,

“Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why.”

²⁸“Did I ask you for a son, my lord?” she said. “Didn’t I tell you, ‘Don’t raise my hopes’?”

²⁹Elisha said to Gehazi, “Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don’t greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy’s face.”

³⁰But the child’s mother said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So he got up and followed her.

³¹Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy’s face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, “The boy has not awakened.”

³²When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch. ³³He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD. ³⁴Then he got on the bed and lay on the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the boy’s body grew warm. ³⁵Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out on him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

³⁶Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, “Call the Shunammite.” And he did. When she came, he said, “Take your son.” ³⁷She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Lesson

Second Reading

Romans 8:11–19

¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you

The Father promises to raise me from the dead and make me an heir of everlasting glory.

will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Normally, we prepare to hear the words and works of Jesus by standing and singing “Alleluia” – praise the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 11:25



Refrain



Glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, Son of the liv - ing God.

During Lent, “alleluias” are omitted.

I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die.

Refrain

Gospel

John 11:17–27,38–45

A corpse responds to the empowering command of Christ, proving that Jesus is the Lord of life.

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹“Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

⁴⁰Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the day

Christ Be My Leader

1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day;
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;

safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way. —
drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth. —
death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor

Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care, —
Grant me to trust him; though shift - ing as sand, —
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain can

dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Irish

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Sermon

John 11:17–27,38–45

Apostles' Creed

Credo

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. 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.

Prayer of the Church

Please stand. The pastor will speak the prayer of the church and the congregation will join to say the Lord's prayer.



Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Apostle's 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.

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.**

Please be seated.

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

Jerusalem the Golden



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, with milk and hon - ey blest -
2 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, the home of God's e - lect!
3 The Christ is ev - er with them, the day-light is se - rene;



the sight of it re - fresh - es the wea - ry and op - pressed.
O sweet and bless - ed coun - try that ea - ger hearts ex - pect,
the pas - tures of the bless - ed are ev - er rich and green.



I know not, oh, I know not what joys a - wait us there,
where they who with their lead - er have con - quered in the fight
There is the throne of Da - vid, and there, from care re - leased,



what ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, what bliss be - yond com - pare:
for - ev - er and for - ev - er are clad in robes of white:
the shout of them that tri - umph, the song of them that feast.



to sing the hymn un - end - ing with all the mar - tyr throng,
in mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us to that dear land of rest
To God en - throned in glo - ry the Church's voic - es blend,



a - midst the halls of Zi - on re - sound - ing full with song.
where sings the host of heav - en your glo - rious name to bless.
the Lamb for - ev - er bless - ed, the Light that knows no end.

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent., abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Foundations of Faith

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). 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.



Upcoming Events

There is a full schedule of events for both members and students alike. You can find the schedule on the table in the fellowship hall, on the app/website, or by scanning the QR code.

Lent Worship Schedule

- Final Midweek meal and service: Wednesday, March 25
- Holy Thursday: April 2 at 6:00 pm
- Good Friday: April 3 at 6:00 pm
- Easter Breakfast: April 5 at 9:00 am

Sunday Volunteer Schedule

Date	Usher	Counter	Computer	Accompaniment	Snacks	Children's Ministry
March 29	Cesar	Craig	Nate	Student Group	Amy Hughes	Liesel
April 2 (Holy Thursday)	Cody	Steve	Zack	NA	x	x
April 3 (Good Friday)	Steve	Cody	Zack	NA	x	x
April 5	Steve	Scott	Nate	NA	Easter Potluck	x
April 12	Cesar	Craig	Zack	NA	Karin	