



He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church

PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, May 17, 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 Difference Does it Make?

Easter Day: *He lives to take me from death to life*

April 12: *He lives to give me proof and peace*

April 19: *He lives to restore my hope*

April 26: *He lives to be my Good Shepherd*

May 3: *He lives to be the only way to heaven*

May 10: *He lives to call me to live for him*

May 17: He lives to rule all things for the Church

May 24: *He lives to give me eager expectation of glory*

May 31: *He lives to pour out his Spirit*

Series Theme: What Difference Does It Make?

Life is full of either/or moments. Some of them are of little long-term consequence. I will have either the chicken or the fish. Some of them matter more. I will accept the new job offer or keep my current job. One either/or moment is life-changing for every human being. Either Jesus is still dead, or Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus claimed he would rise from the dead. “The Son of Man must suffer many things. . . be killed and after three days rise again” (Mark 8:31). So if Jesus remains dead, he is both a failure and a fraud. If Christ has not been raised, we are still in our sin.

But Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! It makes all the difference! He lives! The season of Easter is a 50-day celebration of that fact.

Today’s Focus: *He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church*

Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would have to wonder who oversees the world. At times the world seems so chaotic. People claim to be in charge but they have limited power and strange ideas. Many of the ideas are harmful for Christians. Leaders seem to lead without acknowledging Jesus.

But he lives, and it makes a difference. Jesus is head over everything for the Church. At the time of Ascension, he takes his proper place. The Festival of the Ascension is one of the oldest and most joyful celebrations in the Christian Church. It will be observed by Christians until Christ returns to take us to be with him.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Mary Ann Krug

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch



THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn

Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5



1 How can it be, the One who died has borne our
2 For joy a - wakes as dawn - ing light when Christ's dis -
3 Where doubt and dark - ness once had been, they saw him



sin through sac - ri - fice, to con - quer ev - 'ry
ci - ples lift their eyes. A - live he stands, their
and their hearts be - lieved. But blest are those who



sting of death? Sing, sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 2
friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is ris - en!
have not seen, yet sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 4



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing "Hal - le -



lu - jah!" Join the cho - rus, sing with the re - deemed:



"Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed." v. 3/v. 5

4 **Once bound by fear, now bold in faith,
they preached the truth and pow'r of grace
and pouring out their lives they gained
life, life everlasting. (Refrain)**

5 **The pow'r that raised him from the grave
now works in us to pow'rfully save.
He frees our hearts to live his grace;
go, tell of his goodness. (Refrain)**

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b. 1971

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b. 1971

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Please stand

Invocation

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

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

Confession

We are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.
**Christ died for all, that those who live should no longer live for
themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.**

Let us confess that often we have lived for ourselves, confident in the
forgiveness of him who lived, died, and rose for us.

*2 Corinthians
5:14,15*

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless
worrying and selfish pride,
for sins of habit and sins of choice,
for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should
cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Absolution

1 Corinthians
15:17-20

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.
But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

After his resurrection, Christ commanded his church to proclaim his forgiveness, promising that their words were as certain as his. Therefore, by Christ's command and with his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

1 Corinthians
15:54,55

Death has been swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?
Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

After a brief introduction, the congregation sings:

**6 The life he lived is mine to claim
No sins, no death, I rise through faith
The guilt is gone, the shame removed
Now, I live in freedom.**

Refrain:

**Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!
Oh, sing "hallelujah!"
Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed:
"Christ is risen, he is risen indeed."**



Prayer

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

Please be seated

The Word

First Reading

Acts 1:1–11

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Jesus ascends to rule over all things as his Church serves as his witnesses.

Children's Lesson

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15–23

Jesus ascended to fill all creation with his presence and power for a very specific purpose.

¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

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 a brief introduction, the congregation joins in singing the refrains.

Refrain

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

Alleluia. Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. *Matthew 28:20*
Alleluia.

Refrain



Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

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

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

⁴⁶He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Before he ascends, Jesus promises to send the disciples power from on high to carry out the mission of the Church.


The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day


171 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un -
 and with his fol - low - ers they see their Lord as -
 "This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
and be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with you forever, we
shall praise your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
all praise to you let earth accord.
Alleluia, alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: The Venerable Bede, 673–735, abr.; tr. composite
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

1 Peter 2:4–10

Nicene Creed

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.

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.



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.

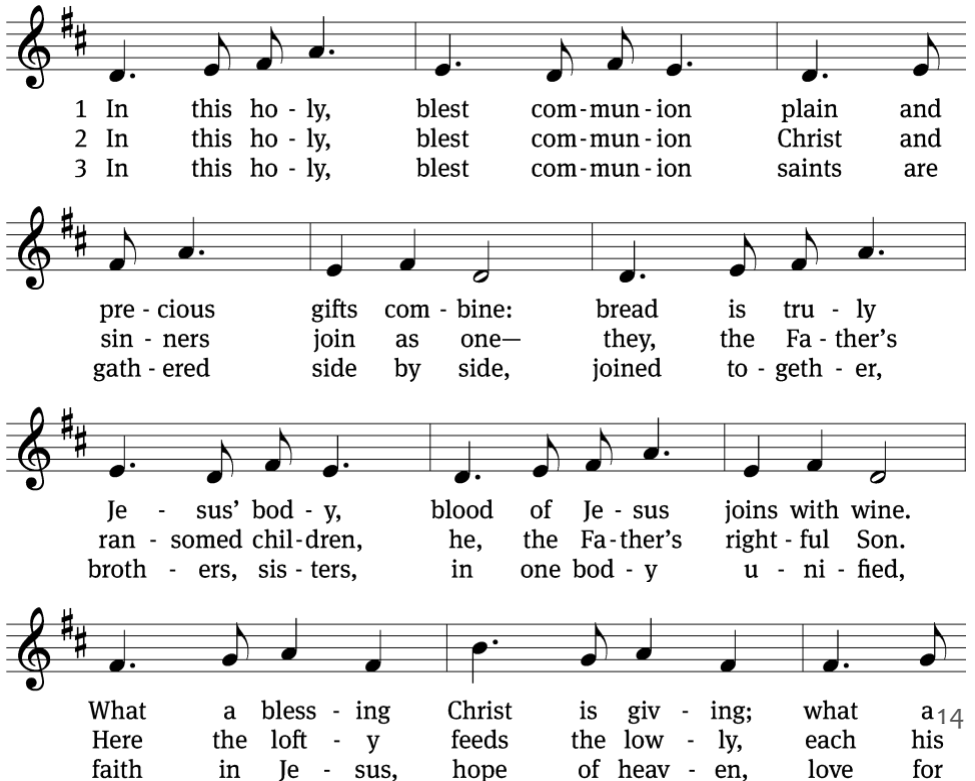


Introduction to the Lord's Supper

- 1 Cor. 11:28 Everyone ought to examine their hearts before partaking of the Lord's Supper.
- Psalms 32:5 **I confessed my transgressions to the Lord and he forgave the guilt of my sin.**
- 1 Cor. 11:29 Everyone ought to recognize the true body and blood of the Lord in this Supper.
- 1 Cor. 10:16 **The bread that we break and the cup that we bless are a participation in the body and blood of Christ.**
- Those partaking of the Lord's Supper are to be united in fellowship as one body.
- 1 Cor. 10:17 **Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.**

Hymn

In This Holy, Blest Communion



1 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion plain and
2 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion Christ and
3 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion saints are

pre - cious gifts com - bine: bread is tru - ly
sin - ners join as one— they, the Fa - ther's
gath - ered side by side, joined to - geth - er,

Je - sus' bod - y, blood of Je - sus joins with wine.
ran - somed chil - dren, he, the Fa - ther's right - ful Son.
broth - ers, sis - ters, in one bod - y u - ni - fied,

What a bless - ing Christ is giv - ing; what a¹⁴
Here the loft - y feeds the low - ly, each his
faith in Je - sus, hope of heav - en, love for



lov - ing, gra - cious host, in his sup - per
high - ly cher - ished guest; here the guilt - y
oth - ers all in - creased by the full - ness



well pro - vid - ing what his peo - ple need the most!
taste for - give - ness, here the wea - ry find their rest.
of the ban - quet, by the rich - ness of the feast.

Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Welsh

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Tune: Public domain

Words of Institution

The pastor speaks the words of institution according to the words of 1 Corinthians 11.

Hymn

141 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing sts. 1-2, 4



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
2 Praise we him whose love di - vine gives his
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast -
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

Distribution

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

Closing Prayer

Psalms 118:1

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

His mercy endures forever.

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

Blessing

Numbers 6:22-27

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.**

Hymn

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.

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
May 17	Steve	Steve	Mary Ann	Gabriela
May 24	Cesar	Cody	Mary Ann	Mary Ann
May 31	Cody	Scott	Mary Ann	Amy Hughes
June 7	Steve	Craig	Mary Ann	Kristie Vlahos

Backpacking Trip

Every summer, a group of students and members go backpacking the week before the fall semester. This summer, we will head to the Porcupine Mountains on August 26-28th. If you are interested in this trip, you can find more information or register by searching for the event in the app/website or by scanning the QR code.





PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

47745 Mill Rd.
Houghton, MI 49931

Office: 906-482-1602

Pastor Welch's Cell: 906-231-6835

Pastor Welch's Email: pastor@peacehoughton.org

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.