

resurrection **REALity**

The Living Lord Produces Active Faith

Peace Lutheran Church
Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, May 5, 2024

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: Easter Reality

Easter Sunday: *Easter is of First Importance*

April 7: *The Living Lord Gives Proof and Peace*

April 14: *We Have a Meaningful Message to Share*

April 21: *The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding*

April 28: *Jesus' Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours*

May 5: *The Living Lord Produces Active Faith*

May 12: *Christ's Ascension Means He Is Closer Than Ever*

May 19: *We Will Overcome This Broken World*

Today's Focus: *The Risen Lord Produces Active Faith*

Generally, our actions are shaped by our beliefs. People who eat low-carb diets do so, probably not because they hate pasta, but because they believe it healthiest. If a man buys stock in a company, it probably is because he believes in their business plan. Our beliefs shape our behavior. This is true of Christians' belief in the resurrection. We believe that Christ's resurrection means our resurrection to a glorious eternal life is guaranteed. That inevitably shapes how we will act now.

However, it is not simply the facts of the resurrection that shape our behavior. It is the person of the resurrection. Jesus is not some wise, dead sage whose advice is contained in dusty books. Jesus lives! Therefore, through his Word, he is able to work on our minds and hearts, molding them to his perfect will. Here is a resurrection reality. Jesus fills us with his Spirit, not only so that we have faith, but also so that we produce the fruits of faith he seeks.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

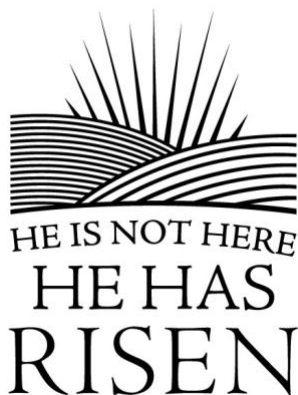
God wants his people to prepare the sacrament of Holy Communion because it is a powerful meal. For a personal examination guide, see page 156 in the red hymnal.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Mary Ann Krug

Vocalist: Judy Limpert

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch





THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR

The Sixth Sunday After Easter

Hymn

Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-4



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
4 Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, they preached the



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
truth and pow'r of grace and pour - ing out their



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
lives they gained life, life ev - er - last ing.



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

Please stand

Invocation

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

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus!
For all of us who were baptized into Christ have clothed ourselves with Christ.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for,
and certain of what we do not see.

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Confession and Absolution

As we come into the presence of God, we confess all our sins, including the many times we have often been unsure about God's promises.
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.

Silence for meditation and reflection

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

Galatians 3:27

Hebrews 11:1

Psalms 118:24

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.

Romans 10:10

It is with your heart that you believe and are justified;
And it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

1 Peter 1:18-21

You know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Acts 10:43

Everyone who believes in Jesus receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

Therefore, it is by Christ's command and with his authority that I say to you what God says to you: In the name of Jesus T your sins are forgiven.

John 20:29

Your Savior also says, "Blessed are those who have not seen me and yet have believed."

John 20:31

"I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; by believing I have life in his name."

Hymn

Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed sts. 5, Ref

5 The pow'r that raised him from the grave now works in
us to pow'r - f'ly save. He frees our hearts to
live his grace; go, tell of his good - ness.

Refrain

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."

(Fine)
v. 3/v. 5

Text: Ed Cash, b. 1971; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974
 Tune: Ed Cash, b. 1971; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974
 Text and tune: © 2012 Getty Music and Alletrop Music, admin. MusicServices.org and Capitol CMG Publishing. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734944

Prayer

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; 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





The Word

First Reading

Acts 4:32-37

³²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

³⁶Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 John 4:1-6

⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

In the early church, as the apostles preached the resurrection of Christ, the living Lord produced the fruits of unity and generosity.

St. John encourages us to demonstrate living faith in loving words and actions.

Children's Lesson

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

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

Refrain



I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.

John 15:5

Refrain



Gospel

John 15:1-8

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

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

Jesus is the vine who gives us, his branches, the ability to produce fruits of faith.

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

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening



1 Speak, O Sav - ior, I am lis - t'ning, as a ser - vant
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near you and to lis - ten
3 Lord, your words are wa - ters liv - ing where I quench my
4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; let your words in



to his lord. Let me show re - spect and hon - or
to your voice; let me ev - er love and fear you,
thirst - y needs. Lord, your words are bread life - giv - ing;
me take root. May your Spir - it e'er be near me



to your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, that each day, my whole life
let your Word still be my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,
on your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, your words will be my
that I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing your



through, I may serve and fol - low you. Let your Word e'er
Lord, flee in ter - ror at your Word; but to all who
light thro' death's cold and drear - y night; yes, they are my
praise, from my heart glad an - thems raise, till my high - est



be my plea - sure and my heart's most pre - cious trea - sure.
feel sin's bur - den you give peace and words of par - don.
sword pre - vail - ing and my cup of joy un - fail - ing.
praise is giv - en in the end - less joy of heav - en.

Please stand

Apostle's Creed

**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

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.

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 in 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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us glorious assurance and hope that, following their example of faith, we may run with perseverance the race marked out for us, and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name.

These opening words mark the beginning of the Sacrament and are among the oldest words in the liturgy. Christians have been speaking these words to each other for thousands of years.

Words of Institution

The pastor speaks the words of institution according to 1 Corinthians 11. Afterward, the congregation will sing the song below.

Lamb of God

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

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

After the song, please be seated. Communicants will come forward at the usher's direction.

Please stand

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Psalm 136:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Cor. 11:26

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.**

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.

Please be seated

Hymn

O Church, Arise



1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the
2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to
3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give—



call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the
Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.
wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.
neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!
win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -
When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -
As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle
out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for
merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger



cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
which he died— an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.
for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

Announcements

Newsletters

They are in the back. Grab your copy on the way out of the sanctuary.

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.



Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®]. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[™] Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638–1683; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993; (sts. 2–3): tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.

Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667
Text and tune: Public domain

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Text and tune: © 2005 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734944



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

47745 Mill Rd.
Houghton, MI 49931

Office: 906-482-1602

Pastor Welch Cell: 906-231-6835

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.

resurrection
REALity