



*We Know Jesus is Trustworthy and True*

**PEACE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan  
Sunday, May 11, 2025

## **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: Because He Lives!**

Easter Day: Death Has Lost Its Sting

April 27: We Have a Meaningful Mission

May 4: We Can See Things Clearly

May 11: **We Know Jesus is Trustworthy and True**

May 18: We Live Lives of Lavish Love

May 25: We Have Deep and Lasting Joy

June 1: He Reigns Over Everything for the Benefit of His Church

June 8: Christ Creates Unity within Diversity

## **Today's Focus: *We Know Jesus is Trustworthy and True***

The world is full of talkers. There are plenty of people who say they care about you. But we are aware of what many of those people will do when it comes time to put those words into action. Jesus tells you in his Word that he cares for you dearly. . . that he would do anything for you. . . that he's leading you into the green pastures of paradise. How do you know you can trust him? Simple. Jesus followed up his words with action. Jesus promised he would die to save you from your sin. He did. Scripture promised the Savior would rise from the dead, proving that payment for sins was complete. It happened.

Jesus always does what he says. His every promise is fulfilled. Jesus once illustrated that point in a striking metaphor, that of the Good Shepherd. All shepherds use words, calling to the sheep hoping they will follow. What sets the Good Shepherd apart is the fact that his words are followed by action, including his willingness to lay down his life for his sheep. Because he lives, we know Jesus is trustworthy and true.

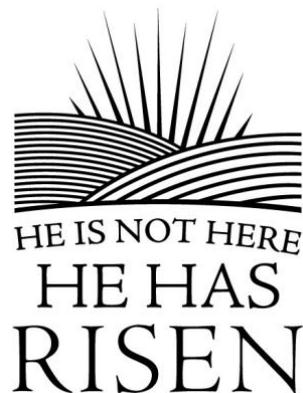
## **Preparation for the Lord's Supper**

God wants his people to prepare the sacrament of Holy Communion because it's a powerful meal. See page 156 in the red hymnal for a personal examination guide.

## **Service Participants:**

Computer Organ: Mary Ann Krug

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch





# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR

## *The Fourth 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.

to Verses | to Refrain

*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

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## Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; 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 13:15, 16a, 26–39

St. Paul points out that Jesus' death and resurrection both fulfilled the Scripture. They prove not only that we are forgiven, but that God's promises are trustworthy and true.

<sup>15</sup>After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have a word of exhortation for the people, please speak."

<sup>16</sup>Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said:

<sup>26</sup>"Fellow children of Abraham and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to us that this message of salvation has been sent. <sup>27</sup>The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize Jesus, yet in condemning him they fulfilled the words of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. <sup>28</sup>Though they found no proper ground for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. <sup>29</sup>When they had carried out all that was written about him, they took him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. <sup>30</sup>But God raised him from the dead, <sup>31</sup>and for many days he was seen by those who had traveled with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his witnesses to our people.

<sup>32</sup>"We tell you the good news: What God promised our ancestors <sup>33</sup>he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:

" 'You are my son;  
today I have become your father.'

<sup>34</sup>God raised him from the dead so that he will never be subject to decay. As God has said,

" 'I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.'

<sup>35</sup>So it is also stated elsewhere:

" 'You will not let your holy one see decay.'

<sup>36</sup>"Now when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed. <sup>37</sup>But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.

<sup>38</sup>"Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. <sup>39</sup>Through him everyone who

believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Lesson

### Second Reading

*Revelation 7:9–17*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne,  
and to the Lamb.”

<sup>11</sup>All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>saying:

“Amen!  
Praise and glory  
and wisdom and thanks and honor  
and power and strength  
be to our God for ever and ever.  
Amen!”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

<sup>14</sup>I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God  
and serve him day and night in his temple;

God's promise to lead all believers from great tribulation to the green pastures of heaven is trustworthy and true. St. John sees that promise fulfilled through the work of the Lamb.

and he who sits on the throne  
 will shelter them with his presence.  
<sup>16</sup>Never again will they hunger;  
 never again will they thirst.  
 The sun will not beat down on them,  
 nor any scorching heat.  
<sup>17</sup>For the Lamb at the center of the throne  
 will be their shepherd;  
 ‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’  
 ‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

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

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

*Refrain*



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

I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. John 20:29

*Refrain*



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

# Gospel

John 10:22-30

<sup>22</sup>Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon’s Colonnade. <sup>24</sup>The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”

<sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father’s name testify about me, <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. <sup>30</sup>I and the Father are one.”

Because our Good Shepherd is trustworthy and true, we eagerly listen to his voice.

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

*Please be seated. The final two stanzas are printed on the next page.*

## Hymn of the Day

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but  
4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill with



good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
Sav - ior gent - ly leads me, and where the ver - dant  
yet in love he sought me and on his shoul - der  
you, dear Lord, be - side me, your rod and staff my



I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feeds me.  
gent - ly laid and home, re - joic - ing, brought me. 11  
com - fort still, your cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 You spread a table in my sight,  
a banquet here bestowing;  
your oil of welcome, my delight;  
my cup is overflowing!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
your goodness fails me never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt.  
Tune: Irish, 18th cent.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*John 10:22-30*

## 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!*

*Kindly fill out one of our Connection Cards. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.*

## Confirmation

My dear young friend, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word he created faith in your heart and adopted you into the family of believers. As you matured and heard and studied the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit enlightened your mind and preserved you as a child of God.

You have expressed the desire to confess the truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with St. Paul, "I believed; therefore I have spoken." You have learned to examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and

you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love. We are bringing our prayers to the Savior's throne of grace and imploring him to keep you faithful to him and his Word until you join us and all believers in the glories of heaven.

I now ask you:

Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshiping with you today?

**I am.**

*The congregation may speak the words of the Apostle's Creed with Ivy.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**Yes, 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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**Yes, 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.**

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

**I do reject him.**

Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?

**I do.**

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God?

**I do.**

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?

**Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?

**Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

Now receive a blessing as I read your confirmation verse:

Genesis 8:22

“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

# Reception of New Members

Friends in Christ,

After a review and instruction in the simple teachings of the Bible and our Lutheran church, you have requested to become Members 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 members of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Brothers and sisters,

As we welcome the Huttema family to our Christian family, I encourage you in the name of Jesus to keep them in your minds, hold them in your hearts, and pray for them again and again. Show them the face of

friendship and offer them a hand of support. Encourage them 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.**

## 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 by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name.

## **Words of Institution**

*The pastor speaks the words of institution according to 1 Corinthians 11. Afterward, the congregation will sing the song on the next page.*

## 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.



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
 2 Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and  
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
 scorned him as he died: the hum - ble King they named a  
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud, and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
 rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

### *Refrain*



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the



ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious



blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Tune: Twila Paris, b. 1958

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## Distribution

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

## 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

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20-21*

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*

# Hymn

Holy Is Your Name sts. 1, Ref, 3-5



1 My \_\_\_\_\_ soul is filled with joy as I  
3 I pro - claim your pow'r, O God! You work  
4 To the hun - gry you give food, send the  
5 In your love you now ful - fill all you



sing to God, my Sav - ior. You have looked up - on your  
won - ders for your ser - vants; you have scat - tered the proud -  
rich a - way with noth - ing. In your mer - cy you are  
prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will praise you, God, my



ser - vant, you have vis - it - ed your peo - ple.  
heart - ed, you have lift - ed up the low - ly.  
mind - ful of the peo - ple you have cho - sen.  
Sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.

## Refrain



And ho - ly is your name through all gen - er -



a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the



peo - ple you have cho - sen, and ho - ly is your name!

Text: anonymous, alt.

Tune: Scottish

Text and tune: Public domain

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# 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.



## Summer Backpacking Trip to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore – August 20-22

Members of Peace, MTU, and NMU students are invited to come to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore for three days and two nights. The cost is only \$20. You can sign up online or at the table at the entryway.

## Congratulations!

After two years of instruction, Ivy Huttema will be confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Take a moment after the service to encourage her and celebrate with some refreshments. Today, we also welcome Ivy's parents, Todd and Rebecca, as members of Peace. Welcome to Peace, Huttema family!



# PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**[Peacehoughton.org](http://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.