

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

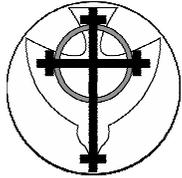
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Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this Easter morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for today we celebrate our Lord's victory over sin, death, and the devil, which is made certain by His glorious resurrection from the tomb. Death could not keep its hold on the Son of God—He lives! And, because He lives, He comes to us here in this place to give us His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace—His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts. Please take the time to fill out the **Record of Fellowship form** that is in the pew. If you are visiting with us this morning, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the nave. The Lord be with us in Divine Service this morning!

Holy Communion Practice

- The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. In preparation for receiving this blessed Sacrament, you may refer to Martin Luther's "Christian Questions with Their Answers" found on pages 329-330 in *LSB*.
- Communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS are asked, out of love and Christian responsibility, to refrain from partaking with us this morning. If you have any questions regarding Holy Communion, you are invited and encouraged to speak with the pastor before or after the Service.
- See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

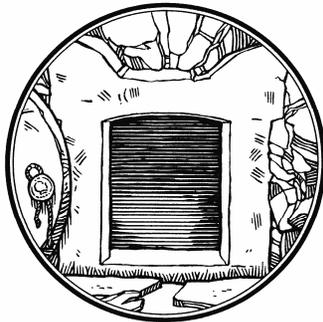
23 March Anno ✠ Domini 2008



"Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned and said to him in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means teacher)." (John 20:15-16)

The Resurrection of Our Lord

23 March Anno † Domini 2008



LSB DIVINE SERVICE 1, PAGE 151

The Service of Preparation

(Even with the celebratory spirit of this day, silence should still be observed upon entering the nave to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayers

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

(At the Ringing of the Bells, the congregation stands and faces the processional cross for the Call to Worship, Easter Proclamation, and Procession. It is customary to continue facing the cross as it is processed in and to bow your head and make the sign of the cross in reverence and admiration to the Lord as it passes your pew. The same applies for the recessional as Service concludes.)

The Call to Worship: 460 “Christians, to the Paschal Victim” (Choir)

The Easter Proclamation:

P With joyful hearts and confident faith this Easter morning, we proclaim: He is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

The Processional Hymn: 457 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

The Confession and Absolution (p. 151)

From Martin Luther’s Sermon for The Resurrection of Our Lord John 20:1-18

In the Gospel of John, Christ tells Mary Magdalene of the benefit and use of His Death and Resurrection still more plainly, when He says: “But go unto my brethren, and say to them, ‘I ascend unto My Father and your Father, and My God and your God’” (John 20:17). This is one of the great and comforting passages upon which we can venture, and of which we dare boast. As if Christ had said: “Go hence, Mary, and say to my disciples who have deserted Me on the field of battle, and who have well merited punishment and eternal condemnation, that My Resurrection has taken place for their benefit; that is, by My Resurrection I have brought it to pass that My Father is their Father, and My God is their God. These are few words and very short; but they contain a great thought, namely, that we have as great a confidence and refuge in God as Christ His Son Himself has. Who can grasp such exceeding joy, unless one speaks of himself when he says a poor, corrupt sinner can and may call God his Father and his God, just like Christ Himself does?

The author of the Epistle to the Hebrews has grasped the words of Ps. 22:23 and taken them well to heart, when he says of Christ: “For which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the congregation will I sing thy praise” (Heb 2:11-12). If any worldly lord were to condescend so low as to say to a thief, or a murderer or to a low French character, “Thou art my brother”; that would be a great thing and everyone would be amazed at it; but that this King, who in his glory sits at the right hand of God, his Father, says to a poor sinner: “Thou art my brother”; that no one takes to heart, no one receives it in earnest, and yet on that hangs our highest comfort and courage against sin, death, Satan, hell, law, and against all misfortune, both of the body and of the soul.

The Words of Our Lord (p. 162)

The Proclamation of Christ (p. 162)

The Lord's Prayer (pp. 162-163)

The Pax Domini (p. 163)

The Agnus Dei (P. 163)

Communicants are invited to pray the following:

Before receiving the Sacrament:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament:

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

461 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

487 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

484 "Make Songs of Joy"

The Post-Communion Canticle: **Nunc Dimittis** (p. 165)

The Post-Communion Collect (p. 166)

The Easter Proclamation:

P With joyful hearts and confident faith this Easter morning, we proclaim: He is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

The Benediction (p. 166)

The Recessional Hymn: 465 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

The Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria!

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 8:1, 5-6, 9; antiphon: Luke 24:5b-6b



He is risen! Alle- | luia!*

Why do you seek the living among the dead? Alle- | luia!

Remember how he told you, Alle- | luia,*

that the Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise.

Alle- | luia!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!*

You have set your glory above the | heavens.

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings*

and crowned him with glory and | honor.

You have given him dominion over the works | of your hands;*

you have put all things under | his feet.

O | Lord, our Lord,*

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

He is risen! Alle- | luia!*

Why do you seek the living among the dead? Alle- | luia!

Remember how he told you, Alle- | luia,*

that the Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise.

Alle- | luia!

The Kyrie (pp. 152-153)

The Hymn of Praise: **This is the Feast** (p. 155)

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 156)

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Old Testament Reading

Job 19:23-27

²³“Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! ²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!”

The Gradual

Ps. 118:24, 1

This is the day that the | Lord has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for | he is good;*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

⁵¹Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.” ⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Alleluia and Verse (p. 156 - Common)

(As the Alleluia and Verse is sung, the pastor and crucifer process to the middle of the nave for the reading of the Holy Gospel)

The Holy Gospel

John 20:1-18

¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple,

who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

The Hymn of the Day: 458 “Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands”

Choir sings stanzas 1, 3 5; Congregation sings stanzas 2, 4, 6, 7

The Sermon: “He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!”

Choral response: “Alleluia, Christ Is Risen!”

The Nicene Creed (p. 158)

The Prayer of the Church (p. 159)

P This is the day the Lord has made;

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Offering is gathered for the Lord’s work (p. 159)

Children: “Lord of the Dance”

The Offertory (pp. 159-160)

The Service of the Sacrament

(Please read the statement regarding Holy Communion on the back of the bulletin)

The Preface and Proper Preface (pp. 160-161)

The Sanctus (p. 161)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 161)