

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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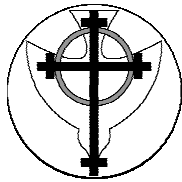
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Office Hours Tues 10-2, Thurs 11:30-12:30, Fri 10-2

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Rogate

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
13 May Anno † Domini 2012

Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for throughout this Easter Season 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.



"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:23b-24)

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LSB DIVINE SERVICE 1, PAGE 151

The Service of Preparation

(Even with the celebratory spirit of this Easter Season, 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 Prayer

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.

The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

(At the conclusion of the Ringing of the Bells, the congregation stands and faces the processional cross for the 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 Easter Proclamation

P He is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Processional Hymn: 837 “Lift High the Cross”

The Remembrance of Baptism

P Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, we have been raised with Christ to new life;

C we have been given the new birth of water and of the Spirit.

The Confession and Absolution (p. 151)

From Martin Luther’s Sermon for Rogate John 16:23-30

In the third place, if one prays doubting that God will hear him, and only offers his prayers as a venture, whether it be granted or not granted, he is guilty of two wicked deeds. The first is that he, himself, makes his prayer unavailing and he labors in vain. For Jesus says: “Whoever will ask of God, let him ask in faith, nothing doubting: for he that doubteth is like the surge of the sea driven by the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord.” James 1:6-7. He means that the heart of such a man does not continue stable, therefore God can give it nothing; but faith keeps the heart calm and stable and makes it receptive for the divine gifts.

The other wicked deed is that he regards his most true and faithful God as a liar and an unstable and doubtful being; as one who can not or will not keep his promise; and thus, through his doubt, he robs God of His honor and of His Name of Truth and Faithfulness. In this, such a grievous sin is committed that by this sin a Christian becomes a heathen – denying and losing his own God – and thus he remains in his sin, and must be condemned forever, without comfort. Moreover, if he receives that for which he prays, it will be given, not for his salvation, but for his punishment in time and eternity, and it is not for the sake of the prayers, but because of His wrath that God rewards the good words which were spoken in sin, unbelief and divine dishonor.

In the fourth place, some say: Yes, I would gladly trust that my prayer would be heard, if I were only worthy and prayed aright. My answer is: If you do not pray until you know and experience that you are fit, then you will never need to pray. As I have said before, our prayers must not be founded nor rest upon ourselves or their own merits, but upon the unshakable truth of the divine promise. Where they are founded upon anything else, they are false, and deceive us, even though the heart break in the midst of its great devotions and we weep drops of blood. The very reason we do pray is because of our unworthiness; and just through the fact that we believe we are unworthy and confidently venture upon God’s faithfulness to his Word do we become worthy to pray and to be heard. Be you as unworthy as you may, only look to it, and with all earnestness accept it as true, that a thousandfold more depends upon this, that you know God’s truth and not change his faithful promise into a lie by your doubting. Your worthiness does not help you, but your unworthiness is no barrier. Disbelief condemns you, and trust makes you worthy and sustains you.

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

621 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

766 “Our Father, Who From Heaven Above”

770 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

The Post-Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord (p. 164)

The Post-Communion Collect (p. 166)

The Easter Proclamation:

P He is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Benediction (p. 166)

The Recessional Hymn: 895 “Now Thank We All Our God”

The Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria!

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 66:1-2a, 17, 19-20; antiphon: Is. 48:20b



[With a voice of singing,] declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia.*

The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob! Alle- | luia.

**Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;*
sing the glory | of his name.**

I cried to him | with my mouth,*
and high praise was | on my tongue.

**But truly God has | listened;*
he has attended to the voice | of my prayer.**

Blessèd | be God,*
because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his
steadfast | love from me!

**Glorify 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.**

[With a voice of singing,] declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia.*

The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob! 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)

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many

people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

The Anthem: 571 “God Loved the World So That He Gave”

The Epistle

James 1:22-27

²²But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

²⁶If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person’s religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

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 16:23-33

²³[Jesus said:] “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

²⁵“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

²⁹His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

The Nicene Creed (p. 158)

The Hymn of the Day: 773 “Hear Us, Father, When We Pray”

The Sermon

The Prayer of the Church (p. 159)

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The Blessing of Our Mothers

(All mothers are invited to come forward to receive a blessing on this special day)

The Offering “Love Is His Word, Love Is His Way” (SS Children and Choir)
(If you have not done so already, please sign and share the Fellowship folders in the pews to assist us in keeping accurate attendance records. Thank you.)

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)

The Lord’s Prayer (p. 162)

The Words of Our Lord (p. 162)

The Pax Domini (p. 163)

The Agnus Dei (p. 163)

