

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org

Email: contact@peacealma.org

Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor

Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037

Email: pastor@peacealma.org



Exaudi

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday after the Ascension
4 May Anno ✠ Domini 2008

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.



"They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you." (John 16:2-4)

Exaudi is the shortened form of the opening line of the Historic Introit in Latin and means, "Hear, O Lord."

Exaudi

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday after the Ascension
4 May Anno † Domini 2008



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 and Remembrance of Baptism:

- P** He is risen!
- C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- 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 Processional Hymn: 493 “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

The Confession and Absolution (p. 151)

From Martin Luther’s Sermon for Exaudi John 15:26-16:4

But to know Christ in the other and true sense is to know that He died for me and transferred the load of my sin upon Himself; to so know this that I realize that all my doings amount to nothing. To let go all that is mine, and value only this, that Christ is given to me as a present; His sufferings, His righteousness and all His virtues are at once mine. When I become conscious of this, I must, in return, love Him; my affections must go out to such a being. After this I climb upon the Son higher, to the Father, and see that Christ is God, and that He placed Himself in my death, in my sin, in my misery, and bestows upon me His grace. Then I know also His gracious will and the highest love of the Father, which no heart, of itself, can discover or experience. Thus I lay hold of God at the point where He is the tenderest, and think: “Aye, that is God; that is God’s will and pleasure, that Christ did this for me.” And with this experience I perceive the high, inexpressible mercy and the love in Him because of which He offered His beloved child for me in ignominy, shame and death. That friendly look and lovely sight then sustain me. Thus must God become known, only in Christ. Therefore, Christ Himself says to His disciples: “No one knoweth the Son, save the Father; neither doth any know the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son willeth to reveal him.” Matthew 11:27.

On the other hand, those who parade their own works, do not know Christ. Neither do they know what the Father has done through Christ. Nor do they know that God is not interested in their good works, but in his Son alone. Thus, they do not know the Father, neither do they know what they have received from the Father, through Christ. Therefore, they must fall and perish, and behold God in his severest aspect--as a judge. They try to silence the judgment with their good works, but they find no good work that is sufficient to do this, and then they must finally despair. When people see that they, themselves, are nothing, and establish the foundation of their hearts upon Christ, esteem him as the highest good, and know God as a Father in death and life--this is to "know God." Enough has been said on this Gospel. We will pray to God, to give us grace to know him and his Christ aright. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

623 “Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

663 “Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

713 “From God Can Nothing Move Me”

783 “Take My Life and Let It Be”

664 “Fight the Good Fight”

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: 549 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

The Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria!

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: Ps. 27:7a, 8b, 9a



Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Teach me your way, | O Lord;*

give me not up to the will of my adver- | saries;

for false witnesses have risen a- | gainst me,*

and they breathe out | violence.

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.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me. 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 King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 36:22-28

²²“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you

a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. ²⁸You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The Gradual is omitted during the season of Easter

The Epistle

1 Peter 4:7-14

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

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 15:26-16:4

²⁶[Jesus said:] "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:1}"I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ²They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you."

The Hymn of the Day: 539 "Christ Is the World's Redeemer"

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed (p. 158)

The Prayer of the Church (p. 159)

☩ Lord, in Your mercy;

☩ hear our prayer.

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

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 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.