

St Peter Lutheran Church

Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025

Welcome

Opening Hymn LSB 907 God Himself Is Present

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 God Himself is present:
Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple;
All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone
On His throne
Is our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever! | 2 God Himself is present:
Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear
To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Your Church now raises. |
|--|---|

- 3 Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in Your merit. Like the holy angels,
Worshipping before You, May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will Ever still Rule Your Church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.

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(Please stand, as you are able)

Call to Worship

- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
C **and all your saints shall bless you!**
P One generation shall commend your works to another,
C **and shall declare your mighty acts.**
P The Lord is good to all
C **and his mercy is over all that he has made.**
P Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Confession and Absolution

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:

C God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(We pause for a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection)

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise, This Is the Feast LSB 155

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Responsive Psalm Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures.**

He leads me beside still waters.

³**He restores my soul.**

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**

I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

First Reading, Acts 20:17–35

Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with

tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

L This is the Word of the Lord **G** Thanks be to God

Epistle Reading, Revelation 7:9–17

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L This is the Word of the Lord **G** Thanks be to God

(Please stand as you are able)

Alleluia and Verse

G Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel, John 10:22–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John **G** **Glory to You, O Lord**

At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one." **L** This is the Gospel of the Lord **G** **Praise to You, O Christ!**

Sermon

Sermon Song LSB 485 Long before the World Is Waking

1 Long before the world is waking,
Morning mist on Galilee,
From the shore, as dawn is breaking,
Jesus calls across the sea;
Hails the boat of weary men,
Bids them cast their net again.

3 Charcoal embers brightly burning,
Bread and fish upon them laid:
Jesus stands at day's returning
In His risen life arrayed;
As of old His friends to greet,
"Here is breakfast; come and eat."

5 Morning breaks, and Jesus meets us,
Feeds and comforts, pardons still;
As His faithful friends He greets us,
Partners of His work and will.
All our days, on ev'ry shore,
Christ is ours forevermore!

2 So they cast, and all their heaving
Cannot haul their catch aboard;
John in wonder turns, perceiving,
Cries aloud, "It is the Lord!"
Peter waits for nothing more,
Plunges in to swim ashore.

4 Christ is risen! Grief and sighing,
Sins and sorrows, fall behind;
Fear and failure, doubt, denying,
Full and free forgiveness find.
All the soul's dark night is past,
Morning breaks in joy at last.

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The Creed: “Glory Be” (the Glori Patri)

Father, your praise we sing
Maker of everything
Giver of life
Author of love
Answering when we pray
Providing for each new day
Blessing in every way with gifts from above

Jesus, your praise we sing
Savior and Lord and King
Laid down Your life
No greater love.
Taking away our sin
Eternal life to win
Giving us peace within our hearts where You reign

Chorus

Glory be, Glory be to our God. Amen.

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**Chorus: Glory be, Glory be to the Father
Glory be, Glory be to the Son our Lord
Glory be to the Spirit As it was and is and
ever shall be
Glory be, Glory be to our God. Amen.**

Spirit, your praise we sing
Faith in Christ you bring
Fruitful life
Gifts of Your love
Teaching our hearts to share
Moving us to declare
With everyone everywhere our Savior and His love

Chorus

The Peace of the Lord

Offering

Prayers

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy. **C** **Hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and our duty at all times and in all places to give You thanks, Holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. But chiefly do we praise You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who paid in full the price of our redemption and overcame death and the grave for us. Keep us with Him that remembering His triumph we may be sustained to that day when He comes to finish His new creation and bring to completion all things. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

LSB 161 Sanctus

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Word of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

- ☐ Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Distribution *(Please be seated)*

St Peter's Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is a special gift given by Jesus Christ to all baptized believers in the community of faith. In preparing for the Lord's Supper, we are to reflect upon the following questions:

1. Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?
2. Do I believe that, within this Sacrament, the bread and wine are Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins?
3. Do I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life?
4. Do I confess and believe the same doctrines of faith as the church body with which I am about to commune?

If you are having difficulty in answering "yes" to any of the above questions, please follow the guide of Scripture and refrain from taking communion today. Our Pastor would be glad to visit with you after the service to answer any questions you may have about our Communion practice.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please signal to Pastor by holding up your index finger in front of you.

Non-alcoholic white grape juice is available in the center of the tray, for those with alcohol sensitivities

763 When Peace, like a River

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul. Refrain | ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul. |
| 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain | 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain |
| 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain | |

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I Love to Tell the Story

1. I love to tell the story
Of unseen things above
Of Jesus and His glory
Of Jesus and His love
I love to tell the story
Because I know it's true
It satisfies my longings
As nothing else can do.

**Refrain: I love to tell the story
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story
Of Jesus and His love**

2. I love to tell the story
How pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it
More wonderfully sweet
I love to tell the story
For some have never heard
The message of salvation
From God's own holy Word **Refrain**

Instrumental Interlude

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3. I love to tell the story
For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting
To hear it like the rest
And when in scenes of glory
I sing the new, new song
'Twill be the old, old story
That I have loved so long *Refrain*

547 The Lamb

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain

ref **Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes
me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Refrain

3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain

4 He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain

5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

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Only By Grace

Verse: Only by grace can we enter Only by grace can we stand
Not by our human endeavor But by the blood of the Lamb
Into Your presence You call us You call us to come
Into Your presence You draw us And now by Your grace we come
Now by Your grace we come

Bridge

Lord, if You mark
Our transgressions
Who would stand?
Thanks to Your grace
We are cleansed
By the blood of the Lamb

Repeat Bridge

Repeat Verse

Instrumental Bridge

Repeat Verse

Tag: Now by Your grace we come **2X**

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Thank the Lord

**☞ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray.

Eternal God, gracious Father, we give You thanks that You have remembered Your covenant, bringing life and salvation to us through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Open our minds and hearts that we might remember our Lord's resurrection, rejoice in His victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil, and live as members of His kingdom in hope for the Kingdom that is yet to come; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **☞ Amen**

Benediction

P Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

C Amen

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Closing Song – “Ancient of Days”

Blessing and honor, glory and power

Be unto the Ancient of Days

From ev'ry nation all of creation

Bow before the Ancient of Days

Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth

Shall declare Your glory

Ev'ry knee shall bow at Your throne in worship

You will be exalted O God

And Your kingdom shall not pass away O Ancient of Days

(Repeat all)

(Bridge) Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth

Sing unto the Ancient of Days

For none can compare to Your matchless worth

Sing unto the Ancient of Days

Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth

Shall declare Your glory

Ev'ry knee shall bow at Your throne in worship

You will be exalted O God

And Your kingdom shall not pass away O Ancient of Days

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