

# Peace Lutheran Church

## Third Sunday of Easter

### April 7, 9:00 a.m.



#### **GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME!**

Thank you for joining in Worship today. Whether you regularly worship here, are here for the first time, or are returning after a time away, your presence here is important for the worship we offer to the glory of God. May your experience of God's love be a blessing in your life.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

*The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.*

#### **Welcome & Announcements to Prepare Us for Worship**

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**



Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Hymn, "We walk by faith," ELW 635**



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



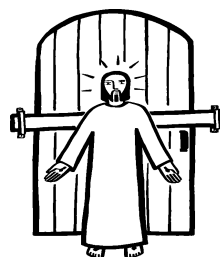
gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 the love of God, and the communion of the Holy  
 Spirit be with you all...**And also with you.**



# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever...**Amen.**

## First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

## Second Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word

of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. <sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

...the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** (*Please stand as you are able.*)

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## Gospel: John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**



<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

<sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Glory to you, O Lord...**Praise to you, O Christ.** *(Please be seated.)*

**Sermon** – “Let Me See Your Hands”, Pastor Grant Quever

*Please stand as you are able.*



Hymn, "O sons and daughters, let us sing," ELW 386



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



5. When Thom - as first the ti - dings heard,  
6. "My pier - ced side, O Thom - as see,  
7. No long - er Thom - as then de - nied;  
8. How blest are they who have not seen,



5. that they had seen the ris - en Lord,  
6. and look up - on my hands and feet;  
7. he saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
8. and yet, whose faith has con - stant been,



5. he doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!  
6. not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be."  
7. "You are my Lord and God," he cried.  
8. for they et - er - nal life shall win.

### APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *(A brief silence.)*

Each petition ends with: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Anniversaries 4/7-4/13: Bill & Elsie Goulding

*We pray for Shirley Berndt, Bill Goulding, Dianna Shamel, and the family of Mary Lueder.*

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Share the peace with each other as you are comfortable.*

## OFFERING SONG



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.



## Offering Prayer

Let us pray... **Risen One**, make us mindful that all we are and all that we have, has been given to us at your hand. May these gifts be used for your Kingdom purposes, so that those who have not heard, and those who are hungry and in need, may experience your love for them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Great Thanksgiving

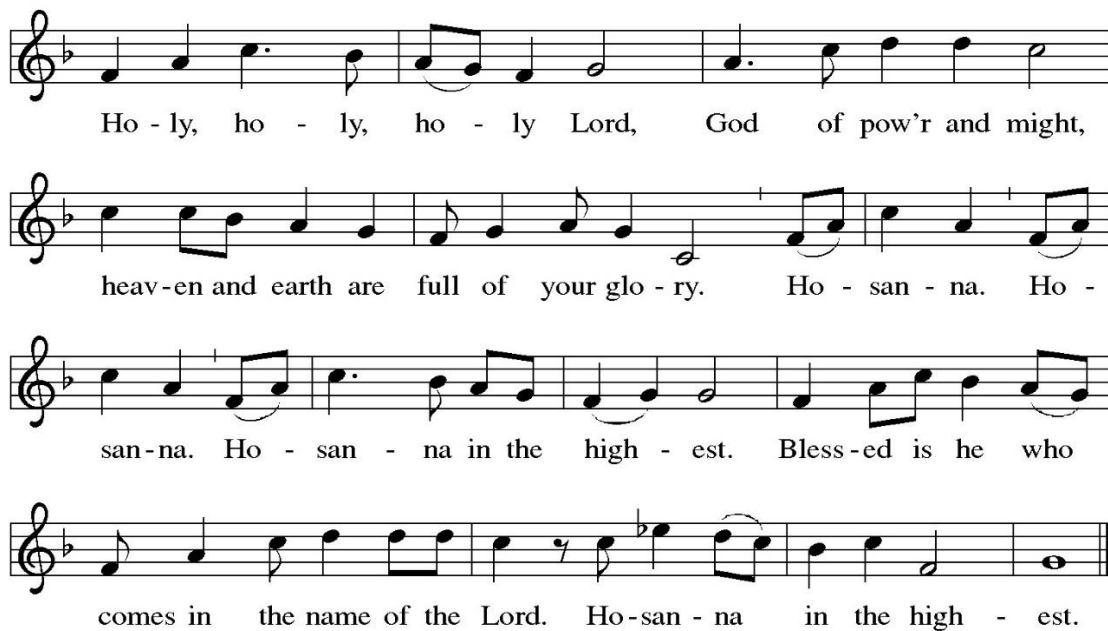
The Lord be with you... **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts... **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God... **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

### HOLY, HOLY

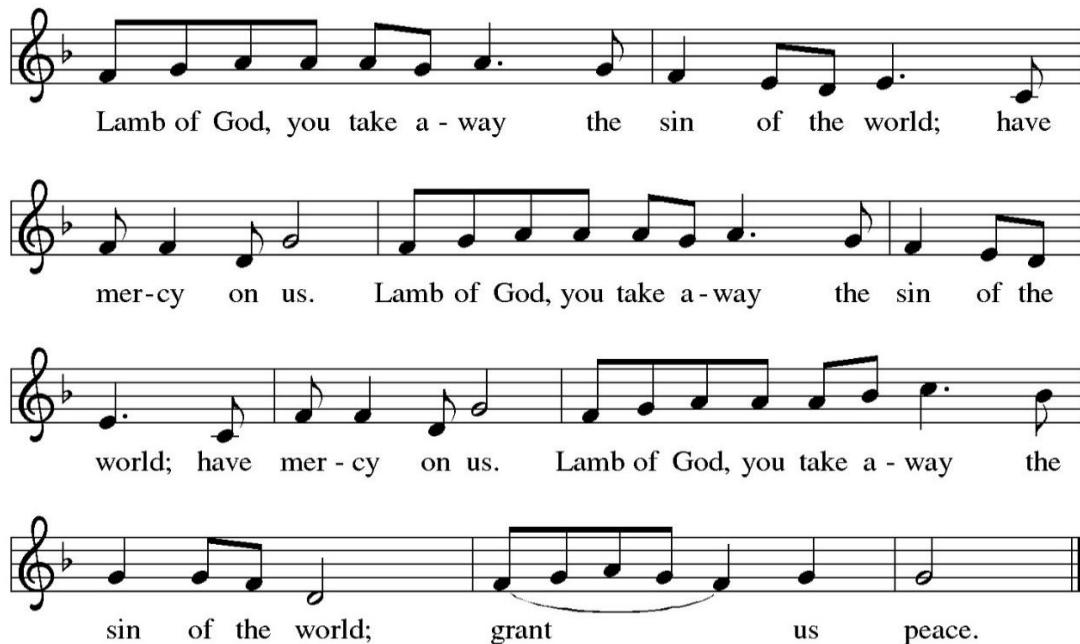


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

### Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. *(Please come forward and surround the altar.)*

### Post-Communion Prayer

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend... **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!!**

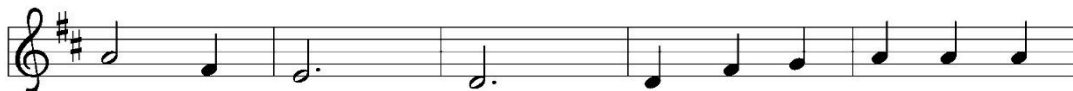
The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
bless you now and always. **Amen.**



# Hymn, "I want to walk as a child of the light," ELW 815



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## Announcements for the Good of All

**Offering** – please place your gifts in the baskets in the back of the Sanctuary.

**Dismissal** - Grow in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

# Peace Lutheran Announcements

*Pastor Grant Quever – Phone: (262) 332-9300, Email: gquever@wi.rr.com*

*Church Website: [www.peacelutheranburlington.org](http://www.peacelutheranburlington.org) Church Email: [peacelca@gmail.com](mailto:peacelca@gmail.com)*

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*Attendance for March 31, 2024 – 31 confirmed, 1 virtual*

*General Offerings for Sunday, March 31, 2024 - \$630.00*

**Meditation with Janet...** Join us after worship for the final reflection time with Janet on inclusion and exclusion.

**Mid-Day Women's Gathering...** The Mid-Day Women's Gathering will be at Napoli's Restaurant (132 N. Pine Street) on Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Join us as we plan for the Annual Potluck Salad Supper in May.

**Save the Date...** The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Women of Peace Potluck Salad Supper will be held on May 15 at 6 p.m. in the Peace fellowship hall. More details to come soon!

**Game Night!...** Join us for Game Night on Saturday, April 13 at 6 p.m. in the Peace fellowship hall. Bring your favorite games (board games, cards, bingo or anything else!) This is very informal. Bring any snacks, desserts or beverages that you prefer.

**Joys and Concerns...** If you have any joys and concerns you would like to add to our prayers during worship today, please fill out a 3x5 card found in the Narthex under the bulletin board and hand it to a council member before the service.

**Coffee Fellowship...** Please join us for coffee and fellowship after worship. Sit, relax, and chat together! The sign-up sheet to host is posted in the Narthex.

**Growing Relationships...** Please contact Renee Knapton by phone (262-492-0718) or by e-mail at [reneeknapton@gmail.com](mailto:reneeknapton@gmail.com) with any joys, sorrows, prayer requests, etc. that you wish shared with fellow members.

**TLC Giving Baskets...** The most needed items for March and April are crackers, cereal, peanut butter, and healthy snacks for kids. Thank you!