

EASTER FESTIVAL March 31, 2024

EASTER FESTIVAL

"AGAINST ALL ODDS"

AS WE GATHER

Today's goal is to both *profess* Easter and *possess* Easter. Easter happened. That's *profess*. Easter is happening in me. That's *possess*!

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "Antiphonal Alleluia"

GREETING

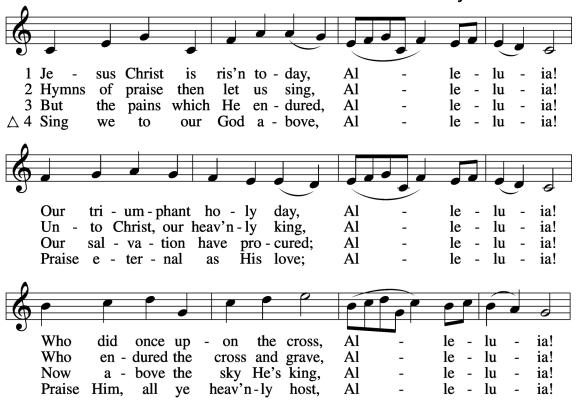
P: Christ is risen!

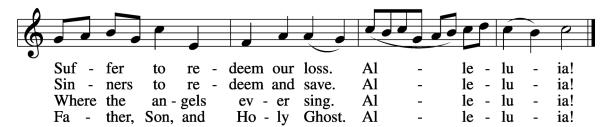
C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!!

stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

LSB 457





Text: tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, London, alt.; (sts. 1-3): Latin, 14th cent.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707-88. Tune: Lyra Davidica, 1708, London. Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation!
- C: The LORD's right arm has done marvelous things!
- P: The LORD's right arm is raised in triumph.
- C: The LORD's right arm has done marvelous things!
- P: We will not die; instead, we will live to tell what the LORD has done.
- C: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
- P: This is the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- C: This is the day the LORD has made.
- P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
- C: Christ is risen!
- P: He is risen, indeed!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P: Forgive me, merciful and mighty father, when my besetting sins entangle me and completely surround me.
- C: Who will rescue?
- P: Forgive me, Lord, when I am so eager to get but so reluctant to give; so ready to receive your gifts but so unwilling to bear the cross.
- C: Who will rescue?
- P: Forgive me, merciful Father, when I avoid making any commitment to you; when I doubt that you really see my sin; when I disobey your commandments and am satisfied with only living for myself.
- C: Who will rescue me?

P: Forgive me, Lord, when I am quick to find fault but resentful when someone points out my faults; when I am so soon at play but so late in prayer.

C: Who will rescue me?

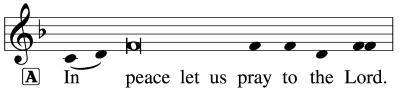
P: Father, forgive me when I rejoice in the temporary but think little of the eternal; when I am so fond of being idle but show little passion for helpful service.

C: Who will rescue me from this body of death?

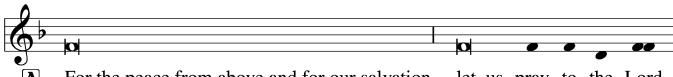
P: Who will rescue you and me from this body of death? Thanks be to God, he delivers us through Jesus Christ! By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. This is the day the LORD has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!







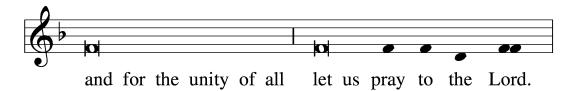


A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

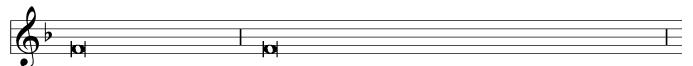




A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



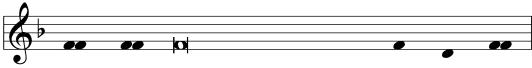




A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise







A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.

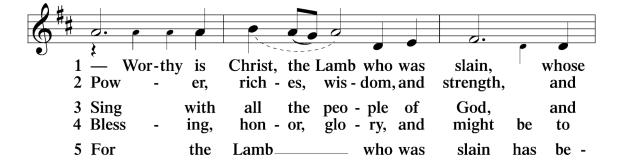


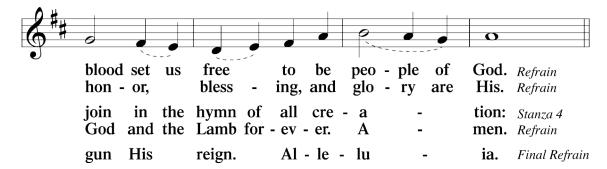
HYMN OF PRAISE "This Is the Feast"

LSB 155













SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 156

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God and Father, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life. 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.

All: Amen.

sit

CHOIR "Gaelic Easter Celebration"

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 15:1-18

¹Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. ²The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

³The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is his name. ⁴"Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. ⁵The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. ⁶Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy. ⁷In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble. ⁸At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. ⁹The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.' ¹⁰You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹"Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? ¹²You stretched out your right hand; the earth swallowed them. ¹³"You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode. ¹⁴The peoples have heard; they tremble; pangs have seized the inhabitants of Philistia. ¹⁵Now are the chiefs of Edom dismayed; trembling seizes the leaders of Moab; all the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away.

¹⁶Terror and dread fall upon them; because of the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone, till your people, O LORD, pass by, till the people pass by whom you have purchased. ¹⁷You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established. ¹⁸The LORD will reign forever and ever."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLEI Corinthians 15:50-58

⁵⁰I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 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. ⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

stand

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 28:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

C: (sung) Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." ⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said,

"Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

HYMN OF THE DAY "He's Risen! He's Risen!" LSB 480



Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt. Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744. Tune: Public domain

SERMON "Against All Odds!"

Exodus 15:1-18

stand

NICENE CREED LSB 158

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

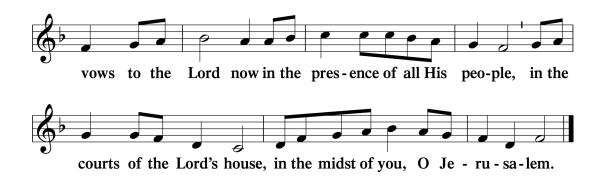
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \top of the world to come. Amen.

sit

GATHERING OF THE OFFERING





PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. He lives to intercede for us before the Father. With confidence, let us present to God our petitions for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus. For the holy Christian Church throughout the world, that it may be found without fault at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all believers in the Lord Jesus that their lives may testify to His resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, that a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those in positions of public trust in all levels of government, that they may serve justice and promote the welfare and dignity of every person, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all who suffer because of poverty, persecution, or sickness, and all others we name in our hearts, that they may know the healing power of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who grieve because of the death of their loved ones, that through the sure hope of the resurrection of Christ, God would wipe away the tears from their eyes and give them comfort, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

- P: For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth God's glory in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For all who come this day to the feast of our Lord's body and blood, that their faith be strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.

Special Prayers

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PREFACE LSB 160

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.

PROPER PREFACE

LSB 161

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has guaranteed for us the promised land of everlasting life. 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:

SANCTUS LSB 161



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 162

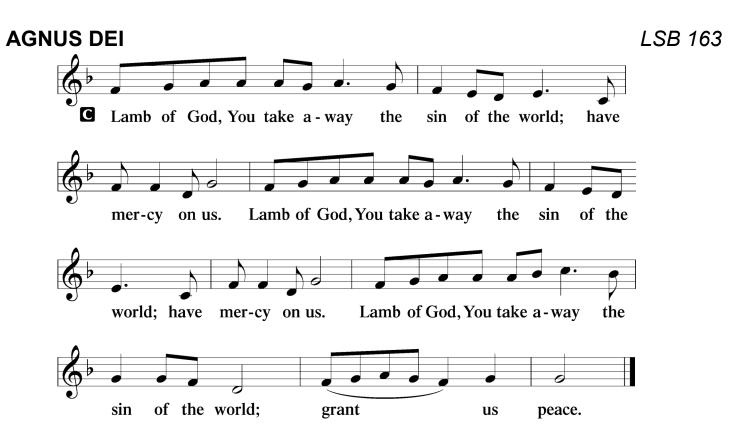
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

THE PAX DOMINI LSB 163

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



sit

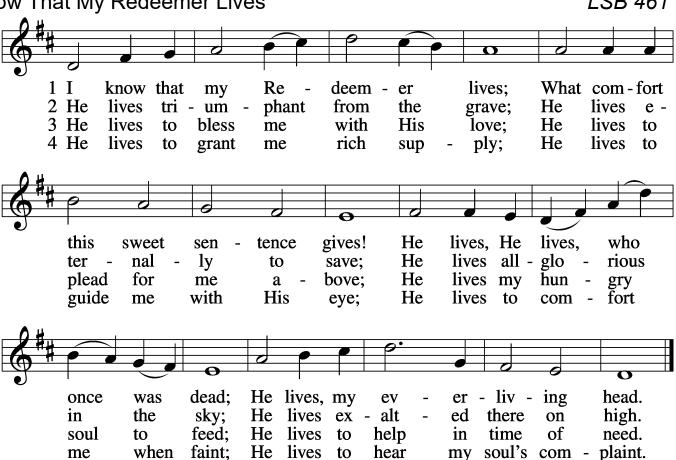
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS



Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln. Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744. Tune: Public domain

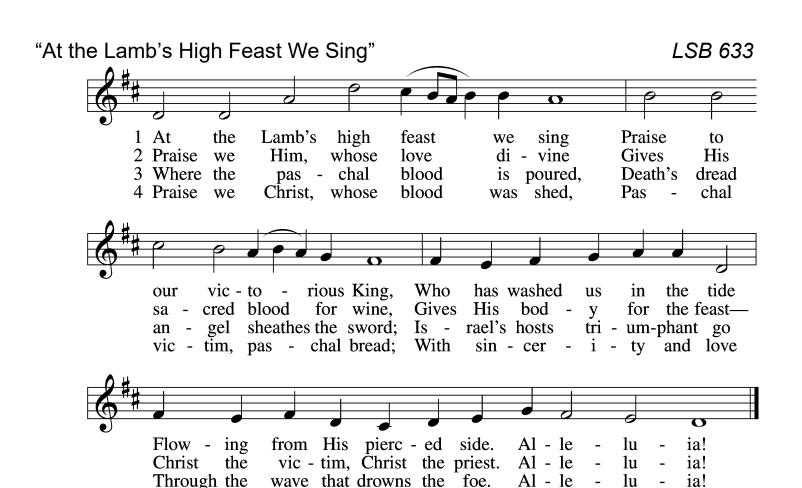
"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461



- He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.
- He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end; He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death; He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.
- He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99, abr. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793, Text and tune: Public domain



Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

from

man - na

Eat

we

- 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!
- Δ8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th-10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt.. Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice. Text and tune: Public domain

A1 - le

lu

ia!

a - bove.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Thank The Lord"

LSB 164



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 166

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION LSB 166

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed!

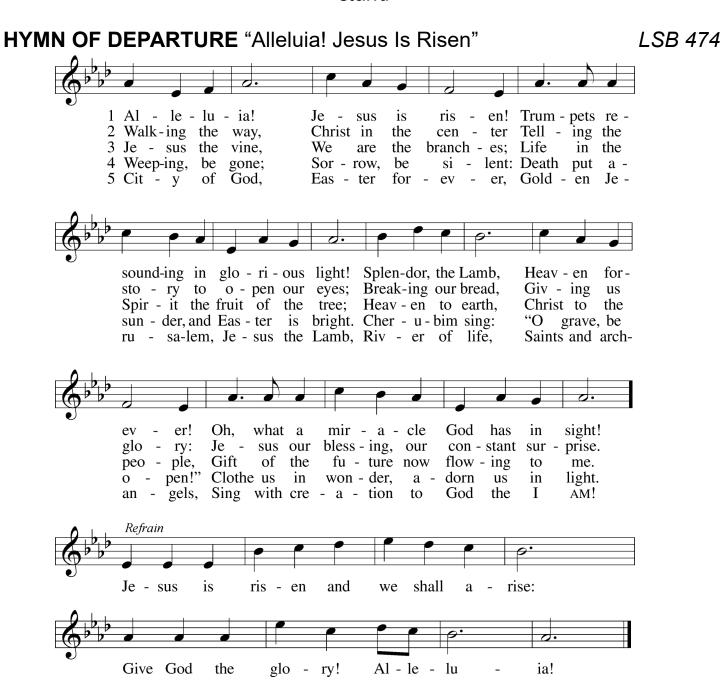
P: This is the day the LORD has made!

All: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

stand



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009. Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87
Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744. Tune: © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744

THE SENDING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE(S)



Welcome to Peace in the name of the Risen Savior!

We request that visitors register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. We ask that you share your name and address so that we can recognize your visit with us. All members are requested to register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. Members, please indicate all family members present and those who took communion, so that the Pastor and Elders can be spiritually accountable for you and your family. Are your cell phones turned off? Cell phones are indeed a great convenience in life these days. However, please, out of courtesy, silence cell phones during the worship service. Thank you!

Hearing assist devices and large print bulletins are available for those who may need them. Please see an Usher or the Elder who will be happy to assist you.

A Mother's Room is available for parents of young children if the need arises. The Mother's Room in the west hallway. The worship service is able to be heard in the Mother's Room.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion. Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is a sacred act, established by Christ Himself and is given to His Church. As members of **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, we hold the doctrine of the Real Presence, in with and under; meaning that Jesus gives His Body and Blood with the bread and wine, as He Himself says, "This is my body... This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:26ff)

The Holy Scriptures also teach us to receive this meal in a way that is responsible and healthy. As overseer, St. Paul wrote- "let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself" (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Out of genuine care for God's people we ask that those (1) who have not been baptized and instructed in the faith or (2) who come from another church body, not in altar or pulpit fellowship with us, refrain from receiving Holy Communion. For those preparing to receive Holy Communion, Luther encourages us to ask ourselves these questions:

Do I repent of my sins, desiring to turn away from them, back to the Lord?

Do I believe Jesus died and rose for me and gives me His Body and Blood this day "for the forgiveness of sins"?

Do I intend to use this means of grace to change my life, following His will and way?

We ask that all who receive the Lord's Supper fill out a "Care Card" and place it in the offering plate. <u>Please note that</u> reduced-alcoholic white wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray.

Peace Lutheran Church The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

1228 S Park Ave. Neenah, WI 54956 920-725-0510

Ricky P. Schroeder, Pastor pastor@peaceneenah.com

Josiah Fitch, Associate Pastor assocpastor@peaceneenah.com

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Holy Communion Celebrated at all Services Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00a.m. Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (Sept. –May) 10:30 a.m.

Website: www.peaceneenah.com

YouTube: Peace Neenah

