

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP
AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 12TH, 2026***



Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection.

You are my God, and I will exalt you. (Ps. 118:28)

CALL TO WORSHIP **362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing Vs 1**

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious king,
who has washed us in the tide flowing from his wounded side.

Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as minister begins.

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God has given to all nations the repentance that leads to life. Let us come with repentant hearts to the God who makes all things new.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: We confess to you all the ways in which we dismiss the resurrection news. We are slow of heart to believe. We turn from others and retreat in fear. Come into our locked rooms and breathe into us your forgiving Spirit. Reawaken our trust and strengthen our hope, that we may be witnesses to your saving power. Amen.

P: Peace be with you, sisters and brothers. In baptism you have received a spirit of adoption; you are God's beloved children. In the name of Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Rejoice, and welcome the freedom of this gift.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN **384 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright**

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light when, to their longing eyes restored, th'apostles saw their risen Lord!
- 2 O Jesus, king of gentleness, with constant love our hearts possess; to you our lips will ever raise the tribute of our grateful praise.

- 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield from ev'ry weapon death can wield.
- 4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise, and God the Spirit, now we raise!

GREETING

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

C: Amen

KYRIE *WOV Setting 5 Pg 28*

Cantor: Kyrie eleison:

All: Lord, Have mercy.

Cantor: Christe eleison:

All: Christ, Have mercy.

Cantor: Kyrie eleison:

All: Lord, Have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE *WOV Setting 5 Pg 30*

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God and peace to God's people on earth.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God and peace to God's people on earth.
and peace to God's people on earth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING ~ *a reading from Acts 2:14a, 22-32*

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned. ^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' ²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' ³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses." This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM ~ 16

In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING ~ a reading from 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ALLELUIA, LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO WOV Pg 31 Setting 5

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of Eternal Life.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel *according to John 20:19-31*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ 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." ²⁷ 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." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ 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." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. This is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 391 *This Joyful Eastertide*

- 1 This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen,

- 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. **Refrain**
- 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. **Refrain**

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,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, 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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

a brief silence.

A: Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer

Hear other intercessions may be offered

P: Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERATORY HYMN *WOV 35 Setting 5 Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name,
and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *WOV Setting 5 Pg 36*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able;

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all the honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION

THE BODY OF CHRIST, GIVEN FOR YOU. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, SHED FOR YOU.

As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or by intinction in the fullness of faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements. We receive the Lord in our seats and share in this holy meal at the same time; One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God Wov pg 39 Setting 5*

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS *496 One Bread, One Body 482 I Come with Joy*

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *WOV Pg 40 Setting 5 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's Holy Name.

Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . Mighty and compassionate God, you have brought us over from death to life through your Son, our risen Savior, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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.

SENDING HYMN *379 Now the Green Blade Rises*

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God.

