

*WELCOME TO WORSHIP
at
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 19TH, 2026*

Third Sunday of Easter



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.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

CALL TO WORSHIP **362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing Vs 2**

Praise we Christ, whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast—Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
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 **522 As We Gather at Your Table**

1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know,
O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.

- 2 Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.
- 3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where
triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

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: And also with you.

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 . . . O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, 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, 36-41*

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." ³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM ~ *116:1-4, 12-19*

I will call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)

¹ I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

² **for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

¹² How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Peter 1:17-23*

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. 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 Luke 24:13-35*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *368 With High Delight Let Us Unite*

- 1 With high delight let us unite in songs of sweet jubilation.
You pure in heart, all bear your part, sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.
To set us free forever, he is ris'n and sends to all earth's ends
good news to save ev'ry nation.
- 2 True God, he first from death has burst forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy now vanquished see; his death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be like victory o'er death and grave," says he, who gave
his life for us, life renewing.
- 3 Let praises ring; give thanks, and bring to Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed by word and deed to ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall his love give us above, from misery and death set free,
all joy and full consolation.

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: Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of 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 at the rail 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 *482 I Come With Joy*
491 Come, Let Us Eat

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 385 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
 Now is the triumph of our king!
 To all the world glad news we bring:
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
 death's mighty stone is rolled away;
 let all the world rejoice and say:
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 3 Praise we in songs of victory
 that love, that life, which cannot die,
 and sing with hearts uplifted high:
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
 and sing today with one accord,
 the life laid down, the life restored:
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the Good News! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

