

*WELCOME TO EASTER WORSHIP AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 5TH, 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 the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

GATHERING SONG 369 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!*

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way;
Alleluia! offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! sinless in the sinner's stead.
Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
when contending death and life, Alleluia!
met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! all your grateful homage pay;
Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

GREETING

P: The joy and peace of our risen Lord 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 29 & 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.
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**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.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us, you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
receive our prayer.**

**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, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING *a reading from Acts 10:34-43*

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENIOR CHOIR ~ "Easter Chorale and Alleluia" ~ Purifoy/Wesley

Hail the day that sees Him rise, to His throne beyond the skies. Christ, awhile to mortals giv'n, reascends His native heav'n. See, He lifts His hands above, see, He shows the prints of love. Hark! His gracious lips bestow blessings on His church below. Alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia, He is risen today. Sing alleluia to the Lamb. Hail Him, Redeemer, King! He is the Lord of love, and life, praise and honor we bring. See, the heav'n its Lord receives. Yet He loves the earth He leaves. There the glorious triumph waits. Lift your heads, eternal gates. Though returning to his throne, Still He calls the world His own. Sing alleluia, He is risen today!

SECOND READING *a reading from **Colossians 3:1-4***

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia. Lord to Whom Shall We Go* **WOV 31**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew 28:1-10**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he

said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, 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; there they will see me."
This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 365 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day,
Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem
our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our
heav'nly king, Alleluia! who endured the cross and grave,
Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save.
Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have
procured; Alleluia! now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as his love;
Alleluia! praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church,
the world, and all in need.

a brief silence.

A: You call your church to witness your salvation. We give thanks for all
pastors and church leaders who proclaim your gospel. Equip all the
baptized to share the joy of the resurrection in all we say and do.
Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You bring abundant life throughout creation. The green blade rises, and
all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards
and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation.
Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You show your steadfast love to all. Bring justice to every nation of the world that all experience the peace that only you can give.

Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You have put gladness in our hearts. Inspire musicians and dancers to rejoice with songs of victory. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who foster our assembly's song.

Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized . . . and for all health care workers who care for them.

Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: As you have raised Jesus from the dead, you show us your resurrection promise. With your holy ones who have sung your praise, free us from fear and empower us to go and tell the good news.

Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING/OFFERATORY HYMN *WOV Let The Vinyards be fruitful Pg 35*

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 breath 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: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our 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

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. 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 proclaim the mystery of faith.

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 pre-filled 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 and share in the Holy Meal at this time; One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.

COMMUNION HYMNS

380 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives

376 Thine Is The Glory

373 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE *WOV Pg 40*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us now to love and serve all those in need and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *382 Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*

- 1 Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him, rising up from griefs and tears.

Refrain

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!

Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

2 Christ is risen! All the sadness of our Lenten fast is o'er;
through the open gates of gladness he returns to life once more;
death and hell before him bending see him rise, the victor now,
angels on his steps attending, glory round his wounded brow.

Refrain

3 Christ is risen! All the sorrow that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow in the rising of today.
See the grave its first fruits giving, springing up from holy ground;
Christ was dead, but now is living; he was lost, but he is found.

Refrain

4 Christ is risen! Henceforth never death or hell shall us enthrall.
We are Christ's, in him forever we have triumphed over all.
All the doubting and dejection of our trembling hearts have ceased;
hail the day of resurrection! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Thank you to Jacob Fazio for his gift of adding the trumpet to
Our worship service today. God Bless!***

