



He Lives to Restore My Hope

PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, April 19, 2026

Welcome to Worship

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastor and members of Peace! Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection, Jesus saves all sinners. We learn these truths from the Bible — God's complete plan for our salvation and his guidebook for our lives. Peace greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

About Our Service

The gospel (or good news) is not just information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts, transform our lives, and give us lasting peace. Therefore, Lutheran Worship places the gospel in central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In the message and meal (Holy Communion), in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out on the following pages. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red or blue hymnals located on the chair in front of you.

Current Worship Series: What Difference Does it Make?

Easter Day: *He lives to take me from death to life*

April 12: *He lives to give me proof and peace*

April 19: *He lives to restore my hope*

April 26: *He lives to be my Good Shepherd*

May 3: *He lives to be the only way to heaven*

May 10: *He lives to call me to live for him*

May 17: *He lives to rule all things for the Church*

May 24: *He lives to give me eager expectation of glory*

May 31: *He lives to pour out his Spirit*

Series Theme: What Difference Does It Make?

Life is full of either/or moments. Some of them are of little long-term consequence. I will have either the chicken or the fish. Some of them matter more. I will accept the new job offer or keep my current job. One either/or moment is life-changing for every human being. Either Jesus is still dead, or Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus claimed he would rise from the dead. “The Son of Man must suffer many things. . . be killed and after three days rise again” (Mark 8:31). So if Jesus remains dead, he is both a failure and a fraud. If Christ has not been raised, we are still in our sin.

But Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! It makes all the difference! He lives! The season of Easter is a 50-day celebration of that fact.

Today’s Focus: *He Lives to Restore My Hope*

Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would have little hope for the future. That’s how the disciples felt after this death. “We hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel” (Luke 24:19). Their hope for a better life had died along with Jesus.

But he lives, and it makes a difference. My hope for the future is restored. I have victory over the feeling of hopelessness, because the one who heals me and gives me a better life is himself alive. He lives to restore my hope.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Nate Crowder

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch



THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn

Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5



1 How can it be, the One who died has borne our
 2 For joy a - wakes as dawn - ing light when Christ's dis -
 3 Where doubt and dark - ness once had been, they saw him



sin through sac - ri - fice, to con - quer ev - 'ry
 ci - ples lift their eyes. A - live he stands, their
 and their hearts be - lieved. But blest are those who



sting of death? Sing, sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 2
 friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is ris - en!
 have not seen, yet sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 4



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing "Hal - le -



lu - jah!" Join the cho - rus, sing with the re - deemed:



"Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed." v. 3/v. 5

4 **Once bound by fear, now bold in faith,
they preached the truth and pow'r of grace
and pouring out their lives they gained
life, life everlasting. (Refrain)**

5 **The pow'r that raised him from the grave
now works in us to pow'rfully save.
He frees our hearts to live his grace;
go, tell of his goodness. (Refrain)**

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b. 1971

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b. 1971

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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The name of the
triune God and
the sign of the
cross remind
worshippers of
their baptisms.

Confession

We are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.
**Christ died for all, that those who live should no longer live for
themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.**

Let us confess that often we have lived for ourselves, confident in the
forgiveness of him who lived, died, and rose for us.

*2 Corinthians
5:14,15*

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless
worrying and selfish pride,
for sins of habit and sins of choice,
for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should
cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Absolution

1 Corinthians
15:17-20

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.
But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

After his resurrection, Christ commanded his church to proclaim his forgiveness, promising that their words were as certain as his. Therefore, by Christ's command and with his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

1 Corinthians
15:54,55

Death has been swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?
Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

After a brief introduction, the congregation sings:

**6 The life he lived is mine to claim
No sins, no death, I rise through faith
The guilt is gone, the shame removed
Now, I live in freedom.**

Refrain:

**Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!
Oh, sing "hallelujah!"
Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed:
"Christ is risen, he is risen indeed."**



Prayer

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The Word

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 32–41

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. ³³Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“The Lord said to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand
³⁵until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.”’

³⁶“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



The message of Christ crucified and risen gives the certain hope of forgiveness to sinners.

Children's Lesson

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-21

Our hope and expectation is joining our Savior in the glory of heaven. Until that day, we live as pilgrims heading toward home.

¹⁷Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

For centuries in preparation for hearing the Gospel, Christians have sung or spoken "Alleluia!" and a Scripture verse reinforcing the theme of the day.

After a brief introduction, the congregation joins in singing the refrains.

Refrain



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

Alleluia. Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us? Alleluia.

Luke 23:24

Refrain



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

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him.

Jesus restored the hope of two disciples as he explained the Scriptures.

¹⁷He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

¹⁹“What things?” he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

²⁵He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³²They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

³³They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴and saying, “It is true!

The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.”³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

144 *Christ Is Arisen*

Martin Luther said, “You can get tired of singing most other hymns, but not this one.”

Christ is a - ris - en from the grave's dark pris - on.

We now re - joice with glad - ness; Christ will end all sad - ness.

Lord, have mer - cy. All our hopes were end - ed

had Je - sus not as - cend - ed from the grave tri - um - phant - ly.

For this, Lord Christ, our thanks shall be. Lord, have mer - cy.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! We now re - joice with glad - ness;
Christ will end all sad - ness. Lord, have mer - cy.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, with some slurs and a fermata over the final note of the second line.

Text: German, c. 1100; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

Tune: Latin, c. 1100, alt.

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Sermon

Luke 24:13-25

Nicene Creed

Public
confession is
faith's
response to
God's saving
Word.
Christians
composed the
Nicene Creed
in the fourth
century to
defend the
Bible's
teachings that
both Jesus
Christ and the
Holy Spirit are
true God,
equal to the
Father in one
eternal,
undivided
Trinity.

**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 became truly human.**

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 in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

Please be seated

Offering

The members of Peace have joined together in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) to do the Lord's work of sharing the message of Jesus. Visitors need not feel obligated. You are our guests!

Members and visitors, kindly fill out one of our Connection Cards. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

Prayer of the Church

Please stand. The pastor will speak the prayer of the church and the congregation will join to say the Lord's prayer.



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.

The Sacrament

We believe what God's Word says. God's Word clearly teaches that along with the bread and wine we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:26,28; Mk. 14:22,24; Lk. 22:19-22). God's Word also tells us that those who take Communion together are to:

1. Recognize that Christ's true body and blood are miraculously present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 10:16; 11:29),
2. Examine their hearts (1 Cor. 11:28), and
3. Be united in faith with the congregation with which they commune (1 Cor. 10:17).

Therefore we ask that those who have not had the opportunity to understand our Scriptural confession would speak with the pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. If you would like to come forward to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms as the pastor approaches. It is our sincere desire to share in the blessings of the Lord's Supper with you according to the pattern Jesus himself has given in his Word.



Introduction to the Lord's Supper

1 Cor. 11:28 Everyone ought to examine their hearts before partaking of the Lord's Supper.

Psalms 32:5 I confessed my transgressions to the Lord and he forgave the guilt of my sin.

1 Cor. 11:29 Everyone ought to recognize the true body and blood of the Lord in this Supper.

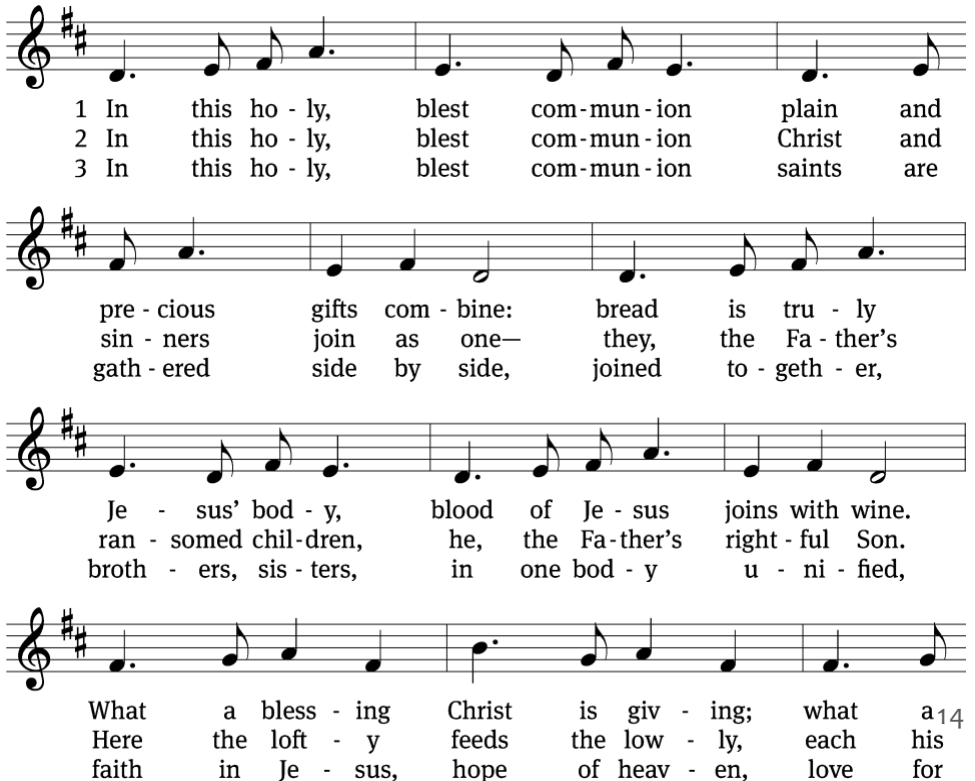
1 Cor. 10:16 The bread that we break and the cup that we bless are a participation in the body and blood of Christ.

Those partaking of the Lord's Supper are to be united in fellowship as one body.

1 Cor. 10:17 Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

Hymn

In This Holy, Blest Communion



1 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion plain and
2 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion Christ and
3 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion saints are

pre - cious gifts com - bine: bread is tru - ly
sin - ners join as one— they, the Fa - ther's
gath - ered side by side, joined to - geth - er,

Je - sus' bod - y, blood of Je - sus joins with wine.
ran - somed chil - dren, he, the Fa - ther's right - ful Son.
broth - ers, sis - ters, in one bod - y u - ni - fied,

What a bless - ing Christ is giv - ing; what a¹⁴
Here the loft - y feeds the low - ly, each his
faith in Je - sus, hope of heav - en, love for



lov - ing, gra - cious host, in his sup - per
high - ly cher - ished guest; here the guilt - y
oth - ers all in - creased by the full - ness



well pro - vid - ing what his peo - ple need the most!
taste for - give - ness, here the wea - ry find their rest.
of the ban - quet, by the rich - ness of the feast.

Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Welsh

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Words of Institution

The pastor speaks the words of institution according to the words of 1 Corinthians 11.

Hymn

141 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing sts. 1-2, 4



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
2 Praise we him whose love di - vine gives his
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast -
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

Distribution

Please be seated after the song. Communicants will come forward at the usher's direction after the song.

Closing Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

Psalms 118:1

His mercy endures forever.

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

Hymn

Immovable Our Hope Remains



1 Im - mov - a - ble our hope re - mains, though shift - ing sands be -
2 This is e - ter - nal life: to know the liv - ing God and
3 The Lord ac - quits, who can con - demn? Though Sa - tan's ac - cu -
4 Built in - to Christ, se - cure we stand, for with his Spir - it



fore us lie; the One who washed a - way our stains shall
Christ, the Son. The Sav - ior will not let us go un -
sa - tions fly, his pow'r can nev - er reach our names, to
we've been sealed; by grace we'll see the prom - ised land where



bear us safe - ly to the skies. The floods may rise, the
til his sav - ing work is done. Our debt was great, as
blot them from the Book of Life. The Son has sure - ly
ev - 'ry sor - row shall be healed. To God who gave his



winds may beat, tor - ren - tial rains de - scend, yet
was our need, but now the price is paid. Who
made us free, his Word for - ev - er stands, and
on - ly Son, to Je - sus Christ, our Lord to



God his own will not for - get; he'll love and keep us
can be - hold Im - man - uel bleed and doubt his will - ing -
all our joy is know - ing we are grav - en on his
God the Spir - it, Three in One, be songs of praise for -



till the end. You'll love and keep us till the end.
ness to save? We trust your will - ing - ness to save.
wound - ed hands. We're grav - en on your wound - ed hands.
ev - er - more. We'll sing your praise for - ev - er - more.

Announcements

Foundations of Faith Class

Foundations is for everyone: people interested in becoming members, those looking to build their faith, or the curious observer who wants to study the Bible without feeling obligated to join a church. This study is Bible-based and discussion-centered. Classes can be arranged to fit personal schedules.



To get plugged in or to request more information, contact Pastor Welch (pastor@peacehoughton.org) or scan the QR code. Childcare is available upon request.

Online Offering Option

If you would like to give an online offering today, please scan the QR code. All online donations are safe and go directly to Peace.



Volunteer Schedule

Date	Usher	Counter	Computer	Snacks
April 12	Cesar	Craig	Zack	Karin
April 19	Steve	Steve	Nate	Amy Spahn
April 26	Cesar	Cody	Mary Ann	Heather
May 3	Steve	Scott	Mary Ann	Sarah Robb

Backpacking Trip

Every summer, a group of students and members go backpacking the week before the fall semester. This summer, we will head to the Porcupine Mountains on August 26-28th. If you are interested in this trip, you can find more information or register by searching for the event in the app/website or by scanning the QR code.



Gift Bags

Students, we are praying for you to finish the year on a high note! On your way out today, be sure to take a gift bag. It's our small way of encouraging you to finish strong this finals week.



PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Peacehoughton.org

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ, to gather college students and the local community into a family of believers, and to share the message of hope and the promise of salvation through grace.