



He Lives to Call Me to Live for Him

PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, May 10, 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 call me to live for him*

Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would be tempted to live only for myself. After all, I have to be in good shape before I can be of help to anyone else, right? I think I know what’s right for me, and I can identify when other people are standing in the way of my self-improvement. If Jesus is dead, I don’t have to worry about what he said or what he thinks.

But he lives, and it makes a difference. He takes care of my basic needs. He promises to do more for me than I can imagine. He puts people into my life so I can help them. Now I live for him.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Mary Ann Krug

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'r'f'ly 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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Please stand

Invocation

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

Amen.

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.

**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.**

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

2 Corinthians
5:14,15

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.

Amen.

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, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; 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 17:22–31

²²Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸“For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

²⁹“Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

God has determined exactly where and when we would live so that we can repent and believe the good news of Jesus’ resurrection.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children’s Lesson

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13–22

St. Peter teaches that baptism saves us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

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

Refrain

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

Hymn of the Day

377 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice sts. 1-6



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, with ex - ul - ta - tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark - ly
- 3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, no mer - it they at -
- 4 But God be - held my wretch-ed state be - fore the world's foun -



spring - ing, and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice and ho - ly
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; in sin my
tain - ing; my will a - gainst God's judg-ment fought, no hope for
da - tion, and, mind - ful of his mer - cies great, he planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, pro-claim the won - ders God has done, how
moth - er bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still I fell; life
me re - main - ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de - spair left
my sal - va - tion. A fa - ther's heart he turned to me, sought



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him!
had be - come a liv - ing hell, so firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
on - ly death to be my share and hell to be my sen - tence.
my re - demp - tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his dear - est trea - sure.

- 5 He spoke to his beloved Son:
 "It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of my crown,
 and bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free;
slay bitter death for them that they
 may live with you forever."

6 The Son obeyed his Father's will,
was born of virgin mother,
and, God's good pleasure to fulfill,
he came to be my brother.
No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore;
a servant's form like mine he bore
to lead the devil captive.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

John 14:15-21

Please stand

Confession of Faith

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Please be seated

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Apostle's 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.

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!

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 in the 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.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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.**

Numbers 6:22-27

Hymn

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here his ten - der com - fort
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and



ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.
glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.
Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

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
May 10	Cody	Craig	Mary Ann	Lesley/Janet
May 17	Steve	Steve	Mary Ann	Gabriela
May 24	Cesar	Cody	Mary Ann	Mary Ann
May 31	Cody	Scott	Mary Ann	Amy Hughes
June 7	Steve	Craig	Mary Ann	Kristie Vlahos



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.

Spring Cleaning at Peace – May 16

On Saturday, May 16, we will be cleaning up the church grounds. We will be picking up sticks, raking leaves, and spreading mulch. The church has some rakes, but if you have your own tools, please bring them. We will begin at 12:30. Thank you for serving in this way!

Newsletters

The May newsletter is available for you to pick up on your way out of worship today.



PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

47745 Mill Rd.
Houghton, MI 49931

Office: 906-482-1602

Pastor Welch's Cell: 906-231-6835

Pastor Welch's Email: pastor@peacehoughton.org

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.