

# Welcome

We are glad that you have joined  
us for worship.

**April 19, 2026**

**Jesus Lives to  
Restore My Hope**

**Guest Pastor Rod Pudell**



# Jesus Lives

**OPENING HYMN: #535**

**Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery (vs.1-4)**

V1. Come, behold the wondrous myst'ry,  
in the dawning of the King,  
he the theme of heaven's praises,  
robed in frail humanity.

In our longing, in our darkness,  
now the light of life has come.  
Look to Christ, who condescended,  
took on flesh to ransom us.

V2. Come, behold the wondrous myst'ry,  
he the perfect Son of Man;  
in his living, in his suff'ring  
never trace nor stain of sin.

See the true and better Adam,  
come to save the hell-bound man.  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
of the law; in him we stand.

V3. Come, behold the wondrous myst'ry,  
Christ the Lord upon the tree;  
in the stead of ruined sinners  
hangs the Lamb in victory.  
See the price of our redemption,  
see the Father's plan unfold,  
bringing many sons to glory,  
grace unmeasured, love untold.

V4. Come, behold the wondrous myst'ry,  
slain by death the God of life;  
but no grave could e'er restrain him;  
praise the Lord; he is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance;  
how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected  
as will we be when he comes.

Please stand

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

# CONFESSION OF SINS

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for self-reflection

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

# LORD, HAVE MERCY (KYRIE)

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

**P:** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

P: For the well-being of your holy Church  
in all the world and for those who  
offer here their worship and praise,  
hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

**C: Amen.**

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Risen Son of God, you set your disciples' hearts aflame with your Word and opened their eyes with the breaking of bread. So too enkindle our hearts and open our eyes to behold the wondrous mystery of your redeeming work, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



# The Word

## FIRST LESSON

**Acts 2:14, 32-41**

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

“God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted 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. For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand  
until I make your enemies  
a footstool for your feet.” ’

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

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

Peter 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. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

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

# SUNG RESPONSE:

**He Is Arisen! Glorious Word**

He is arisen! Glorious Word!

Now reconciled is God, my Lord;

The gates of heav'n are open.

My Jesus did triumphant die,

And Satan's arrows broken lie,

Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon.

Oh, hear  
What cheer!  
Christ victorious,  
Rising glorious,  
Life is giving.  
He was dead,  
but now is living!



# The Word

SECOND LESSON

**1 Peter 1:17-21**

Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. For 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 forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Please stand

## **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 became fully 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.

**SERMON HYMN: #455 Alleluia! Jesus Lives (vs.1-4)**

V1. Alleluia! Jesus lives!

He is now the Living One;  
from the gloomy house of death  
forth the conqueror has gone,  
bright forerunner to the skies  
of his people, yet to rise.

V2. Jesus lives! Let all rejoice;  
praise him, ransomed ones of earth.  
Praise him in a nobler song,  
cherubim of heav'nly birth.  
Praise the Victor-King, whose sway  
sin and death and hell obey.

V3. Jesus lives! Why do you weep?  
Why that sad and frequent sigh?  
He who died our brother here  
lives our brother still on high,  
lives forever to bestow  
blessings on his Church below.

V4. Jesus lives! And thus, my soul,  
life is yours eternally;  
joined to him, your living head,  
where he is, you too shall be;  
you with him at his right hand  
victor over death shall stand.



# The Word

SERMON TEXT

**Luke 24:13-35**

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

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

They stood still, their faces downcast.

One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

“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. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but 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.

“In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”

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

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But 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.

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

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.



# SERMON THEME

## **High Hopes!**

A Living Hope....An  
Eternal Inheritance

HONG KONG FUNERAL HOME

香港殯儀館







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***1 PETER 1:3-5***

***HIGH HOPES!***

***A Living Hope... .An  
Eternal Inheritance***

# Supporting Us...

[2 Corinthians 9:7](#) *Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give... for God loves a cheerful giver.*

***If you feel encouraged to support our ministry you can give electronically today.*** You can also set up recurring offerings automatically just scan the QR.

If you already support us place this card in the offering plate as a sign of your commitment.

***Thanks for your generosity!***



*Give*



Please stand

## **RESPONSIVE OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Lord Jesus, take our hearts and fill them  
with your love;

**C: take our lips and move them to speak of  
your grace;**

P: take our treasures and use them to serve your church;

**C: use our lives to do whatever is needed to spread the gospel here at Ascension, in our community, and around the world, for your mercy's sake. Amen.**



**PRAYER**  
of the  
**CHURCH**

# LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

# THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is good and right so to do.**

**P:** Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.


**C: Amen.**

# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C:   
A - men.

# AGNUS DEI: O Christ, Lamb of God



O Christ, Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the

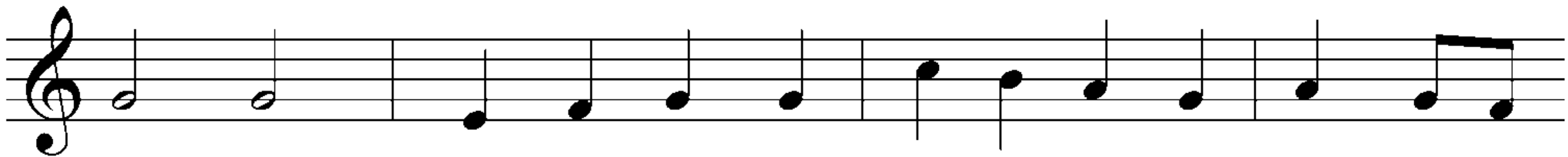


world; have mer-cy on\_\_ us.

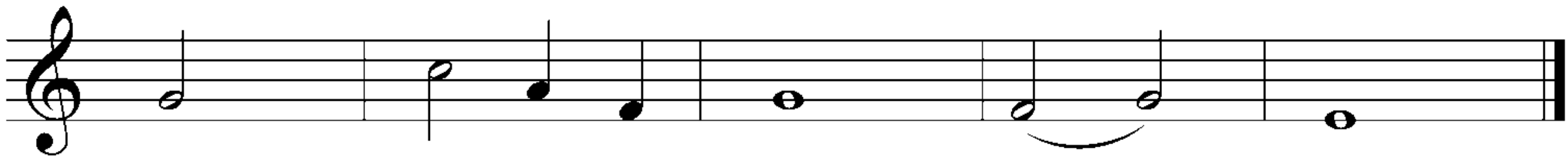
O Christ, Lamb of God, You



take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on\_\_ us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us Your peace. A - men.

# DISTRIBUTION

Communicant members of Ascension Lutheran and other churches in fellowship in the WELS or ELS are invited to receive the Lord's Supper. If you have never communed with us before, we ask that you first speak with our pastor to learn how you can establish a communing fellowship with us. We are eager to help anyone to take this step.

Please Note: The center cups of the individual trays contain white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are labeled on a separate center tray.

# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN: #675**

## **At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

V1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
praise to our victorious King.  
who has washed us in the tide  
flowing from his pierced side.  
Alleluia!

V2.

Praise we him whose love divine  
gives his sacred blood for wine,  
gives his body for the feast—  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.  
Alleluia!

V3.

Where the paschal blood is poured,  
death's dread angel sheathes the sword;

Israel's hosts triumphant go  
thro' the wave that downs the foe.

Alleluia!

V4.

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,  
paschal victim, paschal bread;  
with sincerity and love  
eat we manna from above.  
Alleluia!

V5.

Mighty Victim from the sky,  
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie.

You have conquered in the fight,  
you have brought us life and light.

Alleluia!

V6.

Now no more can death appall,  
now no more the grave enthrall;  
you have opened paradise,  
and your saints in you shall rise.

Alleluia!

V7.

Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
newborn souls in you to be.

Alleluia!

V8.

Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days,  
Three in One, your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

*The Blessings of*  
**The Lord's Supper**

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**RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

**LIFE AND SALVATION**



# PRAYER

**P:** 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.

**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.**

Please be seated

**CLOSING HYMN: #738 Abide with Me (v.1, 5-6)**

V1. Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.

The darkness deepens;

Lord, with me abide.

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

V5.

I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;

what but thy grace

can foil the tempter's pow'r?

Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!

V6.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.

Where is death's sting?

Where, grave, thy victory?

I triumph still if thou abide with me.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# CONNECTION CARD



Please take a moment and fill out the info on the connection card, located under the Worship Today button on our app or on our website. There is a tablet in entryway or scan the QR code.

Please fill out and submit.

Mark Your Calendars



Quarterly Voter's  
Meeting

**April 26**  
After Worship

Stay Up To Date With Us

**“Now is the time to seize the day.” -Jack Kelly**

**West Lutheran Theater presents:**

**Disney**

# **NEWSIES**

**THE BROADWAY MUSICAL**

**SHOWTIMES:**

**Friday 4/24 - 7 PM • Saturday 4/25 - 7 PM**

**Sunday 4/26 - 2 PM**



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Newsies Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)



**Tickets Here!**



**Truth in Love**  
MINISTRY

**PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION**

# **WEST LUTHERAN IDAHO MISSION TRIP**

"Be prepared to give an answer ... for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15

**May 30—JUNE 6 Idaho Falls, ID**

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SUPPORTING THIS MISSION**

**ONLINE DONATION:** [givebutter.com/westmissiontilm26](https://givebutter.com/westmissiontilm26)

**CONTACT:** Pastor Mark A. Kaesmeyer [mkaesmeyer@westlutheran.net](mailto:mkaesmeyer@westlutheran.net)



# THANKS FOR SERVING

- † Guest Pastor: Rod Pudell
- † Pianist/Organist: Cindy Steinke
- † AV Team
- † Serving: Flock #5 – Randy Hebb