

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship

Easter Sunday – RESURRECTION of CHRIST, April 20, 2025

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**WELCOME** Theme of the day, Prayer concerns, & Praise time:



**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of ☩ the One who was,  
who is, and who is to come. **Amen**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, we confess our need for God's absolution and reconciliation.

*A brief silence.* To you, O God, **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Christ Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. Amen**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Grace, mercy, and peace are yours from God Almighty,  
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit. **And also with you.**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Leader and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

**GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:17-25**      *Common English Bible*

*Through the prophet, God promises a new heaven and a new earth. Weeping will pass away, life will be abundant for God's people, and the world—including the wild animals—will be at peace.*

This is a responsive reading from the prophet Isaiah,  
in chapter 65, where God the LORD spoke:

Look! I'm creating a new heaven and a new earth:

**past events won't be remembered;  
they won't come to mind.**

Be glad and rejoice forever in what I'm creating,

**because I'm creating Jerusalem as a joy  
and her people as a source of gladness.**

I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad about my people.

No one will ever hear the sound of weeping or crying in it again.

**No more will babies live only a few days,  
or the old fail to live out their days.**

The one who dies at a hundred will be like a young person,

**and the one falling short of a hundred will seem cursed.**

They will build houses and live in them;

**they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.**

They won't build for others to live in, nor plant for others to eat.

Like the days of a tree will be the days of my people;

**my chosen will make full use of their handiwork.**

They won't labor in vain,

nor bear children to a world of horrors,

**because they will be people blessed by the LORD,  
they along with their descendants.**

Before they call, I will answer;

**while they are still speaking, I will hear.**

Wolf and lamb will graze together,

**and the lion will eat straw like the ox,  
but the snake—its food will be dust.**

They won't hurt or destroy at any place on my holy mountain,  
says the LORD.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43**      *Common English Bible*

*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.*

This is a reading from book of the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 10.

Peter said, "I really am learning that God doesn't show partiality to one group of people over another. Rather, in every nation, whoever worships God and does what is right is acceptable to him. This is the message of peace God sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all!

"You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism John preached. You know about Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and endowed with power. Jesus traveled around doing good and healing everyone oppressed by the devil because God was with him. We are witnesses of everything he did, both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him up on the third day and allowed him to be seen, not by everyone but by us. We are witnesses whom God chose beforehand, who ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12**     *Contemporary English Version*  
*Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices that they had prepared. When they found the stone rolled away from the entrance, they went in. But they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus, and they did not know what to think.

Suddenly two men in shining white clothes stood beside them. The women were afraid and bowed to the ground. But the men said, "Why are you looking in the place of the dead for someone who is alive? Jesus isn't here! He has been raised from death. Remember that while he was still in Galilee, he told you, 'The Son of Man will be handed over to sinners who will nail him to a cross. But three days later he will rise to life.'" Then they remembered what Jesus had said.

Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and some other women were the ones who had gone to the tomb. When they returned, the women told the eleven apostles and the others what had happened. The apostles thought it was all nonsense, and they would not believe. But Peter ran to the tomb. And when he stooped down and looked in, he saw only the burial clothes. Then he returned, wondering what had happened.

This is the Good News of Christ's victory!

**We give praise to you, O Christ!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

## **HYMN of the DAY: "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!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.;  
Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

**MESSAGE**      **ARISE!**      *silence for reflection follows*

### **The CHURCH PRAYS**

#### **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. Heal all those lands recovering from floods, storms, drought, earthquakes, and wildfires. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife: throughout the Middle East and Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen and Myanmar. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community, Fullerton, Overlea, Parkville, Perry Hall, Nottingham and all of Baltimore. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving. We pray for Greg, John, Lori, Mary Lue, Agnes, Joe, George, the family of David Gates, our at-home worshippers, ... God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving David and all of our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray that God's will is done, as Jesus taught us.

**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**

**SPIRIT'S SENDING**

**PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, we return to you. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**

**BLESSING**

O God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit, light your way  
with resurrection dawn, now and forever. **Amen**

**SENT OUT for MISSION**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. **Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
We go in peace to love and serve all.  
**Amen, YES, we will! Alleluia!**

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At the time of this writing, please keep the following in your prayers: ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Synod Bishop Bill Gohl, those hospitalized or at home recuperating, and our at-home worshippers.

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Today's Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

Easter Cross

Given In Loving Memory of my parents,
Vi and Ernest Grimm.

With love from their daughter, Carole.

~ and ~

In Loving Memory of our mother, Audrey Robinson.

Given by the Mills family.

We wish everyone a happy and blessed Easter!

Given by the Mills family.

To the Glory of God and In Memory of
what would have been our 79th wedding anniversary.

Given by Ruth Diepold.

In Celebration of Elaine Barnes' birthday.

Given by Nancy Barnes.

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Attendance for April 13, 2025: 56

***Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities***

***The teachers and staff of St. Peter's Lutheran Church & Elementary School wish you all a safe and blessed Easter holiday!***

**Please Welcome Jason Brown** to the St. Peter's family! Jason became a member of St. Peter's congregation last Sunday (4/13).

**Easter Flowers:** Many thanks to our Easter flower sponsors for helping to decorate the church with God's beauty! If you sponsored Easter flowers, you are welcome to take them after today's worship. Please initial the check list on the Lectern. Any flowers remaining after Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> will be given to a good home.

**REMINDER: The church office and SPES will be closed through April 25<sup>th</sup>, reopening on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**Sponsorships Available:** Altar flowers for 8:45 am. worship on 5/18 (contact the church office). Altar flowers for 10:15 am. worship on 5/4 & 11 (contact Nancy Barnes).

**Save the date!** SPES will have an Open House on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am.-12 noon.

**Please welcome Mrs. April Blahut**, the new principal of St. Peter's Elementary School! Mrs. Blahut will be installed on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Baskets, Bags & More Bingo:** Saturday, May 3rd for St. John's, Parkville. The bingo will be held at St. Ursula Auditorium (8900 Harford Rd., 21234), doors open at 6 pm. and games begin at 7 pm. Tickets are \$20/person in advance and \$25 at the door. Event includes regular and special games, 50/50, door prizes, and raffles. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. For tickets or more information, call tony at 443-474-2727 or the church office at 410-665-1234.

**Designer Purse Bingo:** Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). Doors open at noon and games begin at 1 pm. Tickets are \$25/person in advance or \$30 at the door. There will be 20 games of regular bingo, specials, door prizes, and a 50/50. Food and drinks will be available for sales; BYO beer or wine. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Kim at 443-415-5824 or the church office at 410-444-5171.



**Neighbor In Need:** There is a nearby neighbor who is in need of someone to do minor repairs and ongoing work (ie., yard work, light cleaning, food shopping, etc.). If you are able and interested in helping, please contact Joy in the office (410-665-7300) for contact information.

**Clothes Needed:** Lutheran Mission Society's Compassion Place HQ is in need of children's clothes and men's large clothes. Donations can be dropped off at 601 Hammonds Ln., 21225.

**For every NEW regular deposit account** opened at Eastern Savings Bank (Fullerton branch only) St. Peter's Lutheran Church receives \$5! Visit the Fullerton branch at 4113 Wholesale Club Drive, Suite 130 or go to [EasternSavingsBank.com](http://EasternSavingsBank.com).

**On-line Giving:** As an alternate way of submitting your offering, you can make donations on-line through PayPal! Login to your PayPal account and search for our tag: @Spl367 or St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Christian Day School.

### ***News from St. Peter's Elementary School & PACE***

Enrollment for the 2025-26 school year has begun! Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!