

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Third Sunday of EASTER, April 14, 2024
Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship



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**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

*We make the sign of the cross, which was marked on us at baptism.*  
We bless the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy. **Amen**

In hope, we seek reconciliation and renewal in Jesus' resurrection life.  
*Silence for prayer and reflection.* 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 Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

P: The grace of our Savior Jesus, **who rose from the dead,**  
the love of God, **who brings hope to a broken world,**  
and the fellowship of Spirit, **who awakens our hearts to life,**  
are always with you. **And also with you.**

We join in prayer. *A brief silence.* Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19**

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the 3rd chapter.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of

Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

This is Holy Wisdom, God’s Holy Word.

**SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7**

*Common English Bible*

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

This is a reading from John’s first letter to the believers, the 3rd chapter.

See what kind of love the Father has given to us in that we should be called God’s children, and that is what we are! Because the world didn’t recognize God, it doesn’t recognize us.

Dear friends, now we are God’s children, and it hasn’t yet appeared what we will be. We know that when Christ appears we will be like him because we’ll see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves even as he is pure. Every person who practices sin commits an act of rebellion, and sin is rebellion. You know that Christ appeared to take away sins, and there is no sin in him. Every person who remains in relationship to Jesus does not sin. Any person who sins has not seen him or known him.

This is Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

**This is the Holy Gospel of the Resurrection of Christ,  
as the Word was given to Luke, the 24th chapter.**

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch

me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**\*HYMN of the DAY: # 366 "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
now is the victor's triumph won!  
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst;  
Jesus their legions has dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!
- 3 The three sad days have quickly sped,  
Christ rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!
- 4 Christ closed the yawning gates of hell;  
the bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!
- 5 Lord, by the stripes that wounded you,  
from death's sting free your servants too,  
that we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Symphonia Sirenum, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909

**MESSAGE:**            **FIRST BREAKFAST**            *silence for reflection follows*

## **The CHURCH PRAYS**

### **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. Help all who have suffered from weather disasters.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Genevieve, our at-home worshippers, ...

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

### **MISSION PRAYER**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts and service that we offer be signs of your

abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray that we may do God's will, as Jesus has 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**

#### **BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope bless † you now and always. **Amen**

#### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ is always with you. **And also with you.**

*Please greet your household and friends online with Peace.*

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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

In Honor of Dillon's 4th birthday
and Aidan Heinbaugh's April 28th birthday.
Given by Linda Heinbaugh.

In Celebration of Ashley's and Rachel's birthdays.
Given by Cathy and Mark McQuade.

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*Today's Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God*

In Loving Memory of Henry Volz  
for his April 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by the Volz family.

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Attendance for April 7, 2024: 45

Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities

Thank You to Pr. Lans and the congregation for all the visits, cards, thoughts, and prayers during my recent illness and recovery. –Genevieve Sacker

A special Thank You to Kathy Shull for the altar flowers, and thank you to everyone for their cards and calls for my special day! I know God has truly blessed me. –Ruth Diepold

Sponsorship Available: Altar flowers for 8:45 am. on 4/28 (contact the church office).

We have exciting news! You can now 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.

Flea Market: Saturday, May 4th at St. Michael (9534 Belair Rd., 21236) from 8 am.-12 pm. (rain date 5/11). Spaces are available for \$20 (size is 10x18). Contact Linda at 410-852-7826.

Baskets, Bags & More Bingo: Saturday, May 4th. Doors open at 6 pm., games begin at 7 pm. The event is being hosted by St. John's (Parkville) but will be taking place at St. Ursula Auditorium (8900 Harford Rd., 21234). Tickets are \$20/person in advance or \$25 at the door. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Contact tony at 443-474-2727 or the church office at 410-665-1234.

Purse Bingo: Sunday, May 5th at St. Luke Lutheran (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). Doors open at 12 noon, games begin at 1 pm. Cost is \$25/person in advance or \$30 at the door. Refreshments will be available for sale. BYO wine or beer. Contact Kim at 443-415-5824 or the church office at 410-444-5171 for information. Cashapp and Venmo accepted.

Community Yard Sale: Saturday, June 1st from 8 am.-1 pm. at St. John's, Parkville (8808 Harford Rd., 21234). Spaces are \$20 for 1 and \$30 for 2 (bring your own table and chair) and must be reserved by 5/28. Space is approximately size of 2 parking spaces. Contact Chris Hills at 410-952-4920 or cr_hills@yahoo.com. Vendors may not sell food as St. John's will have a concession stand.

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.

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***News from St. Peter's Elementary School***

"Open Enrollment" for the 2024-25 school year continues. Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!

Our weekly chapel services are every Wednesday at 9:15 am. Parents and families are always welcome to join us!

All items for the SPES electronics upcycling/recycling event should be brought in by Tuesday, April 23rd. Items can be working and non-working electronics, including: computers, monitors, tvs, small kitchen appliances (blenders, toasters, etc.), electronic game devices, and much, much, more! Lists of acceptable items are available upon request. For additional items not on the list, contact Lauren at [laurenl@upcyclellc.com](mailto:laurenl@upcyclellc.com).

All are invited to a delightfully, delicious ice cream social on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> in the fellowship hall. This event is being hosted by St. Peter's PACE.