

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

RESURRECTION of CHRIST, EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024

Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship

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The CHURCH'S GATHERING

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

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**

We thank you, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image
and placed us in a well-watered garden.

**In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave water from the rock.**

When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd
to lead us to still waters.

**At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side,
and today you once again shower us with the water of life.**

We praise you for your salvation given through the gift of water
that washes all the baptized.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY

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.* O God, you gave your only Son to suffer
death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you
delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we
may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43 *Contemporary English Version*
*Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews
from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and*



resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

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

Peter said to Cornelius and his household, "Now I am certain that God treats all people alike. God is pleased with everyone who worships him and does right, no matter what nation they come from. This is the same message that God gave to the people of Israel, when he sent Jesus Christ, the Lord of all, to offer peace to them.

"You surely know what happened everywhere in Judea. It all began in Galilee after John had told everyone to be baptized. God gave the Holy Spirit and power to Jesus from Nazareth. God was with Jesus, as he went around doing good and healing everyone who was under the power of the devil. We all saw what Jesus did both in Israel and in the city of Jerusalem.

"Jesus was put to death on a cross. But three days later, God raised him to life and let him be seen. Not everyone saw him. He was seen only by us, who ate and drank with him after he was raised from death. We were the ones God chose to tell others about him.

"God told us to announce clearly to the people that Jesus is the one God has chosen to judge the living and the dead. Every one of the prophets has said that all who have faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven in his name."

This is Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

This is a reading from the Paul's 1st letter to the church in Corinth, the 15th chapter.

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Kephias [Peter], then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I

am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

This is Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

**This is the Holy Gospel of the Resurrection of Christ,
as the Word was given to Mark, the 16th chapter.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus' body. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

MESSAGE: *Living One*

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

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.*
Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world.

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

Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope.

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

Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife.

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

Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day.

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

Loving God, we pray for this community of faith and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others.

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

We especially pray for John, Genevieve, George, the family of Beth Thompson, our at-home worshippers, ...

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

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we remember Beth and all who have gone before us in death especially John Donne and all whose ministry in the arts inspired generations

to faith. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion.

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**

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, the family of Beth Thompson who passed away 3/26, 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.

In Honor of Robyn (Harry) Thompson's April 6<sup>th</sup> birthday.

With love from Mom.

We wish everyone a happy and blessed Easter!

Given by the Mills family.

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

In Honor of Joe Mills' birthday, April 2nd.

Given by the Sykes family.

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Attendance for March 24, 2024: 51

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

***The tomb is empty! Christ IS alive! Rejoice and sing!***

**Easter Break:** The church office and school will be closed through April 5<sup>th</sup>. We wish you all a happy and safe Easter holiday!

**Pancake Breakfast:** All are invited to celebrate Easter breakfast from 7-11 am. in the fellowship hall on Easter Sunday. Enjoy fresh, hot pancakes with your favorite toppings!

**Penny Harvest:** On Easter Sunday, we will be collecting the penny containers for our Sunday school. If you've filled a container, please return it to a Sunday school participant. If you forget your container, no worries. Just see Heather Frederick. Money collected from the containers will go toward purchasing Bibles for the Gideons.

**Thank You** to everyone who sponsored Easter flowers to adorn the altar! You may take your flowers after this morning's services. Be sure to initial by your name on the check off list at the lectern. Flowers left after April 7<sup>th</sup> will be given to a good home.

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

**Spaghetti Lunch:** Join the church and school families on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> for a spaghetti lunch in the hall following the 10:15 am. worship.

**Prayer Group:** Are you hoping to keep up "Jesus Time" as we slide into spring? TRY US on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access). Thirty minutes, minimum, of talking to God and each other, at a mid-week time of renewal!

**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.

**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).

### ***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!

SPES Annual Art Show in the hall on Thursday, April 11th at 7 pm. Come see the artistic talent of the students in our school!

SPES is hosting an electronics upcycling/recycling event through April 23rd. They're collecting 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 [lauren1@upcyclellc.com](mailto:lauren1@upcyclellc.com).