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WELCOME!

We welcome everyone to our worship today - and a special welcome to those who are guests or visitors this day!

We at Peace Lutheran are a family of believers who share a common faith in **Jesus** as our **Savior**. What we believe is based on God's Word, the Bible. It is our goal not only to hear God's Word so we keep growing in faith, but we also want to share God's Word with everyone because Jesus died and rose again in order to save us all.

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**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
2011**

May 1,

Today's **order of worship** is found in this worship folder. The hymns and the psalm for today are found in the red hymnals in the pews.

If you are in need of a **restroom**, the restrooms are located in the lobby of the church at the back on the right. If you have a small child who begins to cry, a **nursery** is available through the door marked nursery in the lobby of the church at the back to the left.

In **Lutheran worship** the good news about Jesus Christ is the center of our focus. We gather to hear his saving Word, to give thanks to God for the free gift of salvation, and to pray. With Christ and his Word in our hearts we are ready to go into the world to serve God and others.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord God, we thank you for another opportunity to celebrate the Easter victory that Jesus has won for us. Guide and bless us in worship today and cause our hearts to swell with joy in knowing that Easter takes away our fears. We pray in the name of our victorious and risen Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King. Amen.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The order of worship is printed in this bulletin. It is basically the same service you will find on page 38 in the front of the red hymnal.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

EASTER MEANS NO FEAR OF POVERTY

Our series continues as we worship God for another Easter blessing – Easter Means No Fear of Poverty. We'll rejoice today that Easter makes us rich. No matter what our portfolios look like or if we are prepared for retirement or not, we need not fear, since God shares with us the wealth of his love. No amount of earthly wealth could come close to bringing us the joy that the riches of everlasting glory in heaven bring us. And even in this world, even if the economy is unstable, we have the rock-solid promise of God, that he will guard and guide us through this world. With God's protection and his promises, we don't need to fear anything, not even poverty!!!

WELCOME: We greet each other and welcome everyone to worship.

HYMN: # 160

This Joyful Eastertide

GREETING: (Christian Worship p. 38)

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: We have come into the presence of God who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins and plead for his mercy.

ALL: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: (Christian Worship p. 39)

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C:  **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

Your Word, O Lord, is eternal;

It stands firm in the heavens.

Your faithfulness continues forever.

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

ALL: O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and Sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  A-men.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32 (NIV)

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

²² “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

“ ‘I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will live in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

²⁹ “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE: #265 st. 1 and 2 This is the Feast of Victory for our God

Refrain, Stanza 1, Refrain, Stanza 2, Final Refrain

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3–9 (NIV)

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

VERSE OF THE DAY: *Response is CW #154 Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks*

P: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia! (John 20:29b)

♪ **Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.

Spread the Good News o’er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.**

GOSPEL: John 20:19–31 (NIV)

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C:  **Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.

HYMN: #165 st. 1–4

O Sons and Daughters of the King

SERMON: 1 Peter 1:3–9

EASTER MEANS NO FEAR OF POVERTY

Easter Gives Us a Lasting Inheritance

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH IN GOD (Apostles' 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.**

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS IN THANKS TO GOD

One way that we, the members of Peace, worship God is by giving generous monetary offerings to thank God for the many blessings He has given us. If you are visiting and would like to participate in giving an offering, feel free to do so, but please do not feel that you are obligated to participate in the offering. You are our guest. We thank you for the opportunity to share God's Word with you!

We would ask that our members and guests alike, please sign the friendship register at this time. They are found at the aisles of each pew.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Spoken by the Leader

LORD'S PRAYER:

ALL: 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.

HYMN: #166

The Day of Resurrection

PRAYER:

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  **A-men.**

BLESSING:

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C:  **Amen. Amen. A-men.**

CLOSING SONG:

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

This song will be projected on the wall.

The service concludes with a time for silent prayer.