



Peace Lutheran Church

3340 Eleventh Avenue South,
Great Falls, Montana 59405

Office: 406-761-7343

Rev. Joshua Reinke, Pastor

Fax: 406-452-3884

www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org

Pastor Reinke: Pastor@peacelutherangreatfalls.org

Peace's secretary:

Secretary@peacelutherangreatfalls.org

May 2026

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Did you enjoy the dark days of winter? Many people do enjoy the colder days. They enjoy cupping their hands around a warm drink while enjoying the changing of the leaves. Others enjoy being on the slopes skiing or snowboarding. Yet now, the birds are singing. The flowers are starting to bloom. The trees are putting forth green shoots. It finally feels like spring! Winter's cold grasp is finally over.

The same is true of the cold, dark grasp of our sins and the Devil. We are by our very nature, originally, under the control of the Devil. We fell into his grasp when Adam and Eve gave into the temptation to eat the fruit they were commanded by God not to eat. Since then, every human being is born under the Devil's control. We have no way to save ourselves from our enslavement. We have nothing to look forward to but everlasting death and torment.

Yet, just as winter's cold and darkness gives way to springs light and greenery, so too does our eternal death give way to eternal life. This is not because of anything we have done. Rather, it is because of the grace and mercy of God. Because of His love for us, God sent His Beloved Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He lived a perfect life in place of His flock. He bears all of your sins, and mine, and forgives them by shedding His blood upon the cross for us. He has destroyed the power of the Devil by binding him forever. Through the holy Scriptures and the beloved Sacraments, Jesus takes us from the kingdom of darkness and brings us into His kingdom forever, that we may proclaim the wonders of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is indeed Risen! Let our joy always shine forth as we live out our lives unto life everlasting.

Your Servant in Christ,
Rev. Joshua Reinke

**T
H
A
N
K
S

TO**

Val Martin, Gloria Creek, Tristin Reinke, and Jean Zier for playing organ during our worship services.

The members of the voice choir and bell choir for enhancing our worship services.

Tristin Reinke for directing both choirs.

The Youth who prepared, cooked, decorated and served the Easter breakfast on Easter morning.

Everyone on the Prayer Chain for their time and prayers.

All those people who volunteer to serve as officers in our congregation.

Elsie Huss for changing the banners and paraments.

Everyone on the Prayer Chain for their time and prayers.

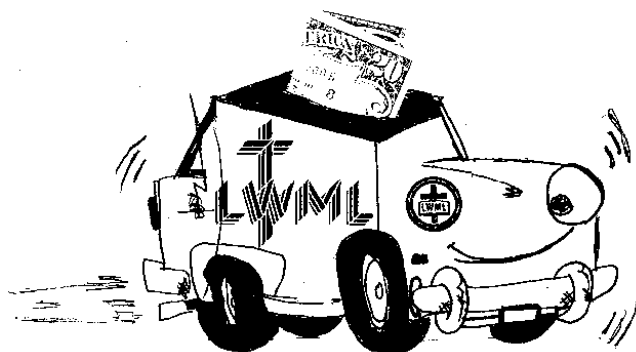
Robert Fletcher for cleaning the church.

Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

This list is not inclusive. Please accept our apologies if we have missed giving you credit for serving the Lord in any fashion. We know that the Lord knows your service to Him.

LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Saturday, May 9 at 11:00 a.m. with a Bible study.** We will have elections of officers and a brief meeting. All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! Remember your Mite Boxes!
- ♥ **Our annual planning meeting will be on Saturday, July 11, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.** This is the meeting that we discuss the coming year's activities, events and projects. All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and help with the planning for the coming year.





May Anniversaries

- May 1 - Leonard and Eva Sivumaki
- May 10 - Mitch and Val Martin
- May 10 - Mike and Cheri Magnuson
- May 22 – Blair and Alix Johnson
- May 25 – Greg and Kaye Franczyk

Baptismal Anniversaries

- | | | |
|-----|----|------------------|
| May | 5 | Trey Short |
| | 7 | Gary Link |
| | 13 | Bruce Kempf |
| | 21 | Madeline Creek |
| | 21 | Shannon Birkholz |
| | 31 | Ann Nimmick |



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

- Ben Aagaard** – 13 year old with health issues
- Marylan Dallum** – health issues - Fort Benton
- Jody Decker** – health issues - Fort Benton
- Michael Drummond** – Lupus
- Angelika Fisher**, health issues
- Rev. Mark Grunst** of Billings who has Lewy Body disease
- Rev. Erich Kaelberer** – ALS
- Bruce Kempf** – health issues
- Becky Schlund** - MS
- Steven Schlund** - Parkinsons

Ushers for May

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------|
| May 3 ----- | Greg Franczyk |
| ----- | Tyler Denning |
| May 10----- | Pat Lewis |
| ----- | Jayden McPartlin |
| May 17----- | Cole McPartlin |
| ----- | Arnie Gidlow |
| May 24----- | Dennis Nivens |
| ----- | Jeff Blomgren |
| May 31----- | Lyle and Andrew Onstad |

Echoz Baby Bottle Campaign

On Mother’s Day, May 10, we will be handing out baby bottles for the Echoz Baby Bottle Campaign that we do every year. Please fill the bottle with your spare change or write a check made out to Echoz and bring it back on Father’s Day, June 21st. Thank you for your continued support!

Vacation Bible School dates set

The dates for VBS have been set for **June 15-19, 2026 from 9 AM to 1:15 PM**. The theme is “**Wake, Awake – Watching for Jesus**”. Come and join us!! If you would like to help in any way, please contact Linda Aguiar at 406-402-9521 or Pastor Reinke.

Wee Disciples Fund Raiser

Every third Tuesday of the month, you can help raise funds for Wee Disciples by eating at Fuddruckers! No coupon necessary! Just mention Wee Disciples and they will donate 20% of your meal proceeds to We Disciples!

Offering Counters needed

We are in search of people to help count the offering each Sunday. You may sign up for 1 week or for multiple weeks, whichever best fits your schedule. If you are interested in helping serve the Lord and the members of Peace Lutheran in this fashion, there is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board. If you need to be trained on how to count offering, please contact Greg Franczyk.

Installation of officers

Those officers who are elected at the voters meeting will be installed on **Sunday, May 17** during our 10 AM worship service.

Wednesday morning Men’s Bible Study

The Wednesday morning Men’s Bible Study meets at R&R Diner. They meet at 6:30 AM each Wednesday. ALL men are invited and welcome to join!



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Save Your
Items for Our
Rummage Sale



Rummage Sale

The Camp Committee and members of Christ for the Deaf
have set the date for the rummage sale as
Saturday, May 15 and 16 beginning at 8 AM
and going until we are done.

We will be setting up on Thursday, May 14.
Proceeds will help defray costs for camp.

If you have some things to donate or are interested in helping in any
way, please talk with
Tim VanderMolen or Pastor Reinke.

Camp Dates

Dates for church camp are **August 13 through 16, 2026**. We meet at Trinity Camp in Bigfork,
Montana. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and join us.
If you want to help in anyway, please talk with Pastor Reinke.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(3 May 2026)

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

1 Peter 2:2–10

John 14:1–14

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Way, the Truth and the Life

The risen Lord Jesus alone is “the way, and the truth, and the life,” and we come “to the Father” only through Him (John 14:6). God is thus “glorified in the Son,” and those who believe in Him will do the works of Christ because He goes to the Father for us (John 14:12–14). Stephen, “a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 6:5) and “doing great wonders and signs among the people” (Acts 6:8), did the works of Christ. When he was falsely accused and put to death, he “gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God” (Acts 7:55). Fixing his hope there, he commended his spirit to the Lord Jesus and prayed for his murderers. In the same way, all the baptized are called to follow the example of Christ Jesus by faith. Though He was “rejected by men” in the sight of God, He is “chosen and precious” (1 Peter 2:4). He is the chief cornerstone of the Father’s “spiritual house,” and we are built upon Him as “living stones” (1 Peter 2:5).

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(10 May 2026)

Acts 17:16–31

1 Peter 3:13–22

John 14:15–21

The Lord Jesus Comforts Us with the Preaching of His Resurrection

“The God who ... gives to all mankind life and breath and everything” (Acts 17:24–25) wants all people to seek Him that they might “feel their way toward him and find him” (Acts 17:27). But in our sinful ignorance, we humans turn instead to idols “formed by the art and imagination of man” (Acts 17:29). Therefore, God appointed the Man of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, and “has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead” (Acts 17:31). Because He lives, we also live (John 14:19) in His forgiveness, and thus we love Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). While the risen Lord prepares us for His ascension, He will not leave us “as orphans” (John 14:18), but He gives “another Helper,” the Holy Spirit, to be with us forever (John 14:16) through the preaching of “Jesus and the resurrection” (Acts 17:18). Because He “suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous” (1 Peter 3:18), we “honor Christ the Lord as holy” and are always “prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks” for the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). Our Baptism “now saves” us “as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

(14 May 2026)

Acts 1:1–11

Ephesians 1:15–23

Luke 24:44–53

The Ascended Lord Jesus Is with Us Always in His Church on Earth

After He rose from the dead, the Lord Jesus presented Himself alive to the apostles, “appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God” (Acts 1:3). When He ascended to the right hand of the Father, He did not orphan His Church, but He fills all things in heaven and on earth and gives gifts to His disciples. Even now, through His Church, He continues “to do and teach” (Acts 1:1), preaching “repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Luke 24:47) even “to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Though the cloud hid Jesus from the sight of His disciples then, and He remains hidden from sight even now, He remains with His people through His Gospel and Sacraments. He comes to us by the Word of His apostles, by the promise of His Father and by the power of the Holy Spirit, whom He pours out upon “the church, which is his body” (Eph. 1:22–23). In this holy Christian Church, we bless God and worship Christ with joy, for in His Church He blesses us with forgiveness, lifts us up in His hands and seats us with Himself “in the heavenly places” (Eph. 1:20).

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(17 May 2026)

Acts 1:12–26

1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11

John 17:1–11

Our Lord Jesus Is with Us in the Upper Room of His Church on Earth

On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus prayed for His apostles and His Church on earth. “The hour” had come when the Father would glorify His Son by the cross (John 17:1). Through the shedding of His blood, He would bring forgiveness for the sins of the world, and in His resurrection and ascension He would unite all Christians with the Father “that they may be one” with God (John 17:11). He manifested His name to the apostles and gave them the words of the Father to speak in His name. The apostolic witness of His cross and resurrection (Acts 1:21–22) gathers disciples together “with one accord” into the one Body of Christ (Acts 1:14). “Devoting themselves to prayer,” they wait upon the Lord in “the upper room” (Acts 1:13–14), the place of His Holy Supper. Strengthened by the Gospel, Christians bear the cross of Christ in patience and peace, rejoicing to share in His suffering, in order that they “may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed” (1 Peter 4:13).

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

(24 May 2026)

Numbers 11:24–30

Acts 2:1–21

John 7:37–39

The Risen Lord Jesus Pours Out the Holy Spirit

The Lord took “some of the Spirit” that was on Moses “and put it on the seventy elders” of Israel (Num. 11:25), and they “prophesied in the camp” (Num. 11:26). In the same way, our risen Lord Jesus poured out His Holy Spirit at the Feast of Pentecost — the 50th day and the “Eighth Sunday” of Easter. When “a sound like a mighty rushing wind” and “tongues as of fire appeared” and rested on each of the 12 apostles, “they were all filled with the Holy Spirit” and proclaimed “the mighty works of God” (Acts 2:2–4, 11). The Lord Jesus grants this same Spirit to His Church on earth to proclaim Him glorified on the cross and risen victorious from the grave for us sinners. From His open heart, our crucified and risen Lord pours out His Holy Spirit in “rivers of living water” (John 7:38) and invites everyone who thirsts to come to Him and drink freely (John 7:37). Through this life-giving work of the Holy Spirit, we hear our pastors “telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God” (Acts 2:11), and “everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21).

THE HOLY TRINITY

(31 May 2026)

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Acts 2:14a, 22–36

Matthew 28:16–20

The Holy Triune God Recreates Us in the Image and Likeness of Christ Jesus

The holy Triune God “created the heavens and the earth,” and “behold, it was very good” (Gen. 1:1, 31). However, after Adam and Eve fell into sin and plunged God’s good creation into decay and death, the Son of God would be “delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God” to be “crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men” (Acts 2:23). As Jesus “received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:33), He also raises up all the baptized and pours out the Spirit upon them through the preaching of His Gospel. He sends out His apostles to “make disciples of all nations” by “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” and “teaching them to observe all that [He has] commanded” (Matt. 28:19–20). Through such baptizing and teaching — Gospel and Sacraments — the holy Triune God recreates us in the image and likeness of His incarnate Son, Jesus, the Christ, and behold, it is “very good” (Gen. 1:31).