



# Philip and the Ethiopian

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*April 28, 2024*

*Peace Lutheran Church  
3340 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Great Falls, MT 59405  
406-761-7343*

*[www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org](http://www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org)*

*First Lutheran Church  
P. O. Box 896  
Fort Benton, MT 59442-0896*



*Congregations of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod*

*Pastor: Rev. Joshua Reinke*  
*Secretary: Ruth Denning*  
*Today's Servants:*  
*Deacon: Arnie Gidlow*  
*Organist: Gloria Creek*  
*Ushers: Arnie Gidlow and Pat Lewis*

**Birthdays this week:**

May 4 – Brook Gerard

**Baptism Birthdays this week**

**Anniversaries this week:**

May 1 – Leonard and Eva Sivumaki

**Our Mission Statement:**

**Gathered as the Body of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit to bring Christ Crucified to the World.**

*TIME OF SILENCE -- We appreciate the sounds of friends greeting each other and the words of welcome that are exchanged. They are evidence of the love and care we have for one another. However, when the chimes sound, we ask that our conversations be brought to a close and our attention turned to some quiet meditation in preparation for the worship service.*

**PARTICIPATION IN THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR –**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

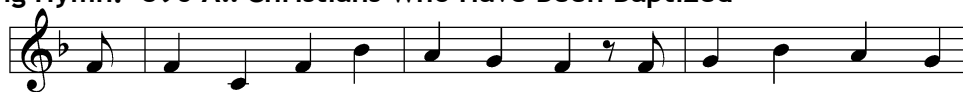
Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Cor. 11:27) and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament are asked first to meet with the pastor before communing.

# Divine Worship - Setting Three

## Lutheran Service Book - Page 184

### Confession and Absolution

#### Opening Hymn: 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of  
 2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-  
 3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-merged and drowned for-  
 4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of  
 cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-  
 ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-  
 cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The  
 out-ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned  
 gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-destroyed And  
 for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!  
 in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.  
 all our sin-ful selves em-plied Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.  
 makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.

5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift  
 And give God thanks forever!  
 It gives the power to uplift  
 In all that you endeavor.  
 When nothing else revives your soul,  
 Your Baptism stands and makes you whole  
 And then in death completes you.

6 So use it well! You are made new—  
 In Christ a new creation!  
 As faithful Christians, live and do  
 Within your own vocation,  
 Until that day when you possess  
 His glorious robe of righteousness  
 Bestowed on you forever!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961  
 Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, 1524, Wittenberg  
 Text: © 2004 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003597  
 Tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace** – You may greet those around you by saying, “Peace of the Lord be with you.” If you do NOT wish to participate, please sit down.

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

A little while, and you will see me no | longer;\*  
 and again a little while, and you will | see me.  
 I will extol you, my | God and King,\*  
 and bless your name forever and | ever.  
 Every day I will | bless you\*  
 and praise your name forever and | ever.  
 The LORD is gracious and | merciful,\*  
 slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.  
 All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,\*  
 and all your saints shall | bless you!  
 My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
 and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

A little while, and you will see me no | longer;\*  
 and again a little while, and you will | see me.

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*



**C** Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

# Gloria in Excelsis

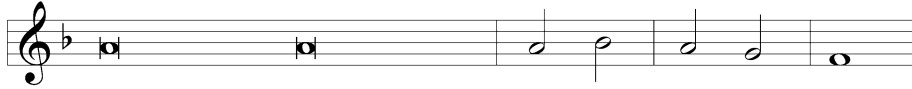
**P** Glory be to God on high:



**C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



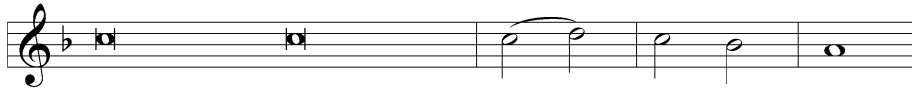
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



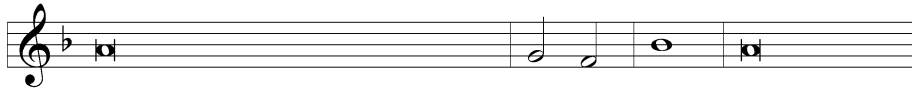
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



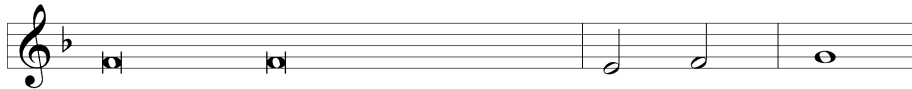
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Acts 8:26-40*

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

## Epistle

1 John 4:1–21

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup>By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup>And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia

LSB 190



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Verse of the Day

Romans 6:9; John 14:23

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

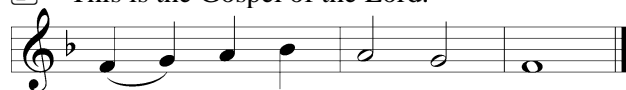
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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  $\ddagger$  everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

## Hymn of the Day: 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



- our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phiant go  
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



- Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!

Continued



7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
 Newborn souls in You to be.  
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days:  
 Three in One, Your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
 Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivanceice  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### Sermon based on Acts 8:26-40

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

*Stand*

### Offertory

LSB 192

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit*

### Offering

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, Your only Son came in the flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Protect us from all false teaching and the spirit of the Antichrist, that we may always confess Christ to be our only true God and remain faithful to Him. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You have grafted us onto the vine of Your Son. Prune us and cut off from us all sin and dead works, that we may always draw life from Your Son and produce the fruits of faith and good works. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Savior of all people, in the water of Baptism You welcome sinners into Your kingdom and give them life. Grant that we would always honor and extol this gift, and let nothing prevent people from it. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, give health and guidance to our president and all in authority, that they may serve honorably and in accord with Your good order. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, You hear and answer Your children in their hour of need. Give aid to **Val, Ken, Eloise, Rachel, Sharon, Ann, Dennis, Carol, Bruce, Connie, Erich, Michael, Mark, Becky, Steve, Ben, Mary Ann, Jody, the Van Oman family, Marylan,** and those we name in our hearts. Grant that they would bear their crosses with faith, ever looking to You, and so fix their hearts where true joy is found. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, bless those among us who celebrate gifts of life and family, on their birthdays, especially **Brook,** and those celebrating their baptismal birthdays, that they exult with us in these blessings as tokens of forgiveness in Christ Jesus and foretastes of resurrection to everlasting life in the new creation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, thank you for another year of married life together for **Leonard And Eva.** Open their hearts always to receive more of Your love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, You are love, and You always reveal Your love through Your Son. Grant that all who come to Your feast of love may worthily eat of Christ's body and blood, so that whoever abides in this love forever abides in You and You in him. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Father, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and answer our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, and Your saints shall bless You; for You live and reign with the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Service of the Sacrament

*If you would like to know more about our belief and practice of Holy Communion, please see the announcement in the front of the bulletin. If you have not communed here before, we kindly ask you to refrain from doing so until you have had the opportunity to visit with the pastor before the service.*

### Preface

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

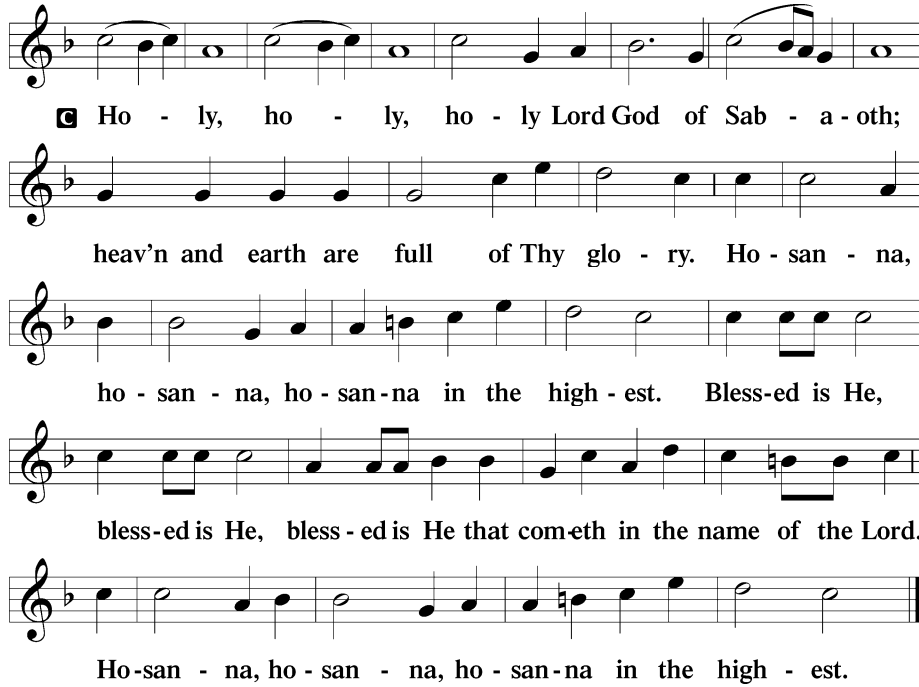


**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**C** 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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the  
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**C** A - men.

# Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

*Sit*

## Distribution Hymns:

### 632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt  
2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is  
thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -  
come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -  
ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.  
in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851-1928  
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -  
 2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment  
 3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a  
 4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort  
 that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -  
 sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly  
 Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.  
 tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.  
 Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.  
 as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

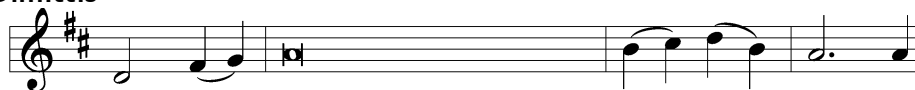
- 5 We dare not ask how this can be,  
 But simply hold the mystery  
 And trust this word where life begins:  
 "Given and shed for all your sins."
- 6 They who this word do not believe  
 This food unworthily receive,  
 Salvation here will never find—  
 May we this warning keep in mind!
- 7 But blest is each believing guest  
 Who in these promises finds rest;  
 For Jesus shall in love remain  
 With all who here His grace obtain.
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe  
 That we may worthily receive  
 Your Supper and in You find rest.  
 Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1-4, 6-8): Haquin Spegel, 1645-1714; (sts. 1-4, 6-8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841-1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite  
 Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy  
 peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

**Thanksgiving**

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**Benedicamus**

LSB 202

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



**G** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn: 484 Make Songs of Joy



1 Make songs of joy to Christ, our head; Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Our life was pur - chased by His loss; Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 O death, where is your dead - ly sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 And where your vic - to - ry, O grave, Al - le - lu - ia!



He lives a - gain who once was dead! Al - le - lu - ia!  
He died our death up - on the cross. Al - le - lu - ia!  
As - sumed by our tri - um - phant King! Al - le - lu - ia!  
When one like Christ has come to save? Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Behold, the tyrants, one and all,  
Alleluia!  
Before our mighty Savior fall!  
Alleluia!

△ 6 For this be praised the Son who rose,  
Alleluia!  
The Father, and the Holy Ghost!  
Alleluia!

Text: Juraj Tranovský, 1591–1637; tr. Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008  
Tune: Velká Partitúra, 1936, ed. Juraj Chorvát  
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## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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## PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK.

We pray for shut-ins, including **Connie Juden**. We pray for those suffering from disease: **Rev. Erich Kaelberer** of Cody WY, **Michael Drummond**; **Rev. Mark Grunst** of Billings, **Becky Schlund**, and **Rev. Steve Schlund**. We pray for **Sharon Bossie**, **Ben Aagaard** and **Rachel Manley** who are battling cancer. We pray for **Val Martin**, **Ken Meske**, **Eloise Morehead**, **Dennis Nivens**, **Carol Thurston** and **Bruce Kempf** who have health issues. From the congregation of First Lutheran in Fort Benton, we pray for **Mary Ann Haugan**, **Jody Decker**, the **Van Oman family** and **Marylan Dallum**.

**We have a new website!** The domain name is still the same: [www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org](http://www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org). The newsletter is posted there as well as the bulletin for each Sunday. Please take a look and let us know what you think. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, visit with Pastor or Ruth in the church office.

**VBS dates are set for June 17 – 21, 2024!** Plan now to join us for art, crafts, music, class time, snacks and much more! Kids who have finished through grade 6 are welcome to register. Other kids older than that are welcome to come and be helpers. If you want to help in anyway, please talk with Linda Aguiar or Pastor Reinke. A list of needed items is available in the church office or in the *April Peace Talks* Newsletter.

**A look ahead** - Join us next Sunday when we will celebrate the Sixth Sunday of Easter. We will sing hymns 700 “*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*,” 633 “*At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing*,” and 805 “*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*.” Communion hymns are 466 “*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*,” and 620 “*Jesus Comes Today with Healing*”. The readings will be from Acts 10:34-48, 1 John 5:1-8, and John 15:9-17. The scheduled ushers are Mitch and Taylor Martin. The deacon is . Pastor Reinke’s sermon will be based on Acts 8:26-40.

**During the Voters Meeting** last Sunday, *The Lutheran Witness*, which is a monthly publication of the LCMS, subscription was discussed. Helen Lewis called CPH and they explained to her that the annual subscription was paid on March 4, 2024. We get 25 copies of the magazine at \$19.20 each for a total of \$480. It cannot be changed for this year. The cost to order it individually is now \$25 each. It was discussed to have each family pay for their own subscription. We will revisit this in January of 2025, before the annual subscription is paid.

**Echoz Baby Bottle Campaign** will run again this year from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day, 2024. Bottles will be handed out on Sunday, May 12.

**Rummage Sale** dates have been set for May 17-19. If you have items to donate you may bring them to the church and place them in the deaf office. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Linda Aguiar or Pastor Reinke.

A note from the Treasurer:  
 Members of Peace Lutheran Church

We have finally received all our funds from the attorneys for the Lowden Estate. We received a total of \$600,387.40 and have used the money for the following expenses.

Montana District LCMS	\$3,125.00	
Stinnett Mission	\$3,125.00	
Security Cameras	\$1,960.30	
LED Lights	\$3,603.27	
LCMS Fund	\$529,532.35	Investment Account
Checking Account	\$8,355.05	

The Balance of the Funds are still available to the church in the Special Offerings Account on the Financial Statement. The LCMS Funds are also available to the church and the Year End Balance of the Fund was \$549,700.97.

Offerings March 2024	
Total Offerings & Interest Income	\$ 16,325.17
Special Offerings	\$ 8,785.05
Expenses	\$ 13,480.37
Overage	\$ 11,619.85
Special Offerings Consist of Ostlund \$ 430.00,	
and Lowden Estate \$8,355.05	

**Register now** to participate in our annual Step Up 4 Life campaign and assist LFL in proclaiming that every life is indispensable and has intrinsic value given by God. Participate in our walking campaign from May 12 – June 24 as an individual, team, or congregation and earn steps while raising money for the Gospel-motivated and life-affirming ministry of Lutherans For Life. To register for Step Up 4 Life as an individual or team, please visit [stepup4life.org/2024](http://stepup4life.org/2024) or email [stepup4life@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:stepup4life@lutheransforlife.org).



**Cleaning Day** has been set for this **Saturday, May 4 at 11 AM**. Please plan to come for as long as your schedule will allow. Many hands make light work. There are many projects around the church building that need to be done. Thank you!

### **Ladies Bible Study Group update**

After our long winter how anxious we are to plant a garden (at least some tomato plants) and set out a big pot of colorful flowers. Perhaps you have some perennials that are coming up, now that daffodils and tulips are finished blooming for the year. The Lord's perennials decorate the mountain meadows in May. Look for shooting stars, calypso orchids, leather flower, larkspur, lupines, pussytoes, bluebells, and glacier lilies. You will find a sample of these posies in the church office.

Some of the Montana wildflowers will be on the table during the Friday Ladies Bible Class. Join them as they meet May 3rd, 10th, and 17th from 1-3pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Avenue South, when they finish Donna Snow's study, Love's Priceless Gift.

Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion will be at the following locations. Friday, May 3rd from 10:00-10:45am they will be at The Lodge, 1801 9th Street South. Friday, May 24th at 11:45am the no host lunch will be held at Hardee's, 2615 10th Avenue South. Afterward they will go to Highgate Senior Living, 3000 11th Avenue South. Spend an hour sharing God's love with the residents!

Pastor Reinke will hold worship services on the following dates. On Wednesday, May 8th he will be at The Lodge. On Monday, May 20th he will be at Highgate. This is another opportunity to share your presence with some of "God's older children" as Pastor brings God's word.

**The May Trinity - Peace hike** will focus on wildflowers. Hikers will gather 7:45am at the Peace parking lot on Saturday, May 11th, leaving for the Little Belt Mountains at 8am. The group will drive up the Dry Fork Road to collect meadow flowers and on up Villar's Creek Road to find blooms in the higher moist woods. Bring containers to pick a sample of your favorites. Pack a lunch or snacks for the trail. Perhaps some of the hikers would like to have lunch at Monarch on the way back to Great Falls. Those who are planning to join the hike are asked to call Marge Johnsten at 788-0180. This is a family hike in which we hope you will invite neighbors and friends. Let's explore God's flower garden!

**YOU SUPPORT THE CHURCH'S MISSION BY...**

<b>YOUR PRESENCE:</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Bible Class / Sunday School</b>	
April 21	53	20	2
Family Night	16		

**YOUR OFFERINGS:**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Given to the Lord</b>	<b>Budget Goal</b>
April 21	\$2,837.00	\$3,221.58

**Designated offering:** Memorials, \$45.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND SERVE**

**During the Week of April 28, 2024**

**TODAY**

- 10:00 AM** Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- 11:30 AM** Bible study and Sunday School for all ages
- 3:00 PM** Worship at First Lutheran in Fort Benton

**MONDAY**

- 9:00 AM** Church office open from 9 AM to 1 PM through Thursday
- 9:00 AM** Chair exercise at Peace
- 5:30 PM** Elders meeting

**TUESDAY**

- 1:00 PM** Ladies AA meeting at Peace
- 7:00 PM** AA at Peace

**WEDNESDAY**

- 6:30 AM** Men's Bible study at A&K Diner
- 9:30 AM** Chair exercise at Peace
- 6:00 PM** Family Night with a potluck meal followed by Bible study. All are invited and welcome to join us!

**THURSDAY**

- 9:00 AM** Quilters meet at Peace
- 7:00 PM** AA at Peace

**FRIDAY**

- 9:00 AM** Church office closed
- 9:00 AM** TOPS meet at Peace
- 10:15 AM** Chair exercise at Peace
- 1:00 PM** Ladies Bible study at Marge's home 3000 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

**SATURDAY**

- 10:00 AM** CLCD Worship and Bible study at Peace