

# Peace Lutheran Church of Lake Zurich



April 7, 2024  
Easter 2

## WELCOME

Peace to all who enter here. You are welcome in this place.

## PRELUDE

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.

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.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## **GATHERING SONG** *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* (ELW 885)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## **GREETING** (ELW p. 98)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **NOW THE FEAST**

**Refrain:** Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom:  
praise and glory forever more.

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God. **Refrain**

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ  
forever. **Refrain**

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God;  
to make all things new. **Refrain**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY** (ELW p. 102)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the  
grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all  
that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## **CHILDREN'S WORD**

*Children from birth through Sunday School are invited forward for a special moment of  
preparation before the proclamation of God's word in the assembly.*

**FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35** (pg. 888)

*While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.*

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 133** (pg. 501)

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up-n the beard,  
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

**SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2** (pg. 989)

*The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.*

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. <sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we

confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. <sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able to welcome the gospel.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia,**

**GOSPEL: John 20:19-31** (pg. 883)

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." <sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

<sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*You may be seated.*

**MESSAGE**

**Rev. Gail Heitk**

*A moment of silence for reflection is kept after the message.*

*Please rise as you are able to proclaim the gospel in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY “Thine Is the Glory” (ELW 376)**

**1** Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes

**2** Lo, Jesus meets thee,  
risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee,  
scatters fear and gloom;  
let his church with gladness  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth;  
death hath lost its sting! **Refrain**

where thy body lay.

**Refrain**

Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!

**3** No more we doubt thee,  
glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee;  
aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors,  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to thy home above. **Refrain**

**CREED** (ELW p. 104)

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at  
the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and  
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the  
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.*

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

**hear our prayer**

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Give every good gift to those we remember in prayer this week, especially Mike, Wally, Chuck, Stephen, Tom, MaryKate & Ivy, Bruce & Anne, the family and friends of Bill, and the family and friends of Mike...God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Hear now the prayers we offer aloud and in the silence of our hearts...(long pause.....). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you (*especially Dietrich Bonhoeffer and all whose lives have been given in faithfulness to the gospel*). Grant us your peace amid our fears. 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.**



## **PEACE** (*ELW p. 106*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*All may greet one another with a handshake in the name of the Lord, saying "Peace be with you". Afterwards, you may be seated.*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*Your offering this morning supports the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

## **OFFERING "As the Grains of Wheat"** (*ELW 465*)

### **Refrain**

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.

**1** As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**

**2** Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

*Please rise as you are able when the offering is brought forward.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE** (*ELW p. 107*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosana in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosana in the highest, hosana in the highest.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, living, and loving God,

We praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:

carry us in your arms from death to life,

that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER** (*ELW p. 112*)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

### **LAMB OF GOD**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you broke the bonds of sin and of death.

Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to the table. He is truly present for you in the eating and drinking offering forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation to all who trust his words. Children are welcome to commune, "for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs" (Luke 18:16). The ushers will invite you forward to encircle the Lord's Table and receive the bread with wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You may join hands to receive the blessing before returning to your seat.*

## COMMUNION HYMN “*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart: Gift of Finest Wheat*” (ELW 484)

**Refrain:** You satisfy the hungry heart  
with gift of finest wheat.

Come give to us, O saving Lord,  
the bread of life to eat.

**2** With joyful lips we sing to you  
our praise and gratitude  
that you should count us worthy,  
Lord,  
to share this heav'nly food. **Refrain**

**4** The myst'ry of your presence,  
Lord,  
no mortal tongue can tell:  
whom all the world cannot contain  
comes in our hearts to dwell. **Refrain**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION

Sisters and brothers, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at paly, all the days of your life?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please rise as you are able for the blessing.*

**1** As when the shepherd calls his  
sheep,  
they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,  
we follow and rejoice. **Refrain**

**3** Is not the cup we bless and share  
the blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare  
our oneness in the Lord? **Refrain**

**5** You give yourself to us, O Lord;  
then selfless let us be,  
to serve each other in your name  
in truth and charity. **Refrain**

## **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.**

**SENDING SONG “Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen” (ELW 548 sts 1-3 )**

**1** Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,  
from this meal of love and grace;  
may we through such love envision  
whose we are, and whose, our praise.

Alleluia, alleluia;

God, the wonder of our days.

**2** Rise, transformed, and choose to follow  
after Christ, though wounded, whole;  
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed  
to release and to console.

Alleluia, alleluia;

Christ, our present, past, and goal.

**3** Rise, remember well the future  
God has called us to receive;  
present by God's loving nurture,  
Spirited then let us live.

Alleluia, alleluia;

Spirit, grace by whom we live.

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **GRATITUDE**

So much gratitude for everyone who has contributed to worship today.  
Find all of this week's announcements in the Prints of Peace on the [PLC website](#).

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