

Hope Lutheran Church
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Grace Lutheran Church
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Reverend Matthew Converse, Pastor

Kirsten Jines, Preschool Director

Joyce Dubach, Organist

Easter Day

April 5 2026



Introduction to the day

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

Food pantry need: cereal and soup
Attendance for April 2, 2026 - 18

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,

now and forever. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN

(ELW 365)

. **Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4

Music: J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

GREETING

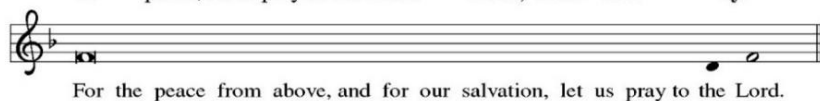
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



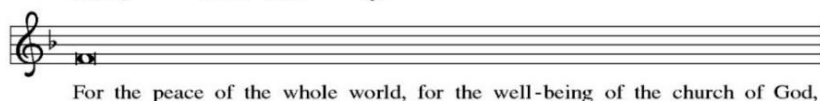
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



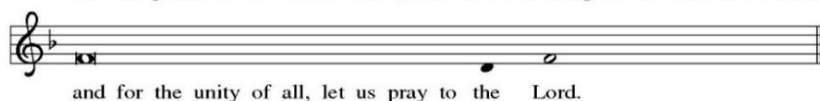
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



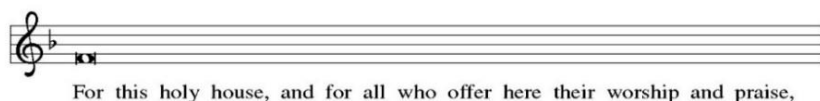
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



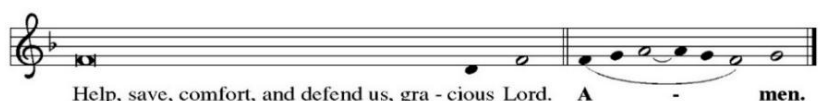
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for ¹ he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

² **Let Israel ¹ now proclaim,
“His mercy endures forever.”**

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength ¹ and my song,
and he has become ¹ my salvation.

¹⁵ **There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents ¹ of the righteous:**

¹⁶ “The right hand of the ¹ LORD has triumphed!

The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the ¹ LORD has triumphed!”

¹⁷ **I shall not ¹ die, but live,**

and declare the works | of the LORD.

¹⁸ The LORD has punished me sorely,
but he did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹ **Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks | to the LORD.**

²⁰ “This is the gate | of the LORD;
he who is righteous may enter.”

²¹ **I will give thanks to you, for you | answered me
and have become | my salvation.**

²² The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³ **This is | the LORD’s doing,
and it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

²⁴ On this day the | LORD has acted;
we will rejoice and be | glad in it.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from Colossians.

¹ If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 28th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(ELW 382)

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt. Music:
Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain . Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

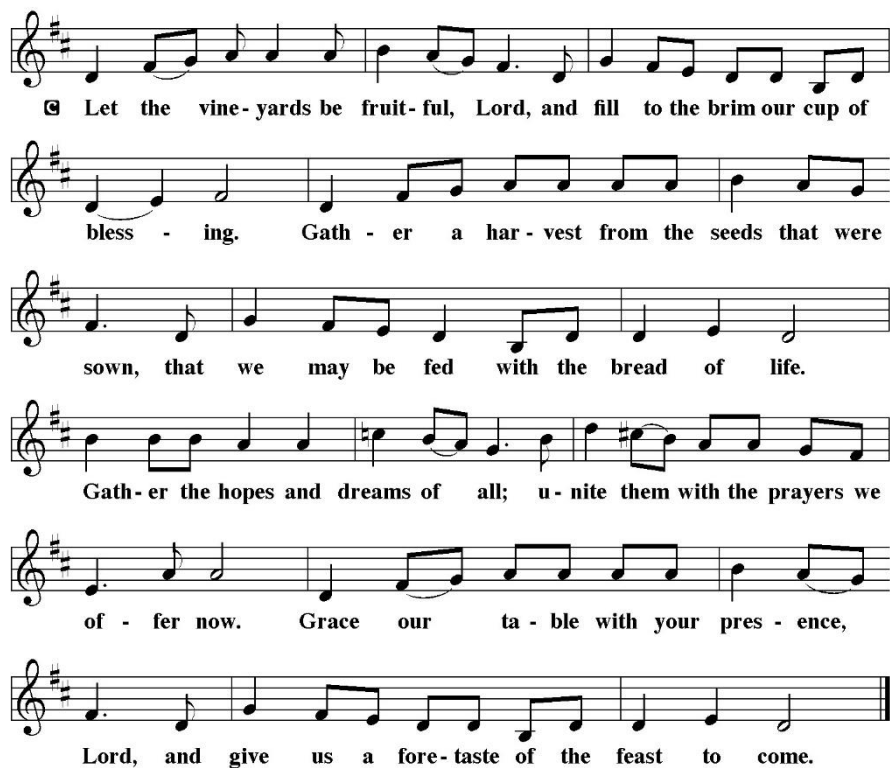
The Peace is shared.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing, Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

DIALOGUE

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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

This is the day that in joy and delight we join with all the angels of heaven and all the creatures on earth to sing our praise and thanksgiving to you, all holy and mighty and glorious God.

For Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

This is the day that you gave light to the earth.

This is the day that you saved the Israelites through the sea and with your pillar of fire led them to freedom.

Now every night is as bright as day,
and that light is Christ:

Thanks be to God.

This is the day that you broke the chains of death.
This is the day that, marrying heaven to earth,
you washed away sin, rescued us from evil, and brought us your
peace. The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign,
for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

On the night before he died, our Lord Jesus Christ 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

On this day send us the power of your Holy Spirit.
Revive us with the body and blood of our risen Savior.
Illumine our lives with your presence,
and shine your Morning Star over the whole human race,
for that light is Christ:

Thanks be to God.

All holy and mighty and glorious God,
radiant Father, victorious Son, and shining Spirit,
we bless your salvation, we sing of your mercy,
and we praise your victory through all time and space,
for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

Amen and amen:

Amen and amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

Communion

The communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution.

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

(ACS 1009)

Come, Bring Your Burdens

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your

thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U -
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for

ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

Text: South African; English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick

Music: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO, South African melody; arr. Welile Sigabi

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Post-Communion Canticle

☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Prayer

Holy One,

through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn Thine Is the Glory (ELW 376)

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle,
1875–1939 Music: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAD LOAF OFFERING - MARCH- Gafkjen Endowment Fund

- Food Pantry needs, with the colder weather the need for Soup increases. While we still need Cereal and Peanut Butter, we could also use Soup as well.
- Game Night at Grace Lutheran Church, April 21st.

- Preschool Dairy Queen Fundraiser April 21st. 4-8 pm.
- Gloria Pelfrey has moved to 4725 N State Rd 9 Columbia City IN, 46725

Weekly Agenda at Grace Lutheran Church

Monday March 6, 2025

Helping hands 12:30 pm

Property team 6:30 pm

Scouting America Troop 84 6:30 pm

AA 7:30 pm

Tuesday March 7, 2025

T.O.P.S 9:30 am

Staff Meeting 3:40 pm

3082 Blue and gold 6 pm

Wednesday March 8, 2025

Men's Breakfast 8 am

Food Pantry 12 pm

Voucher 4 pm

Thursday March 9, 2026

AA 7:30 pm

Al-non 7:30 pm

Friday March 10, 2026

Pastor's Day Off

Food pantry 12 pm

Saturday February 11, 2026

Sunday March 12, 2026

Worship @ Hope 8:15 am

Worship @ Grace 10:00 am

Fellowship 11:15 am

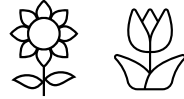
Worship @ oaks 1 pm

Girl Scouts 2 pm

We have new sign-up sheets in the parish hall, for coffee hour. Coffee hour will be after church service, for anyone that would like to stay.



EASTER FLOWERS



Tom and Jane Straub in celebration of our children and grandchildren.

DiAnna and Larry Weiss in celebration of our families.

Lucas and Mariah Krider in celebration of Memphis, Scarlett, Felicity, and Kian. In Celebration of our nieces and nephews. In Memory of Larry and Laurene Hearld. In memory of Richard and Joan Krider.

Dan Platter in memory of Richard Bohde and Penny Larrimore.

Joe and Nancy Freiburger in memory of Joe and Pam Freiburger, and Dan Freiburger, and Bill and Lucille Welch.

Paul and Holly Marken in memory of Marvin and Shirley Gunnarson. In honor of Howard and Yoko Marken.

Don and Marsha Ruesch in memory of Harold and Crystal Nelson, and Lyddon and Ruth Ruesch.

Vic and Linda Trowbridge in celebration of our granddaughter, Dr Autumn Honer, Graduating from medical school.

Mark Krider in celebration of all my children and grandchildren.

Linda Grawcock in memory of Chuck and Mary Lou Grawcock.

Maelynn Fries in celebration of my children and grandchildren.

Beth Moss in memory of Moss and Fesler families, Jeff Corson and Owen Roberts.

Nancy Wait in celebration of Children and grandchildren. In memory of grandparents and parents.

Deena Hart in celebration of Mckenzie, Brayden, Cole and Mace. In Memory of Dewayne Heckley.

Sandy Whitleather in memory of Catherine and Alonzo Bricker.

Ann Wolfe in memory of Jim Wolfe.

Straub Family in memory of Robert and Eilee Straub.