

# You're Welcome...



Easter 2: April 27, 2025



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THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY E.L.C.A.

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# The Liturgy of Holy Communion

9:00 AM



GATHERING

## Announcements

**Prelude:** *Thine is the Glory*, Brian Glyncannon

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

**C. Amen**

P. Look, here is water!

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

P. 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.

P. Look, here is water!

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

P. 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.

**C. Amen**

P. Look, here is water!

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

**Hymn: Processional Hymn: #363 COME, YOU FAITHFUL, RAISE THE STRAIN**

## Apostolic Greeting

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

**C. And also with you.**

## The Prayer of the Day:

P. O God of life,

**C. you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*(Be Seated)*

## WORD

### The First Lesson: Acts 5:27-32

<sup>27</sup>When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

L. The Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 118:14-29 (sung responsively with the Cantor)

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength<sup>1</sup> and my song, and has become<sup>1</sup> my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents<sup>1</sup> of the righteous:**

**"The right hand of the<sup>1</sup> LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD<sup>1</sup> is exalted!

The right hand of the<sup>1</sup> LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not<sup>1</sup> die, but live, and declare the works<sup>1</sup> of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed pun-<sup>1</sup>ished me sorely, but did not hand me o-<sup>1</sup>ver to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the<sup>1</sup> gates of righteousness;**

**I will enter them and give thanks<sup>1</sup> to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>"This is the gate<sup>1</sup> of the LORD; here the righ-<sup>1</sup>teous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have<sup>1</sup> answered me  
and you have become<sup>1</sup> my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the build-<sup>1</sup>ers rejected has become the chief<sup>1</sup> cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has<sup>1</sup> this been done; it is marvelous<sup>1</sup> in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the<sup>1</sup> LORD has made; let us rejoice and be<sup>1</sup> glad in it.

<sup>25</sup>**Hosanna!<sup>1</sup> O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, pros-<sup>1</sup>per our days!**

<sup>26</sup>Blessed is the one who comes in the name<sup>1</sup> of the LORD;

we bless you from the house<sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

**27**The LORD is God and has giv- | en us light.

**Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of the altar.**

**28**You are my God, and | I will thank you; you are my God, and I | will exalt you.

**29**Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good; God's mercy en- | dures forever.

### The Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4-8

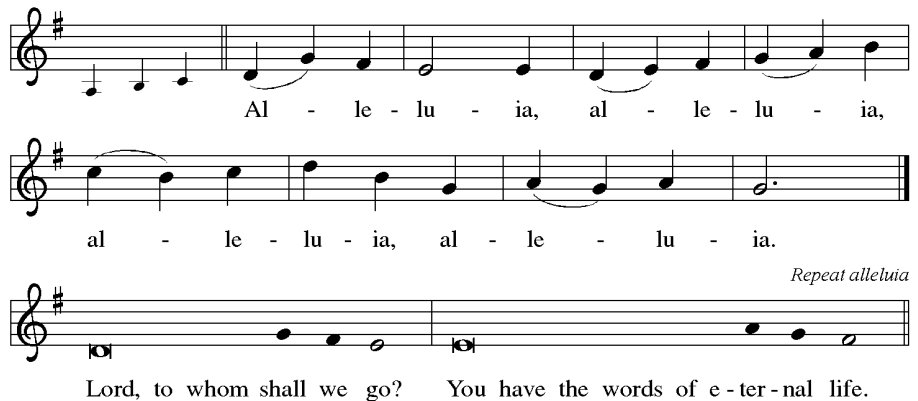
**4**John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, **5**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, **6**and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**7**Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. **8**"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L. The Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

### The Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31

P. The Holy Gospel according to John.

**C. Glory to you, O Lord, (spoken)**

**19**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." **20**After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21**Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." **22**When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. **23**If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

**24**But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25**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."

**26**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.

L. The Gospel of the Lord.

**C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Be seated)*

**The Sermon:** Rev. Mark Luscombe

*[Silence for reflection follows the sermon.]*

*(Stand)*

**The Hymn of the Day: WE WALK BY FAITH**

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 That, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

## The Prayers:

A. God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*(Kneel)*

*(after each petition, please respond)*

A. Hear us, O God,

**C. Your mercy is great.**

P. We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**C. Amen**

## The Offering: *The Day of Resurrection*

*(Stand)*

## The Offertory: "Let the Vineyards..."



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. 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 the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### The Offertory Prayer:

P. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth,

**C. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

### The Preface Dialogue: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

### Preface for Easter

P. "It is indeed right and our joy.....join their unending hymn."

### The 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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharist Prayer:

P. 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 handed over, 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 honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C. Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer:**

**C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

### **The Fraction:**

P. The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

**C. Thanks be to God!**

### **Agnes Dei – LAMB OF GOD**

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.

*[Please be seated at the conclusion of this hymn.]*



### **The Distribution:**

- #384 THAT EASTER DAY WITH JOY WAS BRIGHT
- #361 THE DAY OF RESURRECTION!
- #391 THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE
- #543 GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

### **The Blessing of Communicants:**

- P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C. Amen**

### **The Post Communion Prayer:**

- A. We give you thanks, generous God,
- C. for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen**

### **The Benediction**

- P. God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.
- C. Amen**

**The Postlude:** *Christ lag in Todesnanden*, J.S. Bach

**The Recessional Hymn:** #376 THINE IS THE GLORY

### **The Dismissal**

- A. Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- A. Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
- C. Thanks be to God.**

## OUR WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

### **COUNCIL TEAM**

**9:00** John Fuehrer, Elaine Sernoffsky

### **ASSISTING MINISTER**

**9:00** John Weiss

### **LECTOR**

**9:00** Norm Wangman

### **ACOLYTES**

**9:00** Anya Gilbert, Judy Williams,  
Ava Morgan

### **USHERS**

**9:00** Denise Shirker, Trig Olson, Matt  
Shirker

### **ALTAR GUILD**

**9:00** Denise Shirker, Ann & Bob Snader

### **AV**

Bob Eberly

**Deliver Flowers:** Jo Hurst

**Launder Linens:** Patrice Mull

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**WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR OUR  
FLOWERS/WORSHIP APPOINTMENTS TODAY:**

✠ To the glory of God.

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## Prayers of the People

Mike Williams – 921 N State St. Ephrata, PA 17522

Peyton Harter, the daughter of a family friend of Mike & Judy Williams

Rick Woerner – 280 Boomerang Dr. Ephrata, PA 17522

Scott Hambleton – friend of Mike & Judy Williams

Barry Kreider – 17 Beech Ct. Ephrata, PA 17522

Brenda Wangman – 445 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Apt. 2, Lititz, PA 17543

Alex Godun – Clay & Charlann Brubaker's son-in-law

Jill Puleo – Cheryl Plummer's cousin

Colleen Kresge – friend of Lori Spitzer

All people affected by war

Victims of natural disasters

Shut-ins of the Parish

President Trump and leaders of this nation, leaders and policy makers of every nation

All outreach ministries, serving those in need



*If for any reason you enter the hospital, whether outpatient or inpatient, please contact the church office and Pastor Mark. If you wish to be on the prayer list or have a friend or family member needing prayers, please contact the church office.*

## CONGREGATION REQUEST FOR PRAYER

The office staff does not know the current status of many on the list below. If there is a change in their life circumstance making it possible to remove their name from this list, please let the church office know.

Alexander Mulvenna

Emmalyn Mulvenna

Janet Brunner

Andrew Campbell

Michael Spennath

Tony Perella

Mike & Claudia Belden

Henry Perella

COL. Eric Bowers

Dan Wierbiki

Jacob Hinkle Jr.

Karen Woerner

Kim Harnish

Rick Gerhard

Wyatt Geisthweit

Les Doremus

Jim Weik

Heidi White

Johnny White

Jacob Connelly

Sue & Denis Rowe

Crystal Perry

Hank & Pat Kajetzke

Terry Gehman

Rick Ruth

Brent Stever

Alan & family

Dori Hoch

Cindy Stahl

Grant Hummer

Martha Becker

Chris and Karen Payonk

Alysha Fassnacht

Megan Onofrey

John Surdich

Ava Berkosky

Amy Pasili

Theresa Cimino

The family of Kim Burke

Eric Mortorell

Duke & Bonnie Leeper

Sheldon Garman

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