



CROWN OF LIFE | LUTHERAN
CHURCH

April 12th, 2026
2nd Sunday of Easter

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A Service of Worship and Praise

-We Gather as God's People to Worship Him-

OPENING HYMN

African-American Heritage Hymnal 275

He Lives

PLEASE STAND

Minister says: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

-We Lift Up Our Hands and Voices to God-

We sing:

In Moments Like These

In moments like these I sing out a song,
I sing out a love song to Jesus.
In moments like these I lift up my hands,
I lift up my hands to the Lord.

Singing, "I love you Lord," singing, "I love you Lord;"
Singing, "I love you Lord. I love you."

-We Prepare Our Hearts-

M: We stand here today before our Lord and Maker. He has created us to love Him and serve one another. But we have separated ourselves from Him with our sins. Let us be honest and confess to Him our sins.

C: Merciful Father, I confess that I am a sinner. I make no excuses. I have sinned against you by things I have done and the things I have not done. But I know that Jesus died for me. I stand before you in need of, and trusting in, your forgiveness.

We sing:

I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Teach me Thy will;
And Thy rich promises In me fulfill.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

M: It is my duty and privilege as a called servant of God to announce to you that you are forgiven. You have been washed in the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ and stand before Him forgiven of all your sins, His child, and an heir of eternal life. Let's thank Him for His amazing grace.

We sing:

He Looked Beyond My Fault

Amazing grace shall always be my song of praise,
For it was grace that bought my liberty.

I do not know just why Christ came to love me so,
He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

I shall forever lift mine eyes to Calvary,
To view the cross where Jesus died for me;

How marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul,
He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

BE SEATED

-We Listen to God's Word-

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

We sing:

Order My Steps (v1)

Order my steps in Your Word dear Lord,
Lead me, guide me, every day,
Send Your anointing, Father, I pray.
Order my steps in Your word.
Please, order my steps in Your word.

I want to walk worthy, My calling to fulfill.
Please order my steps, Lord, And I'll do Your blessed will,
The world is ever changing, but You are still the same.
If You order my steps, I'll praise Your name.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

We sing:

Order My Steps (v3)

Bridle my tongue, let my words edify;
Let the words of my mouth be acceptable in Thy sight.
Take charge of my thoughts, both day and night.
Order my steps in Your word.
Please, order my steps in Your word.

I want to walk worthy, My calling to fulfill.
Please order my steps, Lord, And I'll do Your blessed will,
The world is ever changing, but You are still the same.
If You order my steps, I'll praise Your name.

PLEASE STAND

GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

BE SEATED

YOUTH MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christian Worship 154

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

SERMON

Treasure the Peace Jesus Brings

John 20:19-31

PLEASE STAND

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth.

I believe 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 is

seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there, 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 everlasting.

AMEN.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

African-American Heritage Hymnal 283
Christ Arose

PLEASE STAND

PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer

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.

M: Brother and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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

BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN

African-American Heritage Hymnal 281
Because He Lives

God's work in Ukraine continues

Our sister church the Ukrainian Lutheran Church (ULC), along with all the citizens of Ukraine, has been experiencing the hardship and suffering caused by four years of a terrible and destructive war. Families have had to flee to safer locations, homes have been destroyed, and some pastors have had to relocate to areas away from the war zones.

When the war began, WELS members responded with their own personal prayers and with prayers in their congregations. They also responded generously with gifts and offerings. Those gifts, regularly forwarded to the ULC, have been faithfully used to provide food, fuel, transportation, medicine, and clothing. And the members of the ULC did not keep those gifts for themselves. They have responded to our generosity with generosity of their own, making needed supplies available to many people in their communities who have been affected by the brutality and scarcity of war.

Vyacheslav Horpynchuk, the bishop of the Ukrainian Lutheran Church, tells the story far better than I can. This is what he writes:

Here the fifth year of the full-scale Russian invasion began. Thanks be to God this winter is coming to an end. It has been the most severe winter in the recent decades: lots of snow, very low below freezing temperatures and very heavy bombardments of our electrical, heating systems and residential areas of Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odesa, as well as smaller cities and villages. Lord, have mercy.

I would like to thank all the brothers and sisters in WELS who came to help us. Many people did not have any extra warm blankets, and some people requested some help to survive that cold. We provided all our congregation members in need with extra warm blankets to survive the cold in apartments with no heat or with very little heat. We also continued to provide all the needy with thermal wear. All of them send their gratitude to all in WELS for your generous help. Thank you very much!

Learn more about the Ukrainian Lutheran Church and how you can support it at wels.net/ukraine.

Serving with you in Christ,

WELS President Mark Schroeder



COMMISSION

Our goals in bringing Christ to the nations

More than 6.5 billion people (more than two-thirds of humanity) live in places where Christ's name is barely known. This is why God has commissioned us to be his ambassadors—to proclaim the gospel to every nation. As we reflect on 175 years of grace, we pray Christ will continue to work through us to reach lost souls with his saving Word.

Forge a borderless support network

God calls every person and every nation to share his Word. By fostering international ministry partnerships, we will expand the gospel's reach.

Through this strategic plan, we will nurture robust mission collaboration with confessional Lutheran church bodies in full doctrinal fellowship with WELS, equipping pastors and congregations worldwide to thrive as Christ's ambassadors.

Equip a global missionary force

Historically, WELS has dispatched stateside workers to plant the gospel, but a world ripe with harvest calls for more workers. Training pastors and evangelists from global sister churches unlocks a boundless force to proclaim God's saving grace where we alone cannot reach.

We will strive to empower global leaders with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, fostering a borderless network proclaiming our Savior.

Establish confessional Lutheran seminaries

A strong church depends on well-trained shepherds who proclaim Christ's reconciling love. As the gospel spreads globally, emerging Lutheran church bodies recognize this need for seminaries grounded in Scripture.

We will establish confessional Lutheran seminaries in key global locations, empowering a worldwide movement that shares God's saving grace faithfully in their own contexts.

Expand multi-language mission efforts

The rise of mission churches worldwide offers rich opportunities to share the good news with others. While many nations lack Lutheran resources in their native languages, we will work to expand our multi-language mission efforts to ensure God's Word is accessible across the globe.

Trusting the Holy Spirit, we aim to empower believers worldwide with tools to grow in faith and proclaim the gospel boldly in their own languages.

Pioneer missions in high-risk and unreached areas

While we continue to plant new missions around the world, there are still unreached areas where God's grace cannot be safely shared. We pray that the Holy Spirit works through us to reach those lost souls in need of Christ's reconciling love.

Our goal is to pioneer WELS missions in high-risk and unreached areas, identifying and crafting strategies fitted to these tough contexts as we faithfully preach the gospel where it's least known.

Serving at Col:	Today	Next Sunday
Music	K. Kramer, E. Sternhagen	K. Kramer, E. Sternhagen
Ushers	Keith Krueger	Gary Langbecker, Seth Sternhagen
Reader	Tyrone Schultz	Seth Sternhagen
Altar		
Streaming	Noah Sternhagen	Noah Sternhagen
Refreshments	Karis Kramer	Linda Hall
Cleaning		Beth Phelps
Mowing		

CALENDAR

Wednesday	7:00 PM	Online Bible Class	meet.google.com/dpk-rmfe-atx
Sunday	10:00 AM	Bible Class, Sunday School	
Sunday	11:00 AM	Worship	
Today	12:30 PM	Council, Ladies Guild	
Apr 19	12:30 PM	Q1 Congregational Meeting	
Apr 26	12:30 PM	Crawfish Boil	
May 10		Mother's Day	
May 17		Confirmation of Michael Phelps	

OFFERING	Total	Budget	Projected
Last Week	\$3,539.00	\$2,859.15	
April	\$3,976.00	\$12,389.67	\$11,559.71
Qtr-to-Date	\$3,976.00	\$37,169.00	\$35,064.45
Year-to-Date	\$46,977.58	\$148,676.00	\$169,236.62

in your bank app:



"...give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

II Corinthians 9:7



Zelle

