



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
250 Woodside Road  
Riverside, Illinois 60546  
Telephone: (708) 442-5250  
Parsonage: (708) 442-0238  
Fax: (708) 442-5264

Web page: [www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org)  
Email address: [www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org/service](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org/service)

**Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor**  
**David B. Richards, Parish Musician**  
**Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.*

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ♦ 10:15 a.m.

*As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the One who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155**

**\*GATHERING**

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

**PRELUDE**

**\*WELCOME AND THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism... Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**Amen**

\*GATHERING HYMN

*Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing*

ELW 389

\*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

## WORD

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

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the Word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's Word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Prayed in unison by the congregation.*

**In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.**

**Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

**Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.**

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

**Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.**

**My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.**

**Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.**

## SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Christ Has Arisen! Alleluia!*

ELW 364

Verse 1

\*GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to St. John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the One through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### \*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ, living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need... God our salvation: you have made us your living stones in the waters of baptism. We pray for the church and its leaders; for the newly baptized; for missionaries around the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our home: your Spirit dwells with creation. We pray for the earth; for clean water and air; for the earth's foundation; for the lands all creatures inhabit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our way: you call us to paths of justice. We pray for nations and leaders; for courts and legislatures; for strife-torn communities; for our enemies. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our refuge: you deliver us in times of trouble. We pray for the rejected and persecuted; for neglected infants and children; for the sick, especially... for all in need. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other prayers may be offered in speech and silence.*

God our shelter: you draw all people to yourself. We pray for those who are homeless and those with inadequate housing; for all who come to this building seeking a safe haven. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our life: you prepare a place for us. We give thanks for the witness of your saints, especially... Lead us also in Christ's way and truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and dwell in us richly, through Jesus Christ, our life and our redeemer. **Amen**

## \*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

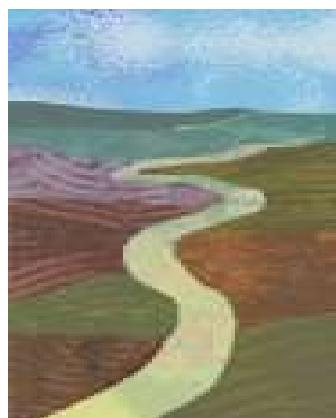
## MEAL

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

## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. 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**



## \*DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 FOR EASTER

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n 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.

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever. **Amen**

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

## \*EASTER INVITATION TO COMMUNION

When we eat this bread we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

## DISTRIBUTION

## \*BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**

## SENDING

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

### \*BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

\*SENDING HYMN

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

ELW 367

### \*DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Carrie Watkiss

LECTOR

Tom Michaels

GREETER

Ann Kmet

LIVE STREAM

John Broussard

USHER

Janet Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Carole Pollitz and Jane Lauritsen

## IN THE PRAYERS...

**Members of the Congregation:** Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, Beverly Podzamsky, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Ellen Bailey, James Broussard, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Gene Head, Bill Holmes, Rev. Cyril Hurnyak, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Julie Patron, Pat Pileggi, Alice Puglise, Gail Purcell, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Elaine Sorich, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel, Stevie Singer and Mike Yavorski.



75<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
SEASON



Lux Cantorum Presents

# Celestial Theater



**May 5, 7:30pm**

Resurrection Lutheran Church  
3309 Seminary Avenue, Chicago, IL

**May 7, 4:00pm**

Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church  
250 Woodside Road, Riverside, IL

**May 13, 7:30pm**

Pilgrim Congregational Church  
460 Lake Street, Oak Park, IL

**Tickets: \$25**

*A reception celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of LCC will be held following the concert today with the recognition of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of Artistic Director Wilbert O. Watkins and Accompanist Joan Hutchinson.*  
*Tickets at [luxcantorum.org](http://luxcantorum.org) .*

## Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2023:</i>	\$2,527.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,560.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$ 967.00