



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical  
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**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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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**  
***EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 4, PAGES 147-155***

**\*GATHERING**

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

PRELUDE

**\*EASTER CALL TO WORSHIP**

Praise be to God,  
**who rescues us from the power of darkness;  
who redeems us, and sets us free!**

Praise be to Jesus Christ, the first born of all creation,  
**through whom all things were made,  
in heaven and on the earth.**

Praise be to the Spirit of God,  
**whose presence sustains us,  
and whose breath renews all creation.**

Behold! I am making all things new!  
**Come, O God, and make your home among us.  
Pour out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

—*from New Heaven, New Earth,  
an Easter and Earth Day worship resource (Canadian Foodgrains Bank)*

\*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. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection 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**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

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

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

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

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*

ELW 364  
(Verse 1)

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

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

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

SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*Around You, O Lord Jesus*

ELW 468

\*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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love. *A brief silence.*

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the Scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your loving-kindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness, especially... Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us, especially... Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## \*PEACE

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

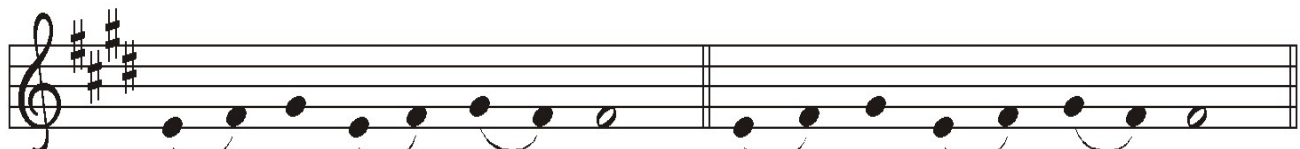
# MEAL

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

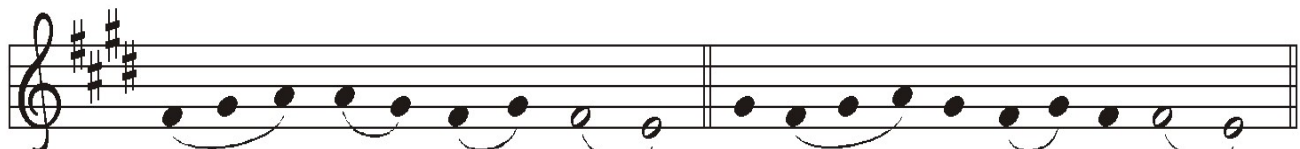
## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

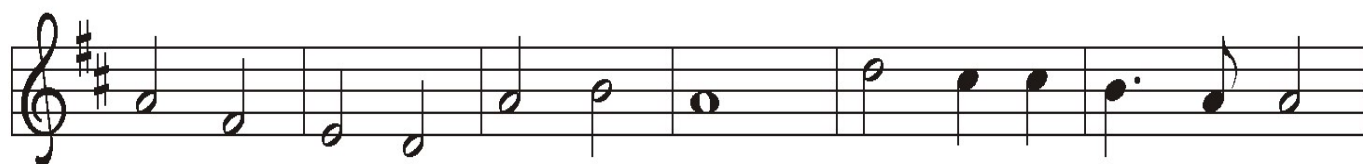


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## \*PREFACE

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:

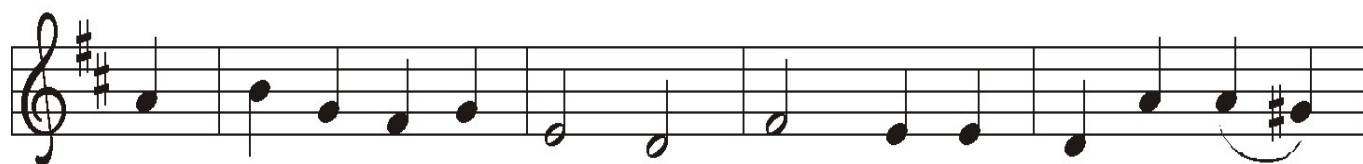
## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



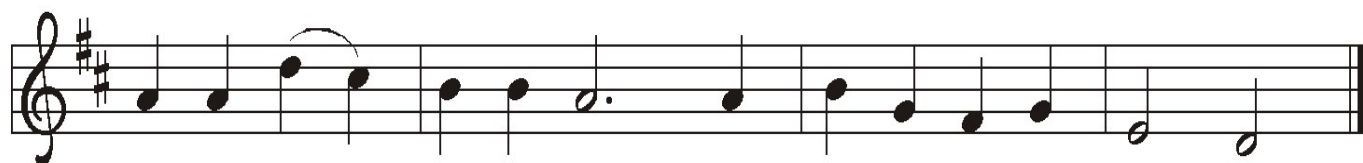
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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**

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

**\*SOLEMN BLESSINGS OF EASTER**

Almighty God bless you on this solemn feast of Easter, and may he protect you against all sin. **Amen**

Through the resurrection of his Son, God granted us healing. May he fulfill his promises, and bless you with eternal life. **Amen**

You have mourned for Christ's sufferings; now you celebrate the joy of his resurrection. May you come with joy to the feast which lasts forever. **Amen**

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

**\*SENDING HYMN**

*The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done*

ELW 366

**\*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**

*Toccata*

Frescobaldi

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Tom Myers

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

Beverly Tarobx

GREETERS

Bettye Harden and Staci Harden

LIVE STREAM

Paul Watkiss

USHER

Rafael Martinez

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Edward and Joanne Sefara



## IN THE PRAYERS

***Members of the Congregation:*** Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Bettye Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban and Mary Sasuta. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Betty Bartel, Kurt Behrendt, Carolyn Becker, Wally Bisping, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Marilyn Dunne, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Denise Fricano, Walid Jabbar, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Mary Frances Mason, Michele Mason, Julie Mroz, Donald Neal, Pat Pileggi, Gail Purcell, Tim Richard, Becky Rosas, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Stevie Singer, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Janie Tarbox and the Ullrich Family.



# The Ramona A. Suffern

## ANNUAL MISSION DINNER

**Sunday, April 21**

**12 Noon**

### **Ticket Prices**

Adults: \$10

Children (6-14): \$5

Children (ages 5 and under): Free

### **Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church**

250 Woodside Road, Riverside

For advance ticket purchases

Call: (708) 442 -5250

Email: [pastor@stspeterandpaulriverside.org](mailto:pastor@stspeterandpaulriverside.org)



Lutheran  
Social Services  
of Illinois



Lux Cantorum Chicago  
Spring Concert

“SACRED CLASSICS”

These extraordinary compositions,  
crafted by the greatest masters of the genre,  
have stood the test of time as they transport  
listeners to a realm where the sacred and the sublime converge.



In concert here on Sunday afternoon, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 4 p.m.

*Brandon Michaels and Pastor Dennis of our congregation sing with  
Lux Cantorum Chicago.*

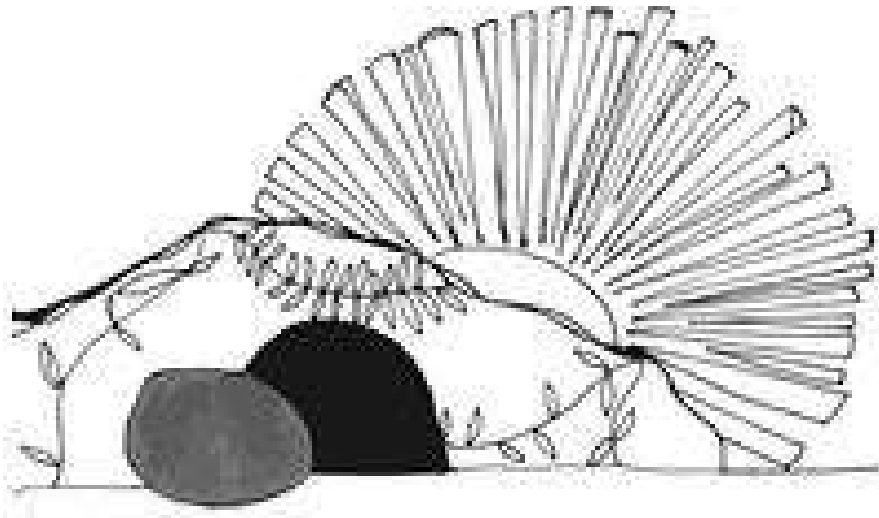
*Ticket information will appear in the May newsletter,  
Seedlings E-news, and at the LCC website at  
[luxcantorum.org](http://luxcantorum.org) .*

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

*Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573;  
renewers of the church*

*Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>*

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.



**“We are always on our way  
from darkness into light...”**

*Some years ago in a homily at an Easter Dawn Mass in the ruins of the abbey at Cormomroe, County Clare, the late John O’Donohue said:*

“We are always on our way from darkness into light.

Every morning, we come out of the dark territories of dreaming  
into waking awareness of the day.

Every night, no matter how long, breaks again and the light of dawn comes.

At birth each of us made a journey from darkness into light,  
from the warm secure darkness of the womb into the light of the world.  
So we are no strangers to darkness and we are special friends of the light...

“One of the beauties of Easter morning is that the light  
that comes with Christ is a gentle but penetrating light.

There is no hurt anywhere within us no matter in what crevices  
it might be buried, but that the light of Easter can reach it and heal it...

“So on this Easter morning, let us look again at the lives  
we have been so generously given  
and let us let fall away the useless baggage we carry—  
old pains, old habits, old ways of seeing and feeling—  
and let us have the courage to begin again.”

*From Walking on the Pastures of Wonder, John Quinn, Estate of John O’Donohue, Veritas, 2015, p. 107- 109.*

