

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

St. Peter's Campus

PRELUDE

“Meditation”

Flor Peeters

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the God who gives us new birth into a living hope.

Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Though we have not seen him, we love him.

Though we do not see him now, we believe and rejoice.

Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

He showed them his hands and his side.

We come with questions, fears, and longing.

Christ meets us with peace and living hope.

Please rise as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who meets us behind locked doors,
who does not turn away from our doubt, and who calls us into living hope. Amen.

Let us confess before God and one another.

(Silence.)

Living God,

we confess that we struggle to believe.

We hide behind locked doors of fear and uncertainty.

We cling to what we can see

and hesitate to trust what we cannot.

We doubt your promises

when life feels fragile or uncertain.

We seek proof instead of presence,

certainty instead of trust.

Come to us again.

Speak your peace into our fear.

Show us your wounds,

and teach us to trust your life.

Hear the good news: Christ comes to us still.

Through locked doors and guarded hearts,

Christ speaks peace.

In wounded hands and risen life, Christ reveals love that does not fail.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, restored, and born anew into a living hope.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia* (ELW Hymn 369)

KYRIE

(ELW page 138)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

(ELW page 140)

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of living hope, you meet us in our doubt and do not turn away.

When fear closes us in, speak your peace.

When faith feels fragile, strengthen our trust.

Help us to believe without seeing, to love without certainty,

and to live as people made new through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

who is our hope and our life.

Amen.

You may be seated

READING: 1 Peter 1:3–9

A reading from First Peter, the 1st chapter.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ELW page 142)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20^h chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, 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.” ²⁷ 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.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ 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.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

You may be seated.

SERMON

Please rise as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Walk by Faith

(ELW Hymn 635)

APOSTLE’S CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 THE CHURCH

. . . Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

And also with you!

You may be seated for collection of offering.

OFFERING MUSIC - Family Choir

Sing We Alleluia

J. Althouse

Please rise as you are able

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of new birth, you have given us an inheritance that does not fade and a hope that does not perish. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your promises. Use them to bring peace where there is fear, hope where there is doubt, and life where hearts feel closed.

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, our duty and our joy,
....we praise your name forever.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one, let us 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

EUCCHARISTIC INVITATION

Peace be with you.

This table is for those who believe and for those who are still searching.

For those who are certain and for those who carry doubt.

Here, Christ comes among us not demanding proof, but offering presence.

Here are the wounds that heal, the bread that sustains,

the cup that overflows with mercy. Come and receive the living hope of Christ.

You may be seated

All are welcome at Christ's table. Please follow usher's directions. Wafers are to be dipped into the chalice of wine, communion kits are available in the basket.

COMMUNION SONG

All Are Welcome

(ELW Hymn. 641 v. 3)

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:

a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.

**Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:**

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

COMMUNION HYMNS *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing* (ELW Hymn 386)
 Be Not Afraid (ELW Hymn 388)

Please rise as you are able

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of peace, you have met us in bread and cup and filled us with living hope.
Send us now into the world with faith that trusts, love that endures,
and courage to live as witnesses to the resurrection.

Amen.

You may be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise as you are able

BLESSING

May the God who gives new birth into living hope renew your faith.
May Christ who stands among us in peace strengthen your heart.
May the Holy Spirit open what is closed, heal what is wounded,
and lead you into joy. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *The Day of Resurrection* (ELW Hymn 361)

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Psalm 19”

Benedetto Marcello



UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LONG ISLAND

GLORIA DEI KING OF KINGS ST. PETER'S

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Christian Cederstrom, Pastor
Deacon Doreen Buckman, Worship Assistant
Chris Okolie, Reader and Communion Assistant
Richard Whitten, Minister of Music/Organist
Laurie Haddock, Minister of Music/Youth & Family

**United Lutheran Church is a collaboration of Lutheran Congregations
serving the Huntington/Melville Communities.**

**We gather for Sunday worship as one congregation
and serve our communities through our three unique campuses.**

Please visit our combined website @ <https://www.mnys.org/unitedlutheranli/> for
information on events and service times.

Joint Worship each Sunday at the St. Peter's Campus

10 am Worship with Holy Communion

9:30 am Sunday School

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**Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.
We are blessed by your presence.**