

# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*April 7, 2024*

## **WELCOME!**

We love that you are here today! Our service can be found in the blue hymnal beneath the chair in front of you. Projections are also provided on the front wall.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hall as you enter into the school.

**Quiet room** Parents may use the library in the back of this worship space which still enables you to hear/see the service.

A **Connection Card** and pen are found in the pocket of the chair in front of you. Time will be provided to fill it out during the service. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

## **THEME: WE LIVE IN RESURRECTION REALITY**

For the Christian Church, Easter is not a day only. It is an entire season of 7 weeks. Sunday by Sunday, we drink in all the ramifications of Christ's resurrection for our lives. Today's emphasis is the reality of Christ's resurrection for us. We see Christ prove the reality of His resurrection to Thomas in John 20. We observe the reality of the risen & living Christ being present with the Apostle Paul in Acts 18. Because of Christ's resurrection, we are assured of the reality of heaven that awaits us in Revelation 21.

## **GUEST PREACHER**

We welcome Pastor Ethan Schultz today! Pastor Schultz' official title is "tutor" at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown. As a tutor, Pastor Schultz supervises a dormitory and teaches classes. He is a 2023 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

Luther Preparatory School is a WELS owned and operated high school with the express purpose of preparing students to study for the preaching/teaching ministry in the WELS. After they graduate, if they wish to continue to prepare for the ministry, they will enroll at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN.

That said, graduates from other high schools do also matriculate at MLC to study for the ministry.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday: Morning Prayer ..... pg. 207 in the blue hymnal  
Monday: Evening Prayer ..... pg. 215 in the blue hymnal

Hymns

Opening Hymn	456:1-5	<i>O Sons and Daughters of the King</i>
Psalm of the Day	Psalm 16	page 16 in the blue hymnal
Hymn of the Day	456:6-9	<i>O Sons and Daughters of the King</i>
Closing Hymn	889	<i>Jerusalem the Golden</i>

Scripture Lessons

First Lesson	Acts 18:1-11
Second Lesson	Revelation 21:1-7
Gospel Lesson	John 20:19-31

Sermon

Revelation 21:1-7  
*Heaven Is Real*

HERE’S A SPRING GOAL – READ ONE BOOK BY MAY 31

See the selection of books available to check out from our church library in the back of this worship space – both on the display table and on the shelves inside the library room. Let’s be an informed congregation of believers!

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider ..... Rev. Shaun Arndt  
Sermon ..... Tutor Ethan Schultz  
Keyboard ..... Mr. Andrew Kramer  
Projection Slides ..... Matt Homstad

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Scripture readings are taken from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright©2018 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. [www.wartburgproject.org](http://www.wartburgproject.org)  
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**FIRST READING****Acts 18:1-11**

After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup>There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them. <sup>3</sup>Because he had the same occupation, he stayed and worked with them, for they were tentmakers by trade. <sup>4</sup>Every Sabbath he led a discussion in the synagogue, trying to persuade both Jews and Greeks.

<sup>5</sup>When Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul was entirely devoted to preaching the word, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. <sup>6</sup>But when they opposed Paul and slandered him, he shook out his clothes and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on, I will go to the Gentiles!"

<sup>7</sup>He left that place and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshipper of God, whose house was next door to the synagogue. <sup>8</sup>Crispus, the synagogue leader, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians, when they heard, believed and were baptized.

<sup>9</sup>One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid, but keep on speaking, and do not be silent. <sup>10</sup>For I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, because I have many people in this city." <sup>11</sup>He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING****Revelation 21:1-7**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, because the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. And the sea no longer existed. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

<sup>3</sup>And from the throne I heard a loud voice that said, "Look! God's dwelling is with people. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them, and he will be their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain, because the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>The one who was seated on the throne said to me, "Look, I am making everything new!" He also said, "Write, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>And he said to me:

It is done.

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

To anyone who is thirsty,

I will give freely from the spring of the water of life.

<sup>7</sup>The one who overcomes  
will inherit these things.

I will be his God,  
and he will be my son.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

**John 20:19-31**

On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." <sup>22</sup>After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

<sup>26</sup>After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**