

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Third Sunday after Easter
April 19, 2026
8:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

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

Gathering Music

Stay with Us
Susan Smith, soloist
Glenn Hinderliter, percussion

Pelz

Easter Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Welcome and Announcements

Please rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

In the walking, in the talking, and in the wondering - Christ is here.
Even when our eyes are kept from recognizing him,
our hearts know the rhythm of his voice.
Today, we gather to hear the story told again.
We gather to recognize him in the breaking of the bread.
Whether you are full of faith or full of doubt, come.
Let us worship the risen Christ!

Thanksgiving for Baptism

We thank you, O God, that just as Jesus drew near
and walked with the disciples on the road to Emmaus,
you draw near to us today.
In these waters, we celebrate that no one walks alone.
You meet us in our questions, our shadows, and our journeys.

**We give thanks that you "open the scriptures" to us.
Through our baptism, you invite us into the great story of your people.
May your Word be a fire burning within our hearts,
turning cold indifference into a living hope.**

Gracious God, we thank you for the moment our eyes are opened.
In this water, we see the sign of your New Creation.
As the disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread,
may we recognize your presence in every neighbor, every meal,
and every moment of grace.

**Lord, the disciples did not stay in Emmaus;
they rushed back to share the Good News.
We thank you that baptism is not a destination, but a commissioning.
Empower us to live with a "burning heart,"
bearing witness to the Resurrection in a world that longs for light.
Amen**



1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to



that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
 dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
 be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
 who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
 ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
 vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
 breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es



all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.
 fruit - less ef - ferts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
 round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
 wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

Greeting

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

We pray. Risen Lord,
**you meet us on the road of life and lift us from our pain and grief.
Heal our hardness of heart, and open our minds to the subtleness of your ways
and the greatness of your kingdom. During times of suffering and doubt,
help us grow strong and true. Reveal your presence to us,
as we show hospitality to strangers and break bread in your name.
Amen**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Translation: NRSVue

A reading from Acts.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,
“Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you,
and listen to what I say.

“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty
that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter
and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them,
“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your
sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away,
everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other
arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”
So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three
thousand persons were added.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Luke 24:13-35

Translation: NRSVue

The Good News from Luke, the 24th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”
That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Shari Duminy

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

On Emmaus' Journey
Tune: Holy Manna

Steumple/Moore

**Who are you who walk in sorrow
Down Emmaus' barren road,
Hearts distraught and hope defeated
Bent beneath grief's crushing load?
Nameless mourners, we will join you,
We who also mourn our dead,
We have stood by graves unyielding,
Eaten death's bare, bitter bread.**

**Who is this who joins our journey,
Walking with us stride by stride?
Unknown stranger, can you fathom
Depths of grief for one who died?
Then the wonder! When we told you
How our dreams to dust have turned,
Then you opened wide the Scriptures
Till our hearts within us burned.**

**Who are you? Our hearts are opened
In the breaking of the bread.
Christ the victim, now the victor
Living, risen, from the dead!
Great Companion on our journey,
Still surprise us with your grace!
Make each day a new Emmaus;
On our hearts your image trace.**

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world,
let us pray for the needs of all creation.

After each petition:

God of resurrection,
hear our prayer.

Pastor's closing prayer:

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers
to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen

Peace

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

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Offering Song

Blessing, Honor, and Glory

ELW 433

C Am⁷ G/B C F/A G/B
Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry to the Lamb.

C G/B C/E F G^{sus} G C/E
Ho - ly, righ - teous, wor - thy is the Lamb.

F Am⁷ G Em⁷ C/E F Am G C²/E
Death could not hold him down, for he is ris - en!

F² Am⁷ G Em⁷ C/E F Dm⁷ G^{sus} G
Seat-ed up - on the throne, he is the Lamb of God!

²G^{sus} G C Am⁷ G/B C F/A G/B
God! Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry to the Lamb.

C F/A G/B C/E F G C/E F C
Ho - ly, righ - teous, wor - thy is the Lamb of God.

Offering Prayer

We pray. Lord of the journey,
we confess that, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus,
our eyes are often kept from seeing you.
We get distracted by our own worries, our perceived losses,
and the shadows of the world.
Yet, you draw near and walk with us anyway.
You take our ordinary conversations
and set our hearts ablaze with your truth.

**Today, we bring these offerings to your table.
May these gifts support the work of your Church
and reach those walking their own lonely roads.
Take these gifts, bless them, and use them to reveal your presence
in every corner of our community. In the name of the Risen Christ,
Amen**

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

Lift your eyes and look around.
Behold the Lord in our midst.
Our hearts burn within us when he speaks to our secret hearts.

Lift the cup of salvation and call on God's holy name.
The Lord hears our cries and answers our prayers.

Lift your hearts to the Lord of life who meets us in our need.
The Lord hears our promises of faithful love.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Invitation to the Table

When the disciples broke bread, their eyes were opened to see that the stranger they had invited for dinner was none other than their friend Jesus.

Today as we break bread, open your eyes.
The person next to you is none other than our friend Jesus.
Jesus, we thank you for inviting us to meet you at this table.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion

Leader or All



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
 3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
 come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
 in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.
 rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

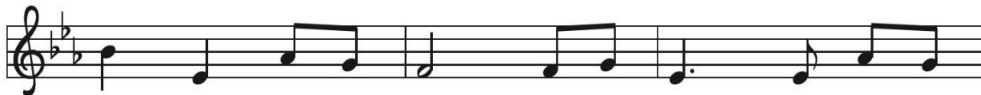
All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
 in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

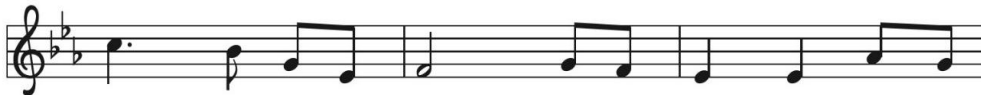


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



Refrain

By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



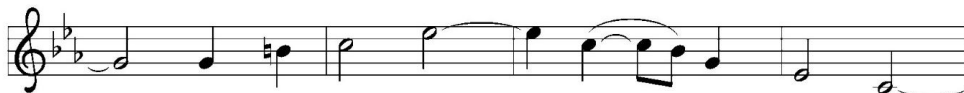
peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

We pray. Gracious God,
 you have made yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread.
 We thank you for this sacred meal that nourishes our souls.
 Just as you revealed your glory to the two disciples,
 reveal yourself to us in our neighbors, our struggles, and our joys.
 Send us out now with haste - not with heavy hearts,
 but with the joyful news that you are risen indeed.

Amen

SENDING

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

Blessing

Go in peace and in the knowledge that God's gift of new life in Jesus is yours;
and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

Amen

Sending Song

Let Us Enter In

ACS 985



1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free - dom.
2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.
3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.



Let us en-ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.
Let us en-ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.
Let us en-ter in to the start of a hope we can share.



Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.
Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.
Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er



Heal - ing, for - giv - ing— Let us en - ter in.
Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.
sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

Dismissal

As you meet strangers on the road, learn to recognize Christ in your midst.

**As our hearts burn within us,
we will recognize his whispers to our souls.**

As you experience Christ in the smile of another,
share the love of God with one another.

**As the scales fall from our eyes,
we will see Easter miracles all around us.**

Go with God's blessings.

Thanks be to God.

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Deb Stevens

Reader

Max H.

Communion Assistants

Linda Devine, Sue Mathieu

Greeter

Ava Killingsworth

Usher

Bob Rohrbach

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Max H., Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Bob Rice, Carolyn Rice, Terri Hinderliter, Linda Letts, Jennifer Wetzel, Marian Harrison, Donna Bhagat, Lynda Swartz, Cindy Clark, Deb Stevens, Julie Timmcke, Robbie Flynn