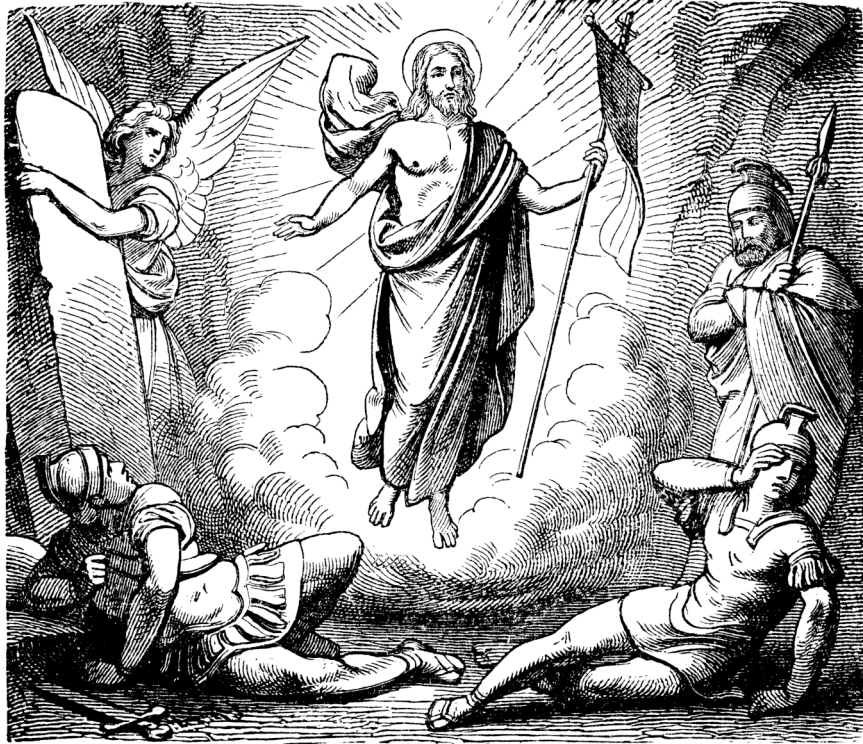


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED 15 JANUARY 1837



THE
RESURRECTION
OF OUR **LORD**

April 20, 2025
8:30 & 11:00 AM

615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, 15219

Ph: 412.471.8125 ✕ Fax: 412.471.9521 ✕ flc@flcpittsburgh.org ✕ www.flcpittsburgh.org



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

We extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting with us today and hope you will return to worship with our community of faith again. If you would like to know more about our ministry in downtown and metropolitan Pittsburgh, please speak to a pastor, any of our members, or visit www.flcpittsburgh.org.

Our liturgy incorporates historic practices of the Western Christian tradition, aspects of which may be unfamiliar to some. We hope this bulletin will serve to welcome our visitors and be an aid to those who seek to participate in our worship of God.

ACCESSIBILITY Accessible entrances are available using either door from the courtyard. An elevator is available in the Parish House to access other levels of the building. The parking spaces directly in front of the building have been designated for those with handicapped plates or placards for their vehicles.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available at the ushers' table in the rear of the nave. Easy-to-use receivers with either an earpiece or a neck loop are available. Antiseptic wipes are available to clean assisted listening equipment before use.

YOUNG CHILDREN

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." The presence of children in worship, even when they are wiggly and noisy, is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish is growing. Children's worship boxes, with items to help engage our youngsters in worship, are available in the back of the nave. Please return them to an usher after worship. A family restroom with a changing table is available downstairs.



HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered by invitation of the Lord himself. All baptized believers who trust that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist, regardless of denomination, are invited to receive the Blessed Sacrament. To receive the Sacrament, come to the altar rail by way of the center aisle. The pastor will place a wafer into your hand. Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten-free wafer. The wine may be received by drinking directly from the common cup or with an individual glass filled from a pouring chalice. Please pick up a glass from the tables at the head of the center aisle, and return your empty glass to the tables at the head of the side aisles. If you need to have communion brought to you in your seat, please let an usher know.

If you choose to receive the Sacrament under the form of bread alone for any reason, you may be assured that in so doing, you receive the whole Christ. If you choose not to receive communion, you may request a blessing instead. After receiving

✠ ALTAR FLOWERS & LAMPS ✠

Easter flowers are given to the glory of God, a gift to the whole parish to enhance the worship of our Risen Lord. Please allow the flowers you have given to remain in the chancel through the Easter Sunday 11:00 liturgy. They may be picked up afterward, or the following Sunday.

Easter flower & special music ministry gift dedications may be found in the brochure available from the ushers' table at the rear of the nave.

SANCTUARY

VOTIVE

LAMPS

April 9 - 20

is given to the glory of God.

is given in memory of George Dewey & Ruth Elmira Weimer, parents of George Weimer by Beatrice Weimer & family.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2025 — 8:30 & 11:00 AM

*Thank you for silencing your electronic devices before worship.
The people prepare to worship by silently praying the following prayer:*

✠ Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we who celebrate
the Easter festival, kindled with heavenly desires, may ever
thirst for the fountain of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Read Psalm 98, p. 262

THE PRELUDE

*March No. 3
Antiphon for Two Trumpets
March No. 4*

Georg Friderich Handel
Robert J. Powell
G. F. Handel

Following the prelude, the people stand and face the baptismal font.

THE THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Ever-living Father, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen

The bells peal.

THE PROCLAMATION

P Alleluia. Christ is risen.

P Alleluia. Christ is risen.

P Alleluia. Christ is risen.

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*The people may turn in place to follow and bow as the cross passes.
During the procession, the people may make the sign of the cross
as they are sprinkled with baptismal water.*

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

LBW 151



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

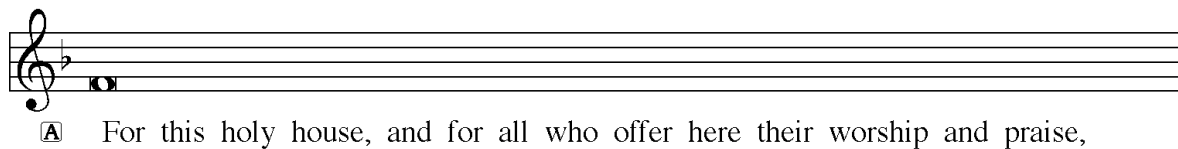
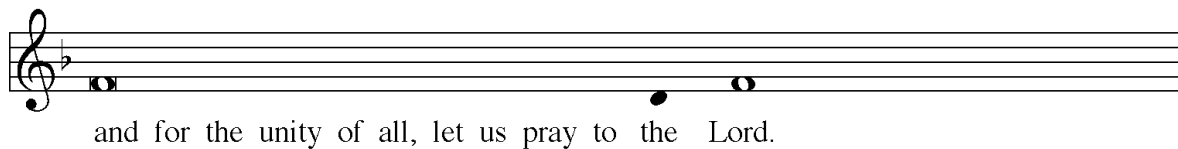
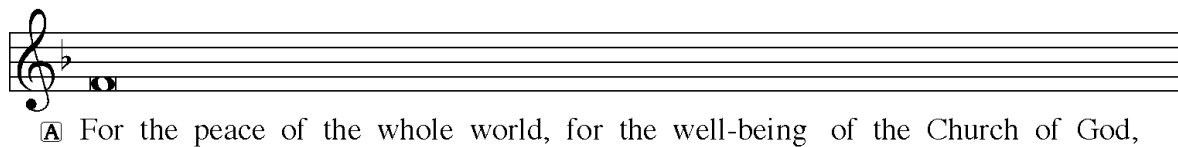
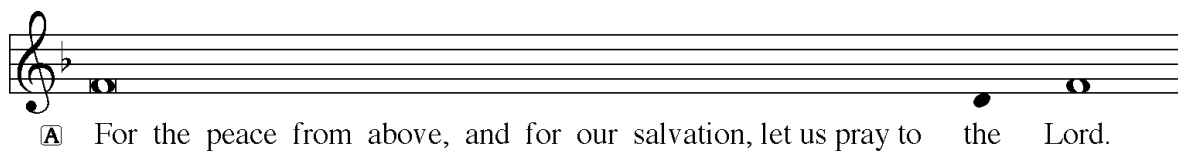
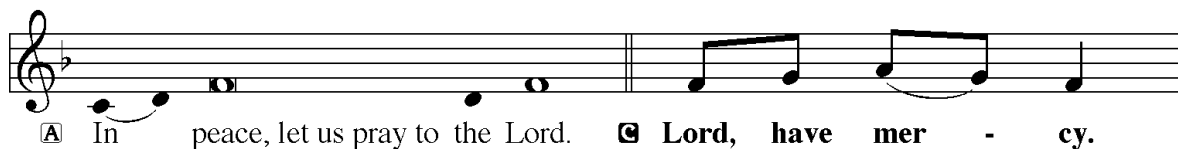
Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

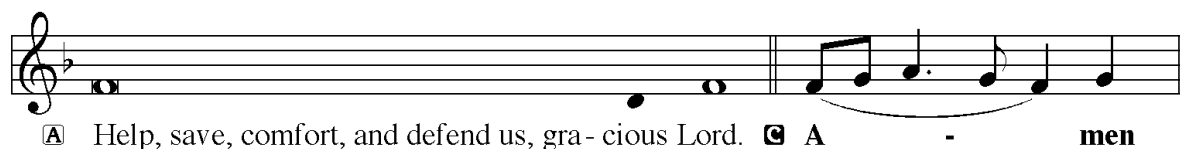
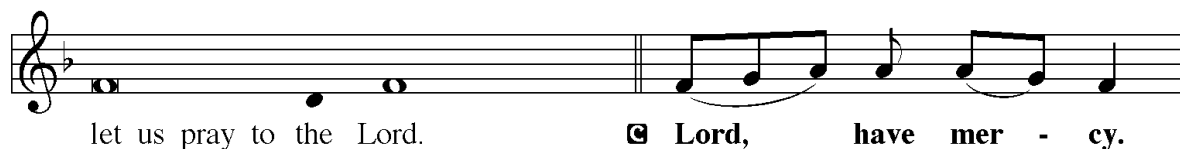
THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

Bp The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

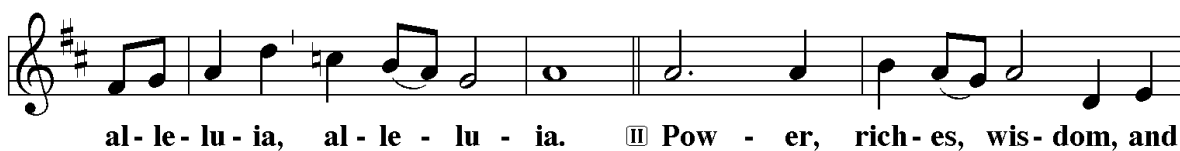
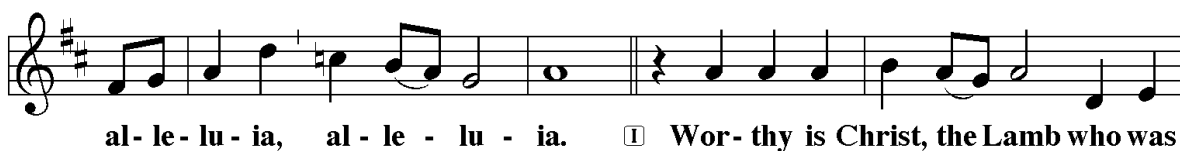


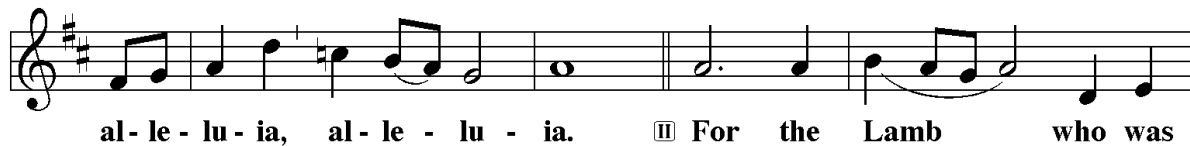
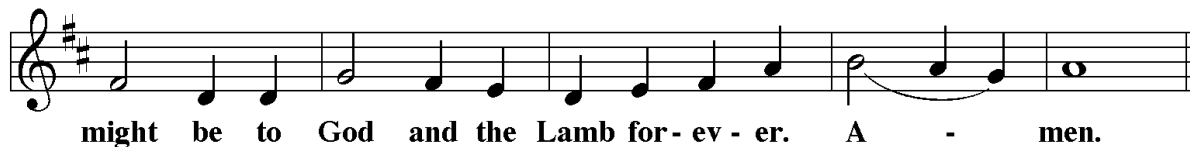
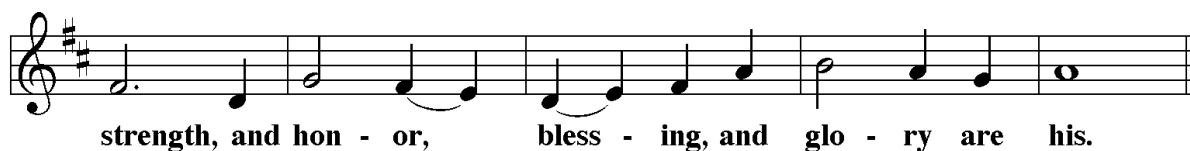


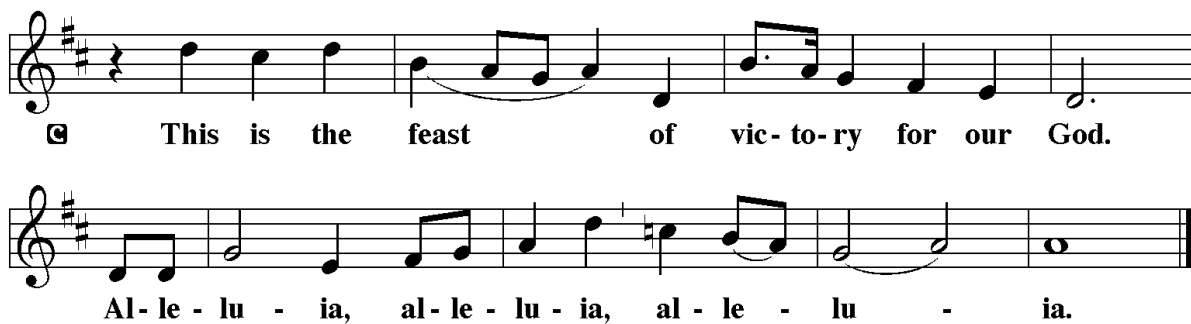
THE CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Worthy is Christ

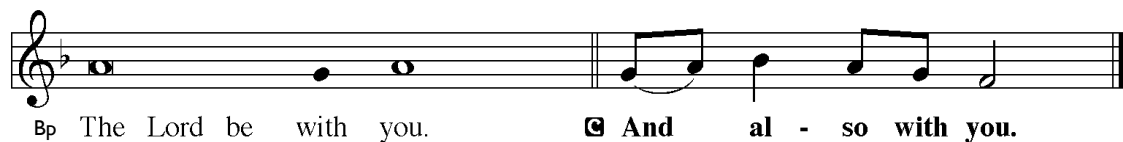
C—All • I—Women • II—Men







THE PRAYER OF THE DAY



Bp Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen *(Sung on one tone.)*

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON — Acts 10:34-43

L A reading from Acts.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY—Ps. 118:1-2, 14-24 *Non nobis, Domine*

Anglican Chant/
Thomas Norris

Sung by the Choir.

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endure forever. Let Israel now proclaim, "His mercy endures forever." The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous. "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!" I shall not die but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord has punished me sorely, but he did not hand me over to death. Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them: I will offer thanks to the Lord "This is the gate of the Lord; he who is righteous may enter." I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation. The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

THE SECOND LESSON — I Corinthians 15:19-26

L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

THE VERSE

C. Pock

Sung by the Choir.

*Alleluia. Christ, our Paschal Lamb has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

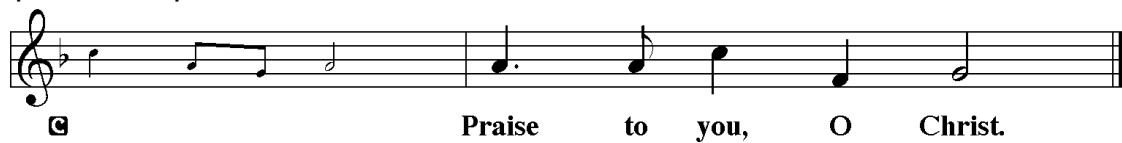
THE HOLY GOSPEL — Saint Luke 24:1-12

Bp The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Bp The Gospel of the Lord.



The people are seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow, Bishop

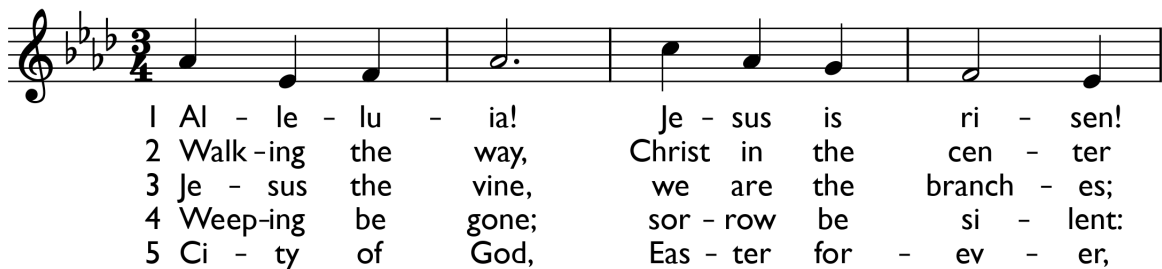
Following the sermon, the people stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

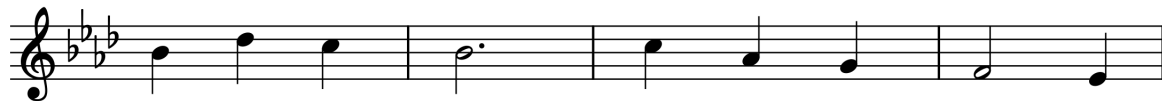
ELW 377

*St. 1—**All** • 2—Men • 3—**All** • 4—Women • 5—**All** • Refrain—**All***





Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spi - rit the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Jer - u - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing the bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise!
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me!
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I am!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry, Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

The people remain standing.

THE NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
*by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.*
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS

A In the power of the resurrection, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Bp Rejoicing in the risen presence of our Lord, we commend all for whom we pray and ourselves to Christ, to whom we give laud and praise now and forever.

C Amen

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The people offer each other the sign of peace, saying "Peace be with you."

The people are seated as the gifts are prepared.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Christ, Our Passover

Will C. McFarlane

Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more, death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once, but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Christ is risen, is risen from the dead; and became the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall be made alive!

The people stand.

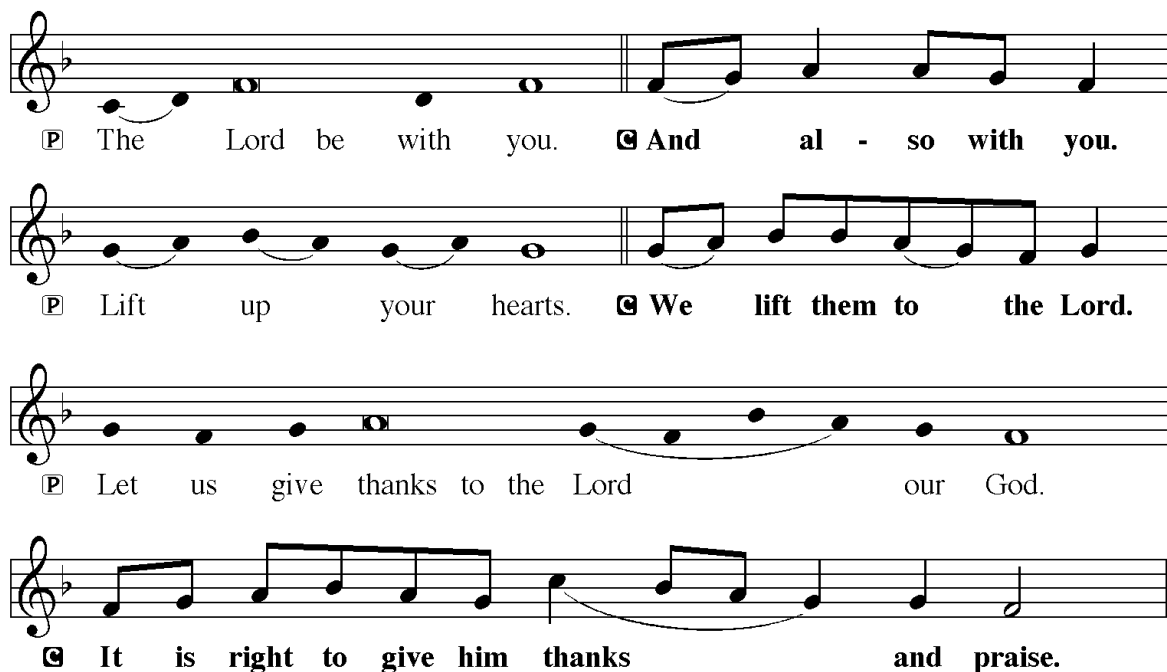
THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we welcome this Day of Resurrection with its opportunity to bring gifts to a living God. Receive these offerings as our joyful celebration of your new life and reign in Jesus your Son. And through the bread and wine we have presented, share your new life with us, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

SURSUM CORDA



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

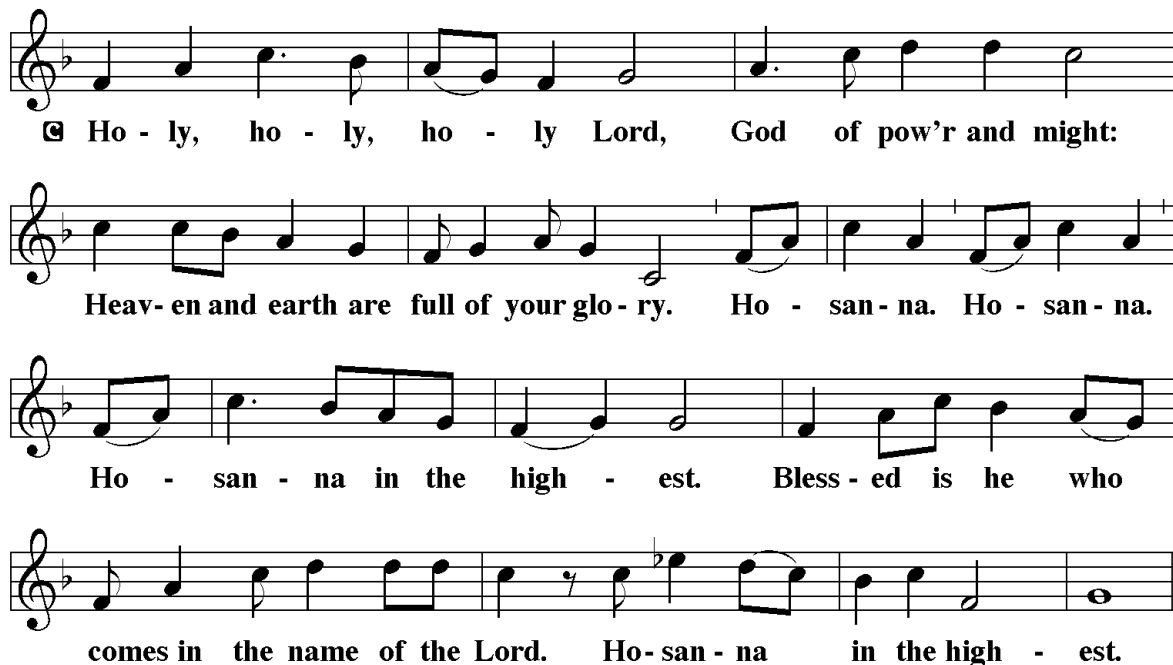
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by this 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, with angels and archangels, with cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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.

- P 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.*

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly on this day we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

- P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty of the
Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is yours, al -
might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C 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**

THE FRACTION

P Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

C Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The people are seated.

AGNUS DEI

♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

To receive the Sacrament, come to the altar rail by way of the center aisle. The pastor will place a wafer into your hand. Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten-free wafer. The wine may be received by drinking directly from the common cup or with an individual glass filled from a pouring chalice. Please pick up a glass from the tables at the head of the center aisle, and return your empty glass to the tables at the head of the side aisles. If you need to have communion brought to you in your seat, please let an usher know.

If you choose to receive the Sacrament under the form of bread alone for any reason, you may be assured that in so doing, you receive the whole Christ. If you choose not to receive communion, you may request a blessing instead. After receiving communion (or a blessing), you may return to your seat by the side aisles.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

Welcome, Happy Morning!

LBW 153



- 1 "Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say;
- 2 Mak - er and re - deem - er, life and health of all,
- 3 Source of all things liv - ing, you came down to die,
- 4 Free the souls long pris - oned, bound with Sa - tan's chain;



"Hell to - day is van - quished, heav'n is won to - day!"
 God from heav'n be - hold - ing hu - man na - ture's fall,
 plumbed the depths of hell to raise us up on high.
 all that once had fall - en raise to life a - gain;



Christ, once dead, is liv - ing, God for - ev - er - more!
 you, the true and on - ly Son of God a - bove,
 Come then, true and faith - ful; come, ful - fill your word;
 show your face in bright - ness, shine in ev - 'ry land



Him, their true cre - a - tor, all his works a - dore.
 died as mor - tal man to save us by your love.
 this is your third morn - ing: rise, O bur - ied Lord!
 as in E - den's gar - den when the world be - gan.



"Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say.

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. John Ellerton, 1826–1893, adapt.
 Music: FORTUNATUS, Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done

LBW 135



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst, but Christ their
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, he ris - es
4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell; the bars from
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting



vic - tor's tri - umph won! Now be the
le - gions has dis - persed. Let shouts of
glo - rious from the dead. All glo - ry
heav'n's high por - tals fell. Let hymns of
free your ser - vants too, that we may



song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909
Music: VICTORY, Giovanni P. da Palestrina, 1525–1594, adapt.

HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

LBW 130



- 1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" All on earth with an - gels say;
 2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
 4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, ye heav'ns; and earth, re - ply.
 Lo! The sun's e - clipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
 Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
 Praise to thee by both be giv'n.
 Thee we greet triumphant now;
 hail, the resurrection, thou!

6 King of glory, soul of bliss,
 everlasting life is this:
 thee to know, thy pow'r to prove,
 thus to sing, and thus to love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS, French, 13th cent.

When all have communed, the people stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C **Amen**

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by this holy food you proclaim your death for all people. May the whole world come to believe in your resurrection by our being raised to new lives of love through this communion. We bless you now and evermore.

C Amen

THE SOLEMN BLESSING *(sung)*

P Let us bow our heads and pray for God's blessing.

Silence

Bp Almighty God bless you on this solemn feast of Easter,
and protect you against all sin.

C Amen *(sung on one tone)*

Bp God who has granted us healing, through the resurrection of his Son,
fulfill his promises, and bless you with eternal life.

C Amen

Bp You have mourned for Christ's sufferings;
now you celebrate the joy of his resurrection.
God grant that you come with joy to the feast which lasts forever.

C Amen

Bp Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

THE HYMN TO CLOSE

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LBW 143

Printed on the following page.

THE HYMN TO CLOSE

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LBW 143



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of love that
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our heart with
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt-less love; set heart and will on
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the heav'n - ly



still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri - umph;
bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
Now still he comes to give us life and by his pres -
grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our lives
Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest,



of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

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THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE POSTLUDE

Procession

Georg Frideric Handel

THIS MORNING AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: SUNDAY, MARCH 31

8:30 AM Holy Communion	NAVE
9:45 AM Easter Breakfast	HOLY CROSS HALL
11:00 AM Holy Communion	NAVE

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**“We are an Easter people,
and Alleluia is our song,”**

Saint Augustine declared.

Today Alleluia, the song of heaven
that has been absent from our
worship since Ash Wednesday,
returns. We greet the word with great
rejoicing: it is like meeting an old friend
once again after a long absence.
We say it and sing it again and again
throughout the fifty days of Easter.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER BREAKFAST: Our annual Easter Breakfast will take place **this morning at 9:45 AM** in Holy Cross Hall. All are welcome to join us for food and fellowship between liturgies.

BISHOP KUSSEROW PREACHING THIS MORNING: Today we are blessed by the presence and preaching of our bishop, The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow, on the occasion of his final Easter as bishop of our synod. On this joyous day, we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord as well as our bishop's 18 years of faithful ministry to our synod.

NEW PARKING ARRANGEMENT AT U.S. STEEL TOWER GARAGE: Effective immediately, Metropolis has increased the church's parking rates at the U.S. Steel Tower garage. The new QR Code posted throughout the church will allow parishioners to park for up to 2.5 hours for \$6.00. \$3.00 will be charged to your credit card, which you must enter into your phone. The other half of the fee will be charged to the church. To encourage worship attendance, the church will cover half the fee on Sundays, (though we are happy for donations toward the cost). On weekdays, we ask parishioners to reimburse the church the other \$3.00. There is also an extended-stay option, which staff members can help you with. We realize on Sundays it may now make more sense to park elsewhere. Free on-street parking is now available in front of the church, especially for those with mobility issues. Our sidewalks have reopened! We also continue to provide subsidized parking at Mellon Square and Smithfield/Liberty garages for \$1.00 on Sundays. The ushers and staff will provide validation stickers for these garages. Thank you for your patience and commitment to our Gospel ministry as we navigate these changes.

ADULT SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE: **April 20:** Easter Sunday breakfast. Sign up in the Parish House to bring something to share. **April 27:** The Social Ministry committee welcomes guest speaker Pastor Bob Maravelli, a retired Presbyterian minister who serves as the Director of Daily Bread. Located on Pittsburgh's Northside, Daily Bread provides meals to those who are without a home or are under-employed. Meals are served out of the kitchen at Trinity Lutheran Church.

THE ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION: The congregation meeting will be held **Sunday, May 18, at 9:45 AM** in Holy Cross Hall. This is our annual program meeting. The Congregation will receive reports from all Standing and Special Committees of the parish. Members will be elected to our Congregation Council. All Voting Members of the congregation are encouraged to be present.

DESIGNATED OFFERINGS: The Special Offering for Easter is designated for *Abiding Missions*, a mission outreach of the ELCA, is engaged in serving, advocating for, and accompanying our neighbors who are experiencing chronic trauma and poverty. Your donation helps to expand food security, strengthen neighborhoods, and support free after-school programs that offer a formal collaboration with 4-H. Please use the "Easter" envelope in your offering envelope box, or, make your check payable to "First Lutheran Church" and mark it "Easter."

TO ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Please send in your Annual Reports for the Bulletin of Reports presented at the May Organizational Congregation Meeting by **Friday, May 9**. Please submit your report to Christine Hoffman at cgh@flcpittsburgh.org. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITY: On **Sunday, April 27**, join Pastor Evans at **4:45 PM** at Escape Room Pittsburgh (Homestead) for a fun Tomb Explorer adventure. Dinner following the event will be at Eat'n Park. Contact Amy Bills to sign up at cym@flcpittsburgh.org.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP We are reviving our Social Justice Book Discussion group. The group will study *How We Learn To Be Brave: Decisive Moments In Life and Faith* by Mariann Edgar Budde. Participants should purchase the book. Those interested in joining this group please email Vickie Briercheck (brierchv@gmail.com). The group will meet mostly via Zoom on the following Tuesday evenings at **7:00 PM for an hour: April 22 and 29, May 6 and 13, June 10 and 24, July 8**. The goal will be to cover one chapter at each meeting.

IN SEARCH OF A KIDNEY DONOR: A member of our parish, Daniel Walker, is now on the kidney transplant list at UPMC because of polycystic kidney disease. A living donor is his best chance at continuing an active and productive life. Anyone can support him by sharing this message. If someone wishes to be a donor they can register at livingdonorreg.upmc.com/ and specify Daniel Walker as the recipient. Blood type does not matter.

IT'S TIME TO VOLUNTEER AT GLOBAL LINKS! Our date is **April 26** from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Global Links prepares and ships surplus medical supplies to resource-poor areas in the Western Hemisphere. Learn more at goballinks.org. Volunteers sort and pack materials for shipping. No special skills required. Open to those who are 18 years and older or are 16-17 with a signed waiver by parent or guardian. Global Links is located near the Greentree exit on I- 376. You can get the registration link by contacting the church office. Contact Sherry Wilson at swilson854@gmail.com for more information about volunteering.

TIME TO RESTOCK THE PANTRY! We could especially use: large and individual sized shelf-stable milks, canned chicken, canned tuna, canned fruits and fruit cups, peanut butter, jam and jelly, pasta sauces, Hormel Compleat meals, Canned Pasta (Chef Boyardee), rice and potato sides, canned soups, Ramen noodles, snack crackers, granola and multi-grain bars. Also individual laundry packets are often requested. Please donate easy-open pull-tab canned goods whenever possible. Thank you!

By visiting our Amazon wish list, First Lutheran Church - Walk in Ministry Food Pantry you will get an idea of the items that are needed, you have a few options: 1. You can make a monetary donation to the church (noting that the contribution should be directed to the food pantry) 2. You can order directly from the FLC Amazon wishlist, or 3. You can place an order for similar items on the list from your own Amazon account (changing brand or quantity to suit your giving choices.)

<http://tinyurl.com/flcWISHLIST>

ON DUTY THIS WEEK / PARTNER MINISTRY SERVICES:

This week, First Presbyterian Church will be on duty Monday-Thursday, April 21-24.

The Red Door at St. Mary of Mercy Roman Catholic Church offers breakfast Monday - Saturday 9:00-10:30 AM; bag lunches Monday - Saturday, 10:30 - 11:30 AM, and dinners Monday - Friday, 5:00 - 5:30 PM. A midday meal is served on Sundays from 1:00-2:00 PM. Those seeking crisis counseling or services may be directed accordingly.

Our next week of service begins April 14.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR CAMP DOWNTOWN JUNE 16-20: Join us as we sow Seeds of Faith at this year's Camp Downtown hosted by First Lutheran Church and sponsored by the Downtown Ministerium, this summer, **June 16 – 20 from 9AM - 4PM.** We will visit Biblical stories of sowing seeds and how this relates to our life of faith which needs only be as big as a mustard seed to bear much fruit. We will also learn about Johnny Appleseed and his Pittsburgh roots. The cost is \$75 per camper. Sibling discounts are \$65 for second sibling, \$55 for third sibling and so on. Camper registration is for students entering Kindergarten through 6th grade. Students 7th Grade and older may register to serve as youth counselors at no cost. We also need additional adult chaperones! Registration closes May 18 and will only be open to the first 40 campers. Visit flcpittsburgh.org/campdowntown to register campers, youth counselors, and adult chaperones!



PITTSBURGH DRAGON BOAT TEAM

Join First Lutheran Church at this year's Pittsburgh Dragon Boat Festival on **Saturday, September 27, 2025**. The Dragon Boat Festival is organized by Pittsburgh Hearts of Steel, an organization dedicated to supporting breast cancer survivors.

Sign up to be a racer, a cheerleader, to bring food, staff the vendor table, or to pledge support in the Parish House, by scanning the QR code, or by visiting tinyurl.com/FLC-dragonboat! **Commitment deadline is May 1.**

We will be fundraising to meet the registration fee of \$1400 once at least 20 people have committed to row.

Contact Sarah (SAM406@pitt.edu) or Deb (dlange312@gmail.com) if you would like more information.



Do you have a fun idea for a team name or t-shirt design? Let us know!

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS
TO DONATE THEIR TIME AND TALENTS TO
THE FOUNDATION OF HOPE**

The Foundation of HOPE is an interfaith nonprofit with the mission of empowering people impacted by the criminal justice system to renew their faith.

We are gauging interest from within our congregation to form a team of volunteers to work with Foundation of Hope in assisting people re-entering our community.

Many formerly incarcerated individuals return to jail after their release because they lack informal and formal support systems needed to help them successfully reintegrate back into their communities. HOPE Reentry is an interfaith program for returning citizens. With a focus on transitional services, HOPE Reentry works with individuals providing services including peer support, educational and training programs, informational resources, and material assistance, as well as guidance and referrals for employment, housing, and other social services.

Volunteers can help with anything from giving people rides to and from job interviews, to teaching life skills classes (childcare, professional skills, cooking, budgeting, etc), to assisting with the administration of programs.

Foundation of Hope is an important organization that helps get people's lives back on track, keeps families together, and prevents people with few options from re-entering the criminal justice system.

**If you are interested in receiving more information about
this fantastic ministry opportunity please contact
Aaron Trojian at aarontrojian@gmail.com.**

SERVING TODAY

	8:30 AM		11:00 AM
Presiding Minister / Preacher		Bp. Kusserow	
Celebrant		Pr. Evans	
Assisting Minister	June Navid		Mimi Pasternak
Communion Assistants	Susan Bruder		Kathy Stefani
Lectors	Kurt Hansmann		Sherry Wilson
Acolyte(s)	Ben Pasternak	C	Zoe McCurry
		T	Nate Wilson
		T	Ethan Wilson
	Vivian Evans	A	Maryam Hall
		BB	
Cantor	Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, OLF, AAGO		
Instrumentalist(s)	Thomas Smalara, <i>Trumpet</i> Ralph Guzzi, <i>Trumpet</i> Albert Wrublesky, <i>Tympani</i>		
Vocal Ensemble	The Parish Choir		
Head Usher			Kurt Herbst
Usher(s)	Kurt Hansmann		Wes Nelson Eric Verschuure
Altar Guild	Amy Hansmann Janet King		Becky Lauffer Kathy Lauffer

CALENDAR

MONDAY, APRIL 21

Church closed in observance of the Easter holiday

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

1:00 PM	Staff Meeting	MEZZANINE
7:00 PM	Book Discussion Group	ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

8:00 AM	Meal Ministry Prep	KITCHEN
12:10 PM	Holy Communion for Healing	NAVE
6:00 PM	Christian Education Committee Meeting	ZOOM

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

6:00 PM	Youth Ministry Committee Meeting	ZOOM
6:30 PM	Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

12:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	HOLY CROSS HALL
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SATURDAY, APRIL 26

9:30 AM	Parish Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT
10:00 AM	Global Links Volunteering	GREENTREE

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 27

8:30 AM	Holy Communion	NAVE
9:30 AM	Bel Canto Youth Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT
9:45 AM	Sunday Church School Classes for All Ages	VARIOUS
10:00 AM	Parish Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT
11:00 AM	Holy Communion	NAVE
12:15 PM	Cantate Children's Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR ROOM
4:45 PM	Youth Group Escape Room Event	HOMESTEAD

THE FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

has served downtown Pittsburgh since its founding in 1837 as the first English-speaking Lutheran Church west of the Alleghenies. Its members come from far and near to participate in its Christian witness in the heart of the city: a witness that is faithful to Holy Scripture and to the historic Lutheran Confessions. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is at the center of its life, providing direction, comfort, and hope. If you are seeking a church home in Pittsburgh, we invite you to become a part of our downtown ministry.

THE CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY FOR PRAYER

STAFF

The Rev. Brian A. Evans, *Senior Pastor*
The Rev. Joseph G. Murdy, OLF, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Daniel E. Hall, MD, *Assisting Episcopal Priest*
Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, OLF, AAGO, *Cantor*
Ms. Amy Bills, *Christian Ed., Youth Ministry, & Fellowship*
Mrs. Suanne O'Dell, *Financial Secretary*
Ms. Christine G. Hoffman, *Admin. Assistant to Pastoral Staff*
Mr. Jeremy Caywood, *Building Manager*
Mr. Nicholas Sharer, *Communications Coordinator*
Mr. Benjamin Sommer, *Organ & Sacred Music Scholar*

PASTORS-IN-RESIDENCE

The Rev. Brian O. Bennett, *Lutheran University Center*
The Rev. Erin E. Evans, *St. Paul, Zeli. / Zion, Harmony*
The Rev. Canon Natalie G. Hall, *Church of the Redeemer*
The Rev. S. Cyril Hurnyak
The Rev. Leonard J. Larsen
The Rev. Jennifer Peters McCurry, *Carnegie Mellon Univ.*
The Rev. Caroline Mendis
The Rev. Martin M. Roth

MISSIONARIES

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
& Dr. Andrew L. Wilson, *Japan*

ORGAN ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Dr. Ann Labounsky Steele

COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE

Joyce Moon Strobel



Assisted listening devices are available. Inquire with an usher.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship

8:30 AM Holy Communion
9:45 AM Sunday Church School
(Classes for all ages during school year)
11:00 AM Holy Communion

Midweek Noonday Worship

12:10 PM Holy Communion, Wednesdays
(Holy Communion for Healing on the first Wednesday of each month)

SUNDAY PARKING

Accessible parking is available on Grant Street in front of the church. Reduced rate parking is available at the Mellon Square and Smithfield/Liberty garages for \$1.00. See an usher or the attendant at the reception desk for validation. Street parking is free on Sundays until 1:00 PM

If you have a pastoral concern outside of normal office hours, please call our emergency line: **412-471-6507** and the pastoral staff member on duty will return your call as soon as possible.

Visit us online at
flcpittsburgh.org

