



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



We Welcome you to Worship!

April 27, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow and Go Serve

...With God's Love!

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, April 27, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

*Congregation participation in **bold** in bulletin*

ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn Book, Setting 3

**=please stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Land Acknowledgment

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

Welcome

Call to Worship

The tomb is dark, but empty

The one you are looking for has overcome the darkness

The stone has been rolled away

The one you are looking for has overcome death

The burial clothes are put aside

The one you are looking for is alive!

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed! Let us worship our Risen Savior!

Children's Time

Gathering Hymn

The Day of Resurrection!

ELW 361

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.**

Kyrie

pg. 138

Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

pg. 140-141

Prayer of the Day

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body 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

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

First Reading

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from Acts, the fifth chapter.

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering

Welcome

Grace Notes

Second Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from Revelation, the first chapter.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

pg. 142

Gospel

John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth 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.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

We Walk by Faith

ELW 635

New Members Reception

These persons have come to us from other churches or backgrounds and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism as a sign of their renewed commitment to the life and work of the Church of Christ:

Lindsey Boyke-Lohmann and Troy Lohmann

Anita Pawlowski and Shawn Cady

Russell Horton, Sarah Horton, Gabriel Horton and Grace Horton

Dear friends, we rejoice to receive you into the household of God, members of one holy catholic and apostolic church, into our fellowship in the Gospel, and the eternal inheritance which is your birthright in Holy Baptism. You are making public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism To live among God's faithful people, To hear God's Word and share in God's supper, To proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed, To serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, And to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

New Members Respond: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit

may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Let us pray, O God, we give you thanks for our new members whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others. In Jesus name, **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Creator God, all of humankind was created in your image, and you called us good. In your lovingkindness, you made covenants with us throughout history, beginning with your promises to Abraham and Sarah. The whole of creation belongs to you; hear us as we pray for one another and creation, trusting in your faithfulness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of justice and mercy, we pray for all our leaders, in our congregations and our church, and in our local, state, and national political offices. May they hear your call to do justice and to love kindness. May they learn to see you in all those whom they serve. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bountiful God, we thank you for the beauty and ecological diversity of your creation. We confess that we have not cared for it as your good gift to us. We hoard resources, creating shortages and living in a mindset of scarcity. Help us learn to share water and land with each other and with your creation. We extract more resources than the earth can support, causing environmental degradation that effects the most vulnerable around the world, from people fleeing floods and droughts to animals living in ever shrinking habitats. May we strive to restore the earth, safeguarding it for future generations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of compassion, hear the cries of the oppressed throughout the world, from those languishing in jail without a trial in our own cities to those fleeing destruction abroad. We pray especially for immigrants and refugees within our borders, who have escaped violence and lack of opportunity, only to face discrimination and fear here where they hoped to be safe. May we remember that these are also children of God, our siblings. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Listening God, you hear the names of those in our community who are in special need of your care (See Prayer Insert) < full 5 second pause>. We remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before, and joined the great cloud of witnesses. We ask your blessings on those who mourn, bringing them your peace and comfort in times of darkness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Hear our prayers, God of grace, and help us to fulfill them, working according to your purpose, in peace, justice, and mercy, in all we do; through Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

From PCUSA -Liturgy & Worship Aids: Immigration Worship Resources: Lent and Holy Week
https://pcusa.org/sites/default/files/lenten_lectionary_resources_final.pdf

Exchange of Peace

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

Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.

Announcements

Offering Prayer

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of Holy Communion and Thanksgiving

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give 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

pg. 144

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.

When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

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 Communion

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God

pg. 146

That Easter Day Was Bright With Joy

ELW 384

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

ELW 492

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

The Peace of the Lord

ELW 646

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

† *Thank you again for your Easter Flowers orders and to:
Marilyn Burrington and Rodney and JoAnne Brickson*

*Michelle and Tim Osterhaus for giving the palms in honor of
those that serve in our music ministry at Covenant*

*Jim and Joyce Seamonson and Jeff and Julie Rice, for the
spring container planting at the front entrance*

*Tamarine Westrand, for assembling the planter, planning and
arranging the Easter Breakfast for being a Good Egg!*



Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?

Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.

Or visit www.covluth.org and click 'On-line Giving'!

(Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)



Announcements:

- ✝ Thank you for being at Worship! More events and Worship opportunities at Covluth.org
- ✝ **Thanks for your Easter Flowers orders!** Please take these flowers home with you today
- ✝ **New Member reception today in Worship**, thank you for welcoming our newest members
- ✝ Join to watch a movie about **Bonhoeffer Sunday April 27** in the Cinema, after Worship
- ✝ **Highway cleanup today after Worship** at meet at Rutland Dunn Townline/Starr School
- ✝ **Affirmation of Baptism May 4** during Worship, **join to celebrate and appreciate our youth**
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch meets the 1st Wed of each month May 7 11:30** location coming soon!
- ✝ **Book Group 2nd Thur 1pm May 8** Gateway Room, discussing Frank and Red by Matt Coyne
- ✝ **Feed our Souls-** the 2nd Fri of the month- **May 9 10:30a-1:30p** at St. Marks in Madison
- ✝ **Join Movie Night May 9 at 6:30pm to watch Moana 2** popcorn and lemonade provided
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets the 3rd Mondays, Join **May 19** at 630pm in the Gateway Room
- ✝ **Thank you to our Brass Sextet:** Gene Vanden Bosch, Peter Herman, Doug Johnson, Dianne Johnson, Russ Melland, Robin Robertson for offering their gifts and sharing their talents!
- ✝ Thank you, GraceNotes, comprised of: Donna Tarpinian, Meghann Proper, Angie Kettner and Michelle Osterhaus on accompaniment for sharing your time and talents with us!

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Pastor Wendy Moen*; **Acolyte:** *Logan Angerhofer*;

Assistant Minister: *Ann Nelson*; **Lector:** *Penny Vodak*;

Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper*; **Greeter:** *Karen Hanson-Cook, Bill Cook*;

Communion Assistant: *Ann Nelson, Rhetta and Sam Smith*;

Ushers: *Tamarine Westrand, Judy and Matthew Heil, Gary Tarpinian*;

Sound/projection: *Lars Forde*;

Altar Guild: *Jean Sime*; **Communion Prep:** *Ann and Dave Nelson*;

Altar Flowers: *For Donors, Recipients and their families by Ann Wineke in honor of Organ Donor Awareness month! Please visit donatelifewisconsin.org to learn more!*

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