



# Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We welcome you to Easter Sunday Worship!  
April 5, 2026 at 9:30 AM*

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 5, 2026 – 9:30 AM**

*Congregation participation is given in **bold**.*

*ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)*

*NFC = Now the Feast and Celebration Booklet (Back of Hymnal)*

## **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**

Don't weep! Don't mourn! There is great Good News!

**Christ the Lord is risen today!**

Put away your garments of mourning; let the light of God's love flood into your lives.

**Christ the Lord is risen today!**

No more do we have to fear the darkness; it has been overcome by God's light.

**Christ the Lord is risen today! ALLELUIA!!!**

### **Children's Time**

**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**

NFC p. 3

**Hymn of Praise – Now the Feast**

NFC p. 4

**Prayer of the Day**

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, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our 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 10:34-43

*A reading from the tenth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning with the thirty-fourth verse.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his household: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how 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. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not 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. <sup>42</sup> He 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. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

118:1-2, 14-24

*A responsive reading of Psalm one-hundred eighteen, beginning with the first verse.*

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup> **Let Israel say,**  
**“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:**  
**“The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;**

<sup>16</sup> the right hand of the Lord is exalted;  
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.”

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not die, but I shall live**  
**and recount the deeds of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord has punished me severely,  
but he did not give me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open to me the gates of righteousness,**  
**that I may enter through them**  
**and give thanks to the Lord.**

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> **I thank you that you have answered me**  
**and have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

**<sup>23</sup> This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## **Second Reading**

Colossians 3:1-4

*A reading from the third chapter of Paul's letter to the church in Colossae, beginning with the first verse.*

<sup>1</sup> If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

NFC p. 8

## **Gospel**

Matthew 28:1-10

*The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.*

## **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." <sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they

came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Wendy Moen

**Hymn of the Day**

*Christ Is Risen Alleluia!*

ELW 382

**Prayers of Intercession**

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

*A brief silence.*

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ’s victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus’ resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain, especially...  
Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ’s resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim

Christ's victory over death in word and deed.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory.

Merciful God, **receive our 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.**

### **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**

#### **Vocal Choir**

*"Agnus Dei – How Great Thou Art"*

by Michael W. Smith & Stuart K. Hine, arr. by Joel Raney

### **Offering and Offering Prayer**

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

### **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **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**

NFC p. 11

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,

we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the power of 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 Communion**

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

## **Communion Hymns**

*Lamb of God*

NFC p. 14

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

ELW 367

*I Know That My Redeemer Lives!*

ELW 619

## **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**

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **Blessing**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn**

*Thine Is The Glory*

ELW 376

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Postlude

*“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

*Robin Robertson, Russ Melland, and Dianne and Doug Johnson*



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## Announcements:

- ✝ **Alleluia! Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed, ALLELUIA!!!**
- ✝ **Thank you** to the Bell Tower Brass for their wonderful gifts of worship music today!
- ✝ **Thank you** Tamarine and all who helped provide Easter Breakfast this morning!
- ✝ **Thank you** to all who donated Easter flowers; you may take them following worship!
- ✝ Tomorrow, **Easter Monday**, April 6th, the office will be closed
- ✝ **Worship and Music Team** will meet on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **No Bible Study or Confirmation instruction this week**
- ✝ **Outdoor, Spring Cleanup** Day is Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** *Pastor Wendy Moen* **Acolyte:** *Jacob*

**Assistant Minister:** *Philayne Chose* **Lector:** *Russ Horton*

**Greeters:** *Carol Pritchard and Linda Harrison*

**Communion Worship Assistants:** *Philayne Chose, Kathy Andrusz, and Gary Tarpinian*

**Organist/Pianist:** *Meghann Proper*

**Ushers:** *Judy and Matthew Heil, Tamarine Westrand, and Russ Horton*

**Sound/projection:** *Jude Surrell*

**Altar Guild:** *Kirsten Almo & Larry Beck*

**Communion Prep:** *Wagner Family*

**Fellowship Hosts:** *Hospitality Team*

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