

EASTER 3

Prince of Peace Ev. Lutheran Church 2515 W. Grand River Ave
Howell, MI 48843 Pastor Mark Franck
(517) 546-5265 www.howellprinceofpeace.org

WELCOME!

If you are a friend who's been here before, welcome back. If you are a first-time visitor, welcome! We'd appreciate it if you would leave your name and address in one of our guest books located in either entry way. Children's bulletins and crayons are available on the counter beneath the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. If you need to take your child out during the service, you can hear and see the church service in our cry room area located between our worship space and the fellowship hall. If we can serve you in any way, please let us know: God bless your worship!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
AS MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF PRINCE OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH, OUR MISSION IS TO PROCLAIM GOD'S
GOSPEL OF SALVATION THROUGH JESUS CHRIST TO WIN
SOULS FOR CHRIST, NURTURE BELIEVERS, AND EQUIP THEM
FOR LIVES OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE, ALL TO THE GLORY OF
GOD.

THE LORD'S SUPPER – Out of obedience to the command of our Lord and as an expression of Christian love for everyone concerned, we practice close communion. We invite all who are communicant members of Prince of Peace or visitors who belong to our W.E.L.S. fellowship to receive the Lord's Supper with us. **If you are not a communicant member of a Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Church or belong to a different**

fellowship, faith, or even a different Lutheran church body, we ask that you please refrain from communing.

In making this request, we are not implying that you are not a Christian. God's Word teaches us to regard Communion as an outward expression of unity in all areas of faith. (1 Corinthians 1:10, Romans 16:17 and 1 Corinthians 10:17.) God's Word warns us that any communicant who does not recognize that the body and blood of Christ really are present in the Sacrament brings judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Scripture also requires each communicant to examine himself (1 Corinthians 11:28) before receiving the Lord's body and blood together with the bread and wine.

We thank you for your cooperation in respecting our practice of closed communion. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Franck after the service.

The time before worship begins is a sacred time for meditation, prayer, and worship preparation. As we gather in the sanctuary, lets quietly reflect on God's blessings and direction in the Scripture readings included in the worship folder.

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Worship Folder

ORGANIST: Allison Franck

HYMNS: 163, 398, 309, 318

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 163: Welcome, Happy Morning

1 "Welcome happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

Lo, the Dead is living, God forevermore!

Him, Their true Creator, All his works adore.

"Welcome happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

2 Maker and Redeemer, Life and Health of all,

God from heav'n beholding Human nature's fall,

Of the Father's God-head You, the only Son,

Mankind to deliver Manhood did put on.

"Welcome happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

3 He, of life the author, Death did undergo,

Trod the path of darkness, Saving strength to show.

Come, then, True and Faithful, Now fulfill your word;

This is your third morning—Rise, O buried Lord!

"Welcome happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

4 Free the souls long prisoned, Bound with Satan's chain;

All that now is fallen Raise to life again.

Show your face in brightness; Shine in ev'ry land

As in Eden's garden When the world began.

"Welcome happy morning!" Age to age shall say;

"Hell today is vanquished; Heav'n is won today!"

PRAYER

Pastor: Heavenly Father, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your people happy hearts filled with the hope of eternal joys through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Congregation: Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

Congregation Sings (Hymn 152)

2. I know that my Redeemer lives:

What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead;

He lives, my ever-living Head!

3. **He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above. He lives, my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.**

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Sings (Hymn 152)

5. **He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears. He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.**
8. **He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: "I know that my Redeemer lives!"**

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 4:8-12

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, 10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. 11 He is ""the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone." 12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.""

THE PSALM: Psalm 118

Pastor: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

CONGREGATION: This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pastor: O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

CONGREGATION: From the house of the LORD we bless you.

Pastor: The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

CONGREGATION: You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

CONGREGATION: His love endures forever.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:36-49

36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and

frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." 40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence. 44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

HYMN 398: Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults

**1 Lord, we confess our num'rous faults, How great our guilt has been,
How vain and foolish all our thoughts, How deeply stained with sin.**

**2 But oh, my soul, forever praise, Forever love, his name
Who turns your feet from dang'rous ways Of folly, sin, and shame.**

**3 'Tis not by works of righteousness Which our own hands have done,
But we are saved by God's free grace Abounding through his Son.**

**4 'Tis from the mercy of our God That all our hopes begin;
'Tis by the water and the blood Our souls are washed from sin.**

**5 'Tis through the purchase of his death Who hung upon the tree
The Spirit is sent down to breathe On such dry bones as we.**

**6 Raised from the dead, we live anew; And, justified by grace,
We shall appear in glory, too, And see our Father's face.**

OUR MEDITATION: 1 John 1:5-2:2

5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

1 John 2:1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Walk In The Light!

1 Why? God is light.

What does that mean?

What does that mean for us?

2. Now we walk in the light.

How is this possible?

Why would we choose to walk in darkness?

What are the consequences?

Walking in the darkness

Walking in the light -

NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

OFFERING

The offering will be received as you are ushered out after the service in the fellowship hall so that offering plates are not passed. The offering plate is located next to the bulletin table in the fellowship hall.

PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

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 SACRAMENT

HYMN 309: Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
and drink the holy blood for you outpoured.
Offered was he for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and himself the priest.

2 He that his saints in this world rules and shields
To all believers life eternal yields,
With heav'n-ly bread makes them that hunger whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.

3 Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;
In this your feast of love be with us now.

SILENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I receive the precious food of your life
Giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you
remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in
acts of kindness to others.

LORD'S SUPPER CONSECRATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Our communion distribution practice will be quite different for the time being. We are using individually packaged communion cups and wafers, which you picked up with your bulletin in the fellowship hall. You will not be ushered forward to the communion rail. Instead, Pastor will consecrate and bless the reception of the body and blood of Christ from the altar area. Our communicants will open and receive the bread/body and wine/blood of Christ while remaining seated.

SILENT PRAYER

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send my out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

PRAYER

BLESSING

HYMN 318: Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended; Oh, be now extended
The fruits of his service in all who believe.
The seed of his teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us; His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer his call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving, To God ever-living,

The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,

Embracing his children of each tribe and race.

With your feast you feed us; With your light now lead us;

Unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving

Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Announcements

1. Bible Hour meets after worship this morning.

In adult Bible hour we continue our study of Proverbs and renew our focus on outreach as we continue the Bible Study "One By One" Part 2 – Every Believer Is Personally Prepared To Be A Witness.
Join us!

2. Confirmation meets on Monday, April 19th, 3:30-5:00 pm.

3. Online Bible Class Continues.

The Format:

I send out weekly study guides in a congregational email on Mondays.

You have an opportunity to work through the study guides at home.

I post an online video in which I work through the weekly study guide on Wednesdays. This video is sent out as a congregational email.

This week, we continue our study of John's epistles.

4. Thursday morning Bible class meets at 10:00 am. We are continuing our study of Deuteronomy. Join us!

5. The new Christian Worship Hymnal will be released this Advent Season. If you would like to learn more about this new hymnal, we have booklets entitled "Christian Worship Preview" on the counter beneath the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. You can also go to the hymnal website: christianworship.com.

6. We will have a weeding and mulching day at the church on Saturday, May 1st. You are invited. We will get started at 9:30 am. Bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay for lunch. Bring your favorite weeding tools. In the event of rain, the alternate date for this event will be May 8th.