

EASTER 7

**Prince of Peace Ev. Lutheran Church
Howell, MI 48843
(517) 546-5265**

MAY 16, 2021

**2515 W. Grand River Ave
Pastor Mark Franck
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 do not commune.

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, let's 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: 173, 152, 170, 309, 175

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 173: On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

**1 On Christ's ascension I now build the hope of my ascension.
This hope alone has always stilled all doubt and apprehension;
For where the head is, there as well I know his members are to dwell
When Christ shall come and call them**

**2 Since Christ returned to claim his throne,
Great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart shall rest in him alone, no other rest remaining,
For where my treasure went before,
There all my thoughts shall ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.**

**3 Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, recalling your ascension,
That I may serve you faithfully, adorning your redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace in answer to my pleading.**

PRAYER

Pastor: Lord Jesus, King of glory, you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father 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)

**3. 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 1:1-11

1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” 6 So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9 After he said this,

he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.

The Psalm: Psalm 47

The church proclaims with joy the exaltation of Christ.

Pastor: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.

**CONGREGATION: How awesome is the LORD Most High,
the great King over all the earth!**

Pastor: He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.

**CONGREGATION: God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.**

Pastor: God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God;

CONGREGATION: He is greatly exalted.

THE SECOND LESSON: John 17:11-19

11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name — the name you gave me — so that they may be one as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. 13 “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

HYMN 170: Draw Us to Thee

**1 Draw us to thee, For then shall we Walk in thy steps forever
And hasten on Where thou art gone To be with thee, dear Savior.**

**2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lovingly; Let us depart with gladness
That we may be Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.**

**3 Draw us to thee; Oh, grant that we May walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way Lest we should stray And from thy paths be driven**

**4 Draw us to thee That also we Thy heav'nly bliss inherit
And ever dwell Where sin and hell No more can vex our spirit.**

**5 Draw us to thee Unceasingly; Into thy kingdom take us.
Let us fore'er Thy glory share; Thy saints and joint heirs make us.**

OUR MEDITATION: 1 John 4:13-21

13 We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 17 In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Perfect Love

1. It exists.

Verse 16 -

Verse 14 -

Verse 19 -

2 It is ours.

Verses 13-15 The Evidence –

Verses 17-18 The Evidence –

Verses 19-21 The Evidence –

3 It works.

Verses 13 and 19 –

Verses 17-18 and 20-21 -

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 175: Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

**1 Hail the day that sees him rise To his throne above the skies!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Re-ascends his native heav'n.**

**2 There the glorious triumph waits: Lift your heads, eternal gates.
He has conquered death and sin; Take the king of glory in!**

**3 See, the heav'n its Lord receives, Yet he loves the earth he leaves;
Though returning to his throne, Still he calls man-kind his own.**

**4 See, he lifts his hands above; See, he shows the prints of love.
Hark! His gracious lips bestow Blessings on his Church below.**

**5 Still for us he intercedes; His prevailing death he pleads.
He, the first of all our race, near himself prepares a place.**

**6 There we shall with you remain partners in your endless reign,
There your face unclouded view, Find our heav'n of heav'ns in you.**

Announcements

1. Bible Hour meets after worship this morning.
In adult Bible hour we continue our study of Proverbs and our focus on outreach as we continue the Bible Study “One By One” Part 5 – The Important Role of the Pastor. Join us!

2. Confirmation meets on Monday, May 17th, 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 begin the study of Revelation.

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

5. Council meets this Thursday, May 20th, at 7:00 pm.

6. Let the Fun Begin! The OWLS will meet in the fellowship hall this Friday, May 21st at high noon (12:00 pm). Bring a sack lunch. Games will begin at 1:00 pm.

7. 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**.