

Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



April 19, 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are by the kitchen and by the Wiggle Room

Wiggle Room is available for anyone needing a brief break from worship, at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary

WiFi is available: Look for TOL-GUEST; password is OdessaTOL1

We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Trusting in the Good News of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are bold to come before God in the presence of one-another, confessing our sins. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God our Father: **You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that we sinners might live. For his sake, continue to forgive us all our sins of thought, word and deed; known and unknown; evil done and good left undone. Give us new life in you, just as our Lord Jesus lives in you now and always. Amen.**

When you were baptized in Christ Jesus, you were baptized into his death. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so you too have new life. By the death and resurrection of Christ, your sins are forgiven. May you live out your Baptism with faith in God and love toward one-another. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"I Come With Joy"

RED HYMNAL #482

↑ **APOSTOLIC 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.**

↑ **HYMN OF PRAISE**


“This is the Feast”

ELW pg. 169

Refrain




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, he who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

A reading from Acts:

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶ “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.”

⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

¹ I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

² **for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”**

¹² How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from 1 Peter:

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 171



GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad.

¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

²² “Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.

²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”

²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.

³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and

he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

↑ **HYMN**

"That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright"

RED HYMNAL #384

↑ **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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

↑ **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us turn to God in prayer for the Church, the world, and all in need.

Living Savior, you come to your people in Word and Sacrament, letting us hear your Good News in the Scriptures and know you in the breaking of the bread. Gather your Church in all times and places at your table, and inspire us to faithfully share the Gospel with others. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

All creation rejoices in your new life. Bless fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You are the fount of truth, justice, mercy and peace. Bless our nation, and give wisdom and guidance to those in authority. Protect and guard members of our armed forces, especially those serving in the Middle East. Grant that a just peace in all the world might come soon. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

Your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. We especially pray for Annalise, Beth, Bill, Bob, Calvin, Chris, Courtney, Dan, Danielle, Darryl, Dot, Ed, Elizabeth, Erika, Gary, Jim and family, Joe, John, Margaret, Marge, Nina, Patrick, Paul, Quentin, Richard, Sarah, William, Winnie, Yvonne and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *(Time for personal petitions)* Lord, in your mercy...

Receive our prayer.

You call us to repent, and you forgive us perfectly through the cross and empty tomb. Give all of us at Tree of Life humble and faithful hearts that burn with love for you and for our neighbors. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church and its pastor, Zach; and Unity Church and its pastors, Melissa and Brian. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You freely give us the promise of new and everlasting life. Accept our thanks for all who now rest in your eternal care. Stay with us who still walk the Emmaus roads of life, until that day when we all behold you face to face. Lord, in your mercy...

]Receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and help us, O Lord, for you reign as one with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **Amen.**

↑ **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING

↑ OFFERTORY

RED HYMNAL #884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **Risen Lord, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Be with us in this meal, and make us your risen body in the world. Amen.**

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

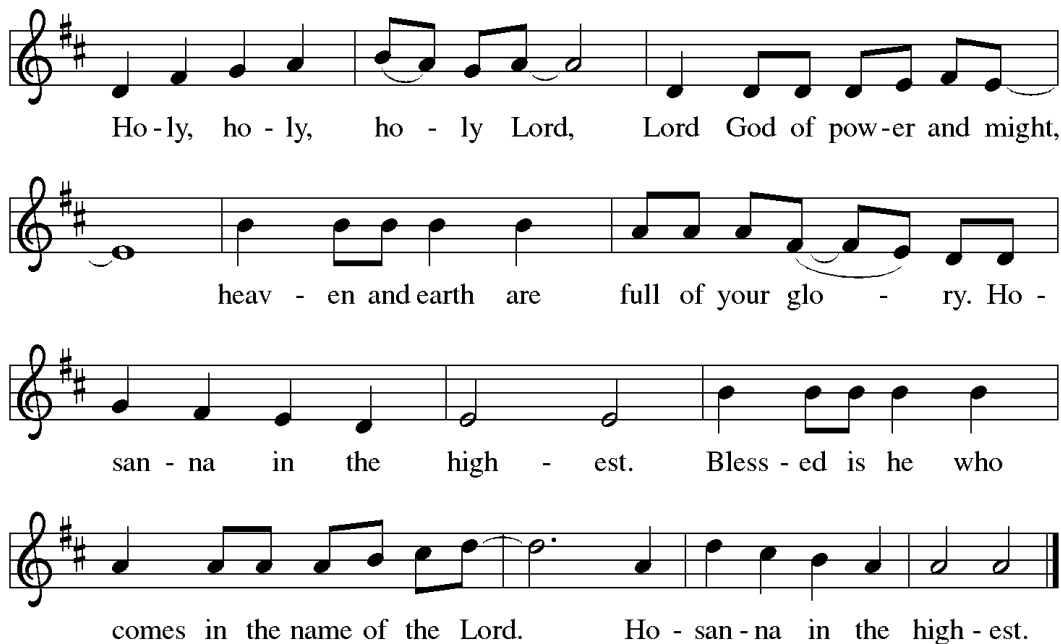
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ SANCTUS

ELW p. 173



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

↑ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

↑ 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.

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is given for us!
Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

ELW p. 174

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, grant us peace.

HYMNS

“Now We Join in Celebration”
“Thine the Amen”

RED HYMNAL #462
RED HYMNAL #826

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!"

RED HYMNAL #377

↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Share the Good News! Alleluia! alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

We depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #28947.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.