

# Peace Lutheran Church - Rogers City, MI

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

1401 M-68 (989) 734-7621

Web: [www.peacelcms.org](http://www.peacelcms.org) Email: [office@peacelcms.org](mailto:office@peacelcms.org)

*Our mission as a caring family is to reach out to all, share Christ's love, and teach God's Word.*

## Informal/Contemporary Service

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024 - 11:15 a.m.

## Welcome

Opening Song "God So Loved" by We the Kingdom

## Invocation

L In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

## Opening Sentences

*Psalm 139:1-2a, 7-10*

L To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.

C **Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.**

L Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.

C **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.**

L Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

C **And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the Lord!**

## Confession and Forgiveness

L Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and pray for His gracious forgiveness.

C **O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not always obeyed. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have not honored those in authority and have not without reservation encouraged them. We have not completely put the best construction on all things and on all people. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace, bring us to everlasting life. Amen.**

L The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.

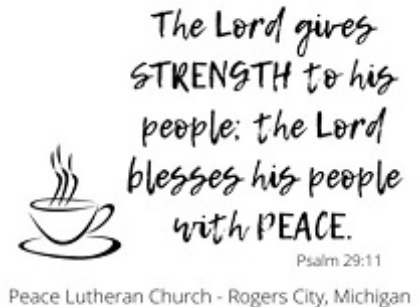
C Amen.

Creedal Song "This I Believe (The Creed)" by Hillsong Worship

## First Reading

*Acts 3:1-2, 6-8; 4:5, 7-12*

*1Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask*



alms of those entering the temple. 6But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" 7And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. 8And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. 5On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, 7And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" 8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. 11This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

### **Epistle**

**1 John 3:16-24**

*By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.*

### **Holy Gospel**

**John 10:11-18**

*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."*

### **Song of Meditation**

"Red Letters" by Crowder

### **Message**

"Becoming a Good Shepherd"

**Randy Martens – Deacon Student**

### **Offering**

*An offering basket is available at the entrance*

Our tithes and offerings are brought forward and placed on the altar.

*For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You. - 1 Chronicles 29:14*

### **Prayers**

**L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord, trusting in God's loving response; we pray for the church and all who are called to lives of service to God's people, asking that the Lord will bless all who care for His flock.

**C** Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

L We pray for ourselves, that the Holy Spirit guide us and instill in us a holy confidence in the goodness of our God. With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthy journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ yet inspires us, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L We pray for the blessing of God upon our nation and its leaders that we may lead peaceable lives, and we pray for the needs of ourselves and others for healing and restoration, for solace and comfort...

**C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

L These things and all else that we should have asked grant us according to Your gracious will, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**C 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.**

### **Benediction**

L Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you.

**C Amen.**

### **Sending Song**

"Jesus Does" by We the Kingdom

**✠ Our worship is over; our service begins. ✠**

### **Acknowledgments**

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