



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

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April 7, 2024

# JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Welcome!

There is a place for you here.  
*Just as you are.*

We extend welcome to those who are single, divorced, married, widowed, or if your relationship status is “complicated”. We love families, no matter how you define them.



We are glad you are here whether you come every Sunday or if this is your first time at our church or any church at all. You are welcome here if you know the bible backwards and forwards, or have never really read it, if you know Jesus or are just curious to hear what he is all about.

We welcome you if you have doubts about “organized religion” or are a “cradle Christian”. We welcome liberals, conservatives, moderates, and undecideds. If you cheer for the right team, or don’t like sports, you are welcome here.

We especially welcome those who could use a prayer right now, or an assurance that God loves them, those who are struggling, and those who are doing okay.

Whoever you are, whatever your past or present – God welcomes you and so do we.

**We embrace children!** We are used to the joyful sounds and wiggles of our youngest siblings in Christ and gladly welcome them in worship. We have a kids area with quiet toys and activities along with activity bags near the main entrance to the sanctuary to help keep restless hands busy. A family room is also available in the back and is equipped with a large window facing the sanctuary and a speaker to hear what is being said.

## Today's Introduction:

Though Peter's story does not end with the conclusion of the Gospels, we finish our series with Peter's encounter with the risen Christ. In this final week, we come full circle with Peter. He has dropped his nets, walked on water, professed his faith, been rebuked, received footwashing, denied Jesus, and run to the tomb. And now, Jesus once again meets him at the shoreline where Peter is casting his nets. Jesus offers abundant nourishment and also a new command: "Feed my sheep." Then he turns to Peter and asks three times, "Do you love me?" It's as if Jesus says, "Here's my heart," which washes over Peter's three denials like a healing balm. No matter how far we wander, may we entrust our hearts to God. No matter if our faith is strong or weak, what we can give is our love.



+ WE GATHER TOGETHER +

*The Spirit calls us together as God's beloved people*

Welcome to worship this morning! Everything you will need is in this bulletin or the red hymnal book beside your seat. During worship, words in **bold** are said by the assembly in response.

We practice an open table meaning that all are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You do not need to be a member of Joy or any other church. Jesus welcomes all to the feast! Kids of all ages are welcome to receive but we leave this decision to parents. If you prefer your child receive a blessing, please place your hand over your child's hands when the pastor comes to you.

## Welcome & Announcements

## Call to Worship

Jesus said,

**“Follow me.”**

Jesus said,

**“Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”**

Jesus said,

**“Forgive seventy times seven.”**

Jesus said,

**“Feed my sheep.”**

In response, we say:

**“Here’s my heart.**

**Take and seal it.**

**Seal it for thy courts above.”**

Let us worship God with all our hearts.

## Gathering Hymn: #807 *“Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing”*



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: “Hith-er by thy help I’ve come”;  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I’m con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d’ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d’ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.  
Here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

## Confession & Forgiveness

For the last seven weeks we have been following the life and faith of Peter. Despite being one of Jesus' most loyal disciples, Peter still made mistakes. He was faithful and messy, humble and afraid, loving and cautious.

Friends, we're a lot like Peter.

Despite our faith, we make mistakes.

Despite our belief, we carry unbelief.

Despite our love, we can cause hurt.

So like Peter, let us return to God in prayer, confessing the truth of our lives.

God's grace does not stop with that humble yet fearful disciple.

God's grace reaches all the way to us. Let us pray:

**Gracious God,**

**Like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink.**

**You tell us your truth and we push it away.**

**We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance.**

**We profess our faith and deny it three times.**

**We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence.**

**Over and over again, we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith.**

**Tether us to your heart. Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination.**

**Call us out of the boat once more. We are eager to return to you. With humble hearts we pray, amen.**

Friends, the first time that Peter saw Jesus after the crucifixion, Jesus asked him three times, "Do you love me?" This repetition was not because Jesus doubted Peter's word. This repetition was Jesus offering Peter grace.

You see, the last time Jesus and Peter were together, Peter said three times, "I do not know that man." So when Jesus returned, he asked Peter, "Do you love me?" And in that moment, he allowed Peter to turn his denials into love.

Friends, the grace of our God knows no end. When we stumble, when we fall, when we deny God or cause harm, Jesus meets us where we are and offers us a second chance. So rest in this good news.

Does God love you? Yes, yes, yes. God loves you.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love that never ends.




## Liturgy 101: Why do we confess our sin?

Do you notice that in worship sometimes we give thanks for baptism and sometimes we confess our sin? Did you know they are related? In our baptism, we receive the promise of forgiveness and new life. Confession and repentance is nothing else than a return to our baptism – just in a different way than giving thanks. As we confess the ways we miss the mark and lament the sin our world, imagine the water from the baptismal font being poured over you once again – the waters of God’s mercy and forgiveness claiming you over and over as God’s own. Confession is not about our guilt and shame but God’s unconditional love.

## Kyrie

### Refrain

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*




In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,  
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)


*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*



Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*



God. A - men.

Canticle of Praise

**Refrain**

*Congregation:*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



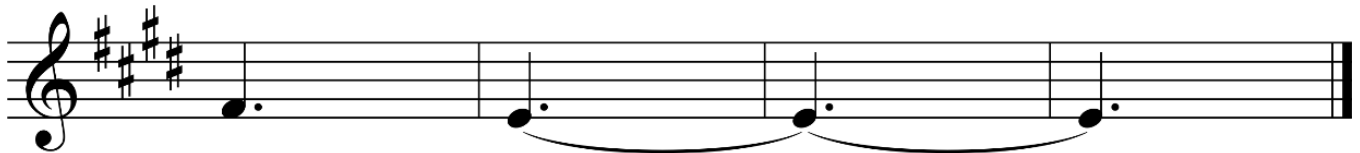
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and



free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -



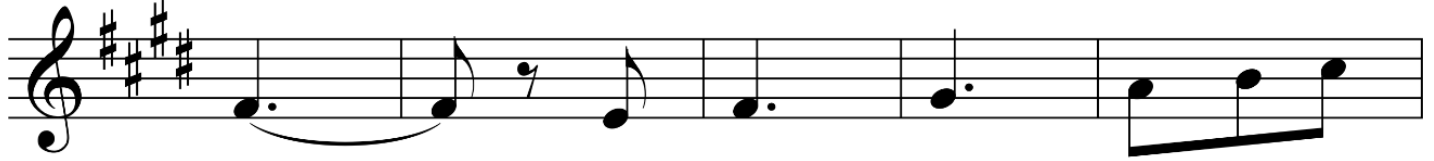
er - more!

**Verse 1**

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*



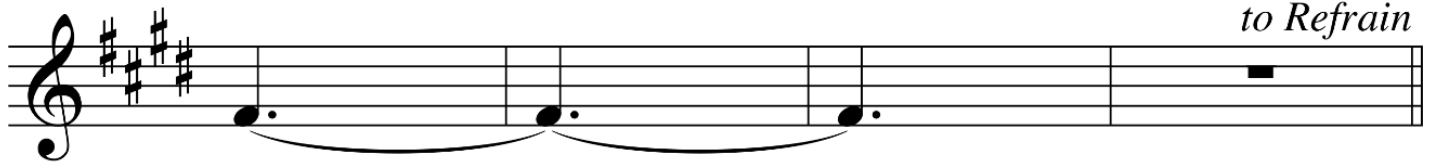
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once



slain, whose blood has freed and u -



nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of

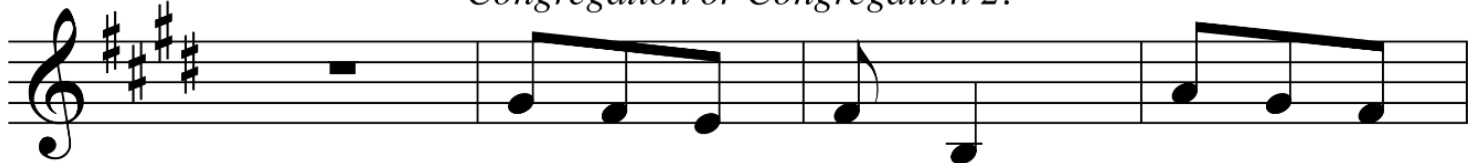


God.

*to Refrain*

**Verse 2**

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*



2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ



for ev - er.

*to Refrain*



### Verse 3

*Congregation:*



3. For God has come to dwell with us, to



make us peo - ple of God; to make



all things new.

### Greeting

*Presider:*

*Congregation:*



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

#### **Liturgy 101: What is the Greeting?**

This is a formal greeting between the pastor and assembly. It's an invitation to become aware of God's presence among us as we gather. It also shows us the disposition with which to greet others in our lives – with God's grace and love.

## Prayer of the Day

God of new beginnings,

**On that first Easter morning, the disciples struggled to hear the good news.**

**Doubt clouded their minds.**

**Negativity took root and hope vanished with a simple shake of their heads.**

**As we return to this familiar text, help us to hear differently this morning.**

**Open our ears that we might hear**

**the sound of Alleluias ringing through this text.**

**Open up our minds that the mystery and joy of Easter**

**might feel within reach.**

**Open up our hearts that we might believe**

**the unbelievable.**

**And like Peter, in this hearing, may we move closer to you.**

**God of the empty tomb, we are hungry for your good news.**

**Speak to us now.**

**With hope in our hearts we listen and we pray, Amen.**

### **Liturgy 101: *What is the Prayer of the Day?***

In previous generations, this prayer was known as the “collect” because it *collects* us together in prayer and turns us towards subsequently hearing God speak to us in scripture, preaching, and song. This prayer is a seam between our GATHERING and WORD sections of worship.

+ WE HEAR GOD’S WORD +  
*God speaks in scripture, preaching, and song*

## Children’s Message

### Psalm Reading | Psalm 51:1-17

*The reading is read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**<sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty,  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

**<sup>6</sup>You desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.

**<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

**<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.

**<sup>14</sup>Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,  
O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

**<sup>16</sup>For you have no delight in sacrifice;  
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

## Epistle Reading | Acts 4:32-35

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

## Gospel Acclamation (*sung twice*)

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

## Gospel Reading | John 21:1-19

<sup>1</sup>After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter

heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.



<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup>(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."



## Hymn of the Day: #696 “Jesus Calls Us; O’er Tumult”



1 Je - sus calls us; o’er the tu - mult of our  
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life’s wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
vain world’s gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, “Chris - tian, fol - low me:”  
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus’ sake.  
keep us, say - ing, “Chris - tian, love me more.”  
plea - sures, “Chris - tian, love me more than these.”  
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

## We Pray for All God’s Creation

*Each prayer petition ends with the following prompt and response.*

Hear us O God,  
**Your mercy is great.**

## We Share Signs of Peace with Each Other

*All may respond with open arms in response to the presiding minister.*

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

*All share signs of peace with each other, saying “Peace” or “Peace be with you” or similar words.*

+ WE SHARE IN THE LORD'S MEAL +  
*We partake in Holy Communion*

Offering Offertory Response

**Refrain**

*Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in - to one in you.

**Verses**



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.





# Holy, Holy, Holy

*Congregation:*

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## Liturgy 101: Why do we sing “Holy, holy, holy...”?

These words are the eternal song of heaven (see Isaiah’s vision in Isa. 6). Angels and all creation sing “holy, holy, holy”. Heaven continues to break into our world as Jesus, our humble Savior and Friend, comes riding into our midst like on Palm Sunday. We sing “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord”! We join all of heaven and the saints every time we share in this meal of Jesus’s bodily presence in bread and wine.

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.**



## Communion

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table.* You do not need to be a member of Joy Lutheran Church or any other church. Jesus welcomes you and you have a place here. We believe Jesus is truly present in bread and wine and in this meal, we receive God's gift of forgiveness, kindness, and love.

The ushers will guide you forward. You may either stand or kneel at the communion rail. If you require a gluten-free option, keep your hands folded to receive a gluten-free wafer.

Following communion, all are welcome to light a prayer candle along the west wall of the sanctuary. Prayer requests may be written on paper slips and placed in the wooden hands.

Communion Hymn: #461 "All Who Hunger Gather Gladly"



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.

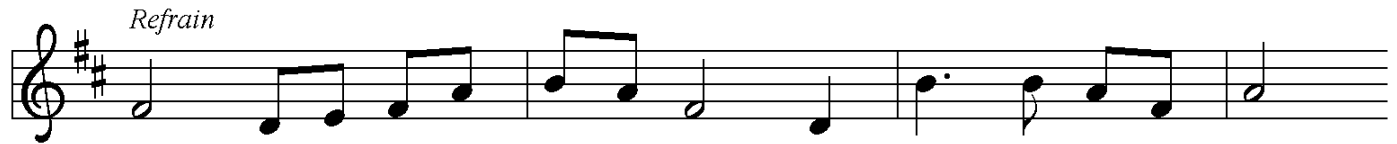


You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Communion Hymn: #484 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - jice.  
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.  
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in his grace.

**Amen.**

+ WE ARE SENT OUT +  
*God blesses us for the ministry of our daily lives*

Benediction

Sending Hymn: #363 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.  
with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;  
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal:  
who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
comes to glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing  
Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
wel - comes in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

## Dismissal

*Kids are invited to join Pastor Sean in the back to say the dismissal.*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

*Join us for coffee, snacks, and conversation after worship in the narthex!*

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Want to learn more about our faith community?



Visit **joy-lutheran.com** and sign-up for our weekly digital new  
*Notes of Joy*. You can also send us a message on our homepage

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### **Please pray for those listed below:**

*To add someone to this list, please send an email to [joylutheran@gmail.com](mailto:joylutheran@gmail.com)*

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- + Hegna Family (as they grieve the loss of Jonny).
- + Pr. Sean, Becky & family (as they grieve the loss of Sean's mom)
- + Julie Meyer (facing the uncertainty after suffering a stroke)
- + Justin Dailey (Chris Dailey's brother, for comfort for the family and a successful surgery)
- + Bob & Candy Allen (for successful back surgery for Bob and comfort for Candy)
- + Tom & Debbie Bird (as they grieve the loss of Skip Lange)
- + Bentson family (as they grieve the loss of Al Bentson)
- + Eric & Margie Hall & family (as they grieve the loss of Eric's dad John)
- + Reimer & Oistad family (as they grieve the loss of Gary)
- + LaiMing Reimer (as she recovers from a successful kidney transplant)
- + Diana Flaherty (for pain and healing)
- + Trudi (for healing, wisdom for doctors)
- + Lisa Lind (healing, friend of Kristi Swain)
- + Dick Prien and family (as they mourn the passing of Sharon)
- + Stella Scamman (Kristi Swain's aunt)
- + Layli (Trudi's granddaughter, for peace and guidance)



- + Margie H. (for healing and recovery)
- + Harvey P. (for strength and healing)
- + Family of Anton Erickson (Margie and Eric’s nephew)
- + The Fredeen Family (as they mourn Wayne and Amy)
- + Brittany Mumma (seizures)
- + Jennifer Huntington (health and healing)
- + Corrine Finnie (healing)
- + The McConell Family (as they mourn the loss of their mother and wife, Mary)
- + Gwendolyn Roth (peace of mind and that she will know God is with her)
- + Tom Clark (healing)
- + For our active-duty military personnel, especially those serving in Alaska and our veterans.

<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS:</b>
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**EASTER LILIES-\$15**

If you would like to purchase one of the 12 Easter lilies in the Sanctuary you can leave a check in the offering plate, pay online to our ‘flower’ account or leave cash (with a note for Easter Lilies). Thank you so much

**JUMP FOR JOY KIDS CLOTHES CLOSET – TODAY!!! 1-3pm**

If anyone has girl clothes sizes 5T - 7, it would be much appreciated! Thank you all for your donations and help serving our community in this way!

**NEWCOMER ORIENTATION April 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**

Are you new and want to learn more about Joy? Come join us for food, coffee/tea, and conversation after worship on these two Sundays. It's a chance for you to learn more about our faith community and for us to learn more about you. We'll talk about our beliefs and values, what "Lutheran" means, how we worship, ways to connect with each other, and opportunities for growing in faith. Bring your whole self - your questions, your concerns, your story.

**CHURCH BRUNCH**

Join us next Sunday for our church wide brunch following worship. All are welcome.

**UPDATE FROM THE CARING FOR CREATION TEAM | SOLAR PANEL PROJECT**

We are over the moon—or should we say, “over the sun”, that we as a congregation have reached our goal of \$63,500 for the 44-panel solar project for our church and community! Thank you to all who supported the project with money or prayer. We have contacted the

installer to set a date for the panels to become a permanent part of our roof sometime this summer. More to come on how we hope to encourage care for God's creation.

### **FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT**

We will be having our electronics recycling event Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 10am – 2pm. This recycling is for household electronics and our partners in this are Total Reclaim and Eagle River High School green club. The cost is FREE / carload, which is quite a deal considering how much it costs to recycle. Monitors or large screen TVs will have a small cost. Appliances (refrigerator, dryer, washer) and smoke detectors are not allowed because appliances take up too much room and smoke detectors contain radioactive materials. If you'd like to help, they will set up at 9:30 and we've divided sign up into two slots 9:30 to 12 and 12 to 2:30 and we'll post that after church Sunday. Volunteers usually just help direct traffic, answer questions, etc. No real manual labor because Total Reclaim brings a bunch of guys to disassemble the materials into their component parts. Let your neighbors and co-workers know. Let's keep these things out of the dump!

### **JOY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER- HIRING TEACHER/COOK POSITIONS**

JCDC is currently hiring, full descriptions can be found on the bulletin board at the main entrance and in the narthex. Feel free to take a flyer. If you have any questions, please contact JCDC [jcdcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:jcdcoffice@gmail.com) or 907-694-2755

### **JOY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER- NOW ENROLLING NEW STUDENTS**

JCDC currently has open spots available for children 3-5 years old. If you would like more information contact JCDC at 907-694-2755 or by email at [jcdcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:jcdcoffice@gmail.com).

### **JOY OF READING BOOK CLUB | April-May 2024**

The Joy of Reading Book Club meets once a month to discuss the book selection for that month. We share thoughts on the book of the month, have a light dinner, and talk and laugh together.

Upcoming books and meetings:

**April-** is *The Maid* by Nita Prose – Karen Johnson will host.

**May-** is *The Marriage Portrait* by Maggie O'Farrell and Mona Mitton will be hosting.

**June-** Mark your calendars for June 1 book club anniversary celebration on Nancy Lake!

Books are meant to be shared! Please join us!

Please contact the office on 907-694-9601 if you would like any more information.

## **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

Assisting in worship is a great way to serve, we truly appreciate our volunteers! If you are interested in assisting with worship as an usher, reader, altar care, and or communion assistant, please let us know by talking to Pastor Sean or emailing the church office and we will get you connected.

*“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless.”*

*Do you have an announcement for the bulletin or Notes of Joy? Email Ericka in the office at [joylutheran@gmail.com](mailto:joylutheran@gmail.com). Submissions are due each week by Thursday at 9am.*

## **WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

**Presider:** Pastor Sean Avery  
**Assisting Minister:** Ray Kelley  
**Readers:** Karen J. & Wyatt J.  
**Pianist:** Nancy W.  
**Altar Care:** Lori S.

**Communion Assistant:** Penny M.  
**Acolyte:** Jack S.  
**Ushers:** Mona M. & Lois L.

## **WORSHIP LEADERS NEXT SUNDAY**

**Presider:** Pastor Sean Avery  
**Assisting Minister:** Mona Mitton  
**Readers:** Karen P. & Hazel S.  
**Pianist:** Kathy H.  
**Altar Care:** Nancy W.

**Communion Assistant:** Bill M.  
**Acolyte:** Arden P.  
**Ushers:** Sue W. & Scooter B.

**Today’s Flowers Provided by:**

**Dick Prien**

**In celebration of Jim & Angie Difranzo 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

## **Joy's April Birthdays & Anniversaries**

If we missed your birthday, or anniversary please email [joylutheran@gmail.com](mailto:joylutheran@gmail.com)

### Birthdays

3 Emily Mullin  
12 Sue Weimer  
13 Shontelle Schmidt  
16 Keith Oistad  
18 Jack Simasko  
21 Cynithia Oistad  
21 Roy Corral  
23 Dina Torres

### Anniversaries

20 Jeff & Karen Johnson

## The Art of Spiritual Practice

I've been writing about spiritual practices for a couple of years now for the people of Joy. I'm feeling a nudge now to offer a deeper dive into spiritual practice—an experience of group spiritual direction.

Group Spiritual Direction (like the process of individual one-on-one spiritual direction) provides a type of regular companionship for the purpose of fostering an individual's intimate relationship with God. Both the format and the facilitation of these groups seek to support people in paying attention to God's presence in their daily lives.

Spiritual Direction Groups are not like other groups. This is by design. Group Spiritual Direction is NOT Bible study, therapy, discussion, social, or a place to seek or give advice. The groups are safe and confidential gatherings where we can practice and process our experiences of the Divine.

The group is limited to four to five people, facilitated by a trained spiritual director (that would be me.) The group can decide how often to meet, generally at least every 3-4 weeks for at least four months, but many continue on for much longer as deep relationships can form among the participants.

If you are interested, please contact me at [mwakeland@gmail.com](mailto:mwakeland@gmail.com) or 907-830-4039. When four people have committed, we can set up how and when we will meet. Zoom is an option.

Please contact me with your questions!

*Pastor Marcia Wakeland is a retired ELCA pastor, a spiritual director and a listening advocate. She is interested in the actual experience of having faith and how that is lived out. She can be reached at [mwakeland@gmail.com](mailto:mwakeland@gmail.com) for comments or more questions Her ongoing blog of living out spiritual practices is [listeninglife.live](http://listeninglife.live).*