

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

Rev. Meheret Y. Caruthers

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2205 Old Liberty Road, Eldersburg, MD 21784

Church Office 410-795-6333

HSLC Website--www.hslceldersburgmd.org



We extend the warmest welcome to all worshipping with us today. Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, you haven't been in a while, or you are here regularly; *we are so glad you are here!* If this is your first time with us, we ask that you sign our Friendship Book, so that we might pray with/for you, get to know you better, and check-in with you from time to time.

Holy Communion is open to all. In this church, we preach, teach, and confess that this is the table of Jesus, and it is Jesus who invites you to His table. You need not be a member of this church, or any other church; anyone who desires a deeper walk with Christ is invited. The ushers will direct you to proceed up the center aisle. You are invited to take an empty, individual cup from the silver tray near the baptismal font, and *red wine*, the blood of Christ, will be poured for you at the altar rail. You will also find *red grape juice*, the blood of Christ, in sealed individual cups in that same tray. As you come to the altar rail, you may stand or kneel as you are able, and the minister will place bread, the body of Christ, in your hand. If you are in need of a gluten free host, please let the minister know. If you prefer not to receive the Communion elements, Jesus still invites you into His Holy Communion; at the altar rail you may fold your arms and the minister will pray with and bless you.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Please rise, in body or spirit.

ACCLAMATION

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

INVOCATION

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, the Father, the ☩ Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, whose rising from the empty tomb brings to us the promise of life eternal.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Grounded in the promise of the Holy Spirit, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another (*We pause for reflection*)

P: Living God,

C: we confess that we set our minds toward things of death, and not on the life that is revealed in the Christ. In our fear and trembling we quickly turn from you towards ourselves. Our fear leads us to doubt your promise, harm our neighbor, and neglect your creation. Resurrect us O' God, and bring about the new life in ourselves, in our community, and in our world. Through the mercy of your beloved Son, heal us from our sin, and give us the new breath of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: Our Lord and savior Jesus Christ + proclaims, "Do not be afraid!" Know that you are washed anew in his rising, and your sins are forgiven. Be at peace, and live in the everlasting love of God. Amen!

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN: *We Come to the Hungry Feast – WOV (Blue) – 766.*

We Come to the Hungry Feast

1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
 Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
 Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *The Choir will sing the refrain once, then the congregation joins in to sing the verse, and the refrain again.*

☐ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace

to God's peo - ple on earth.

☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

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

^{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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116

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

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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *CONGREGATION SINGS ACCLAMATION ONCE.*

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Good Christians Friends, Rejoice and Sing ! – LBW (Green) – 144.*

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; bring flow'rs of
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -



tri - umph of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
 song to strew his way; let all the world re - joice and say:
 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 day with one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
 Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615

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NICENE CREED

A: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed,

C: 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

A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

A: Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick (*especially*). Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Eternal Light, we give thanks for (*Olavus Petri, Laurentius Petri and*) all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

OFFERING

Here at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, there are many ways you are able to give. Our ushers will pass around an offering plate, in which you can place your weekly offering. If you are attending worship online or you simply wish to give online, you may do so by visiting our website, hslceldersburgmd.org/give. We give thanks to God for the ways you continually offer your time, talent, and treasure for the sake of God and neighbor in our ministry. Please rise, in body or spirit.

OFFERTORY HYMN

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You: We are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands. Lord use our lives, they are Yours. We are an offering; we are an offering

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray together.

C: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

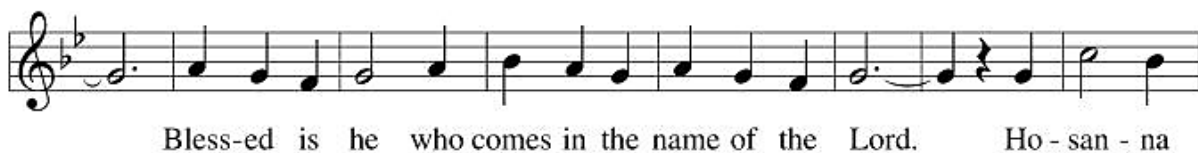
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

P: When the earth was a formless void, entrenched in chaos, you formed order and called your creation "good."

P: You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among the poor,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

P: O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us, in the language of our hearts:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus invites you. Jesus welcomes you. All are invited. All are welcome. Come taste and see that the Lord is good!

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God

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.

Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.

SONG DURING COMMUNION

After all have communed, please rise, in body or spirit.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless us and keep us in God's grace, from now and until life everlasting.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: You are exactly who God created you to be. Created in Christ Jesus for good works. Created and called holy. Created and called beloved. Now go forth into the world in peace and be of good courage. Hold fast to all that is good. Render to no one an evil thing for an evil thing. Through God's grace, lay down your burdens at the foot of Jesus' cross. Through God's grace, take up your own cross. Through God's grace, be the New Creation God calls you to be. May the grace, mercy, peace, and love of God work through you, as you serve God, by serving your neighbors. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day, and every day.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *This Joyful Eastertide – LBW (Green) – 149.*

This Joyful Eastertide

This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
sprung to life this mor - row. Had Christ, who once was
slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our faith had been in
vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -
ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

A: Our purpose is to love God,

C: And bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus and his church.

“We all serve as ministers in the mission of the Church.”

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ACTIVITIES AT HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Please contact Pastor Tom by email at HSLC.pastor@comcast.net if you would like to meet, have any questions, or for any pastoral emergencies.

Sunday (04/19) 9:30 am Sunday School

11:00am – Worship w/Holy Communion

Sunday (04/26) 9:30 am Sunday School

11:00am – Worship w/Holy Communion

Please contact Pastor Tom by email at HSLC.pastor@comcast.net if you would like to meet, have any questions, or for any pastoral emergencies.

Volunteers

	<i>THIS WEEK (04-19-2026)</i>	<i>NEXT WEEK (04-26-2026)</i>
Greeters	TBD	Heather T.
Ushers	Cara K. Luke F.	Bradley T.
Acolyte	Maryann F.	Abby Pal.
Assisting Minister	Megan F.	Holly deB.
Communion Assistant	John F.	Holly deB.
Lector	Krissy K.	Cara K.
Altar Care	Holly deB.	Linda L.
Fellowship/Coffee	Timko	Dodson