



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word
The Resurrection of Our Lord

Order of Worship

April 5, 2026

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Apostolic Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The joy and peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Opening Hymns

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ELW 365

The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done

ELW 366

Thine Is the Glory

ELW 376

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367

*(During the singing of the hymns, the choir will lead
the congregation in placing lilies on the cross)*

Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

This is the Feast

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. God of mercy, **we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

[Sit]

Youth Message

"Seeing Isn't Always Recognizing"

Holy Baptism

This morning at the 10:45 service we celebrate the baptism of Judson Henry Mathis. Judson is the son of Peyton and Caitlin Mathis. He was born on February 2, 2026. His grandparents are Merilee Bennett, Richard Bennett, Cheryl Bennett, Amber Peyton, and Jessie Peyton. Judson's sponsors are Katie Banks and Trevor Bennett.

PRESENTATION

Judson's family and sponsors gather with the minister at the font. The assembly stands.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

The presiding minister addresses the family and sponsors.

Do you desire for Judson to be baptized into Christ? **We do.**

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support Judson and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses Judson's family and the congregation.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

BAPTISM

The presiding minister baptizes Judson. Water is poured on his head as the presiding minister says:

Judson Henry Mathis, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give Judson new birth, cleanse him from sin, and raise him to eternal life.

Laying both hands on Judson's head, the minister prays:

Sustain Judson with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen**

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on Judson's forehead. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Judson, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen**

WELCOME

A candle is lighted and handed to Judson's sponsors. The presiding minister says:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The minister and the baptismal group face the assembly.

Let us welcome Judson into the Lord's family:

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

[Sit]

Choral Anthem

He Lives!

Allen Pote

First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:1-6

¹At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. ²Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, ³the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁴Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merry-makers. ⁵Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. ⁶For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

(Congregation speak together.)

¹**Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.**
²**Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**
¹⁴**The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.**
¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!
¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**
¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**
¹⁸**The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.**
¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**
²⁰**"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."**
²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**
²²**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**
²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**
²⁴**This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Second Lesson

Colossians 3:1-4

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

[Stand]

Alleluia Verse

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**



John 20:1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

[Sit]

Sermon

"Sunday's Here!"

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day

Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379

Nicene Creed (8:15 service only)

**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;
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

[After each petition, the congregation responds with: **Receive our prayer.**]

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The congregation is asked to greet one another with the words of Christ: "Peace be with you.")

Offering

Offertory

**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. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.

Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **Amen**

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

Lamb of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

[Sit]

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you do not wish to receive communion, but would like a special blessing from the pastor, please join us at the table. The small cups in the large outer ring of the silver tray contain dark wine. The light colored cups in the middle of the tray contain non-alcoholic white grape juice. For those who are gluten-intolerant, please ask for rice cake. Today we will commune simultaneously at two stations.

Communion Hymns

I Am the Bread of Life
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

ELW 485
ELW 392
ELW 384

Post-Communion Canticle

[Stand]

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ry one what he has done.
Let ev'ry one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray together. We give you thanks, generous God, **in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen**

Hymn

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

ELW 382

Benediction

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
+ bless you now and forever. **Amen**

“The Peace of God”

(Sung by choir and congregation)

Whatsoever things are honest,
 whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely,
 think on these things.
Whatsoever things are wholesome,
 whatsoever things are good,
If there be any virtue, be any praise,
 think on these things.
And the peace of God
 that passes all understanding
Shall keep your hearts,
 shall keep your minds
 on Jesus Christ.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

“Our worship is ended; our service and our witness continue!”

* * * * *

Please join us in Founders Hall following the 10:45 service for Easter Brunch.

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Today's Heavenly Helpers

* Assisting Minister	8:15 service	Carol Townsend
	10:45 service	John Hanson
* Director of Music		Sandy Hunter
* Lector	8:15 service	Wayne Buehler
	10:45 service	Karen Baker
* Greeters	10:45 service	Sandi & Fred St. John
* Ushers	10:45 service	Jeannine Sieck & Janice Weber
* Communion Asst.	10:45 service	Karen Baker & Janet Smedley
* Counters		Sylvia Negri & Barbara Mefford

Calendar of Events for This Week

Monday	- Knitting & Crochet ministry, 2 PM
Tuesday	- Men's Bible Study/Ellijay, 9 AM, Mike's Restaurant
	- Ladies Bible Study, 12:15 PM
Wednesday	- Food Pantry, 8 AM-1 PM
	- Choir Rehearsal, 6 PM
Thursday	- Quilters, 10 AM
	- Co-ed Bible Study, 2 PM

Next Week's Scripture Readings Are...

First Reading – Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm – Psalm 16
Second Reading – 1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel – John 20:19-31

Mid-Week Altar Guild – Doris Goplin 4/12

Next Week's Worship Assistants Are...

8:15 **Lector** – John Kilpatrick
10:45 **Lector** – Aaron Engles
Greeters – Maureen & Ted Grener
Ushers – Mike Hoover & Jack O'Donovan
Communion Asst. – Aaron Engles
Counters – Mary Leyden & Karen Baker

Hope Lutheran Church

Ministering in His Mountains



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Ministers: The People of Hope Church

"Making Christ known through reaching, welcoming, praising, equipping and sending"

Easter Lily Dedications

In Honor of...

Steve & Jan Austin	our family
Wayne & Ann Buehler	Kimberly, Andrew, Amber & Allison
Mike & Linda Hoover	our children & grandchildren
Dave & Janet Smedley	our children and grandchildren
Dave & Janet Smedley	our Hope family

In Memory of...

Steve & Jan Austin	our parents
Steve & Jan Austin	Phyllis Duke
Steve & Jan Austin	Karen Austin
Barbara & Keith Bell	Rose Bell
Barbara & Keith Bell	Judy Bell
Rena Ashworth	Stanley Ashworth
Wayne & Ann Buehler	Wade & Amy
Mike & Vicki Christensen	Saydee Low
Hope & Zeke Cronley	Mary Yopp-Cronley
Carole English	Tom English
Barbara Fail	Bill Fail
Alexandra Givens	Sandra Pearce
Jean Hall	Brown Family
Beverly Hiscox	Reid Barnes
Beverly Hiscox	our parents
Billy & Shela Huff	Doyle & Verna Livingston, William & Helen Huff
Billy & Shela Huff	Trey Huff & Donnie Livingston
Trudy Johnson	Al Johnson
Mike & Sue Marler	family
Barbara & LeRoy Polk (2)	our family & friends
Dave & Janet Smedley	our parents
Dave & Janet Smedley	Katie Smedley
Dave & Janet Smedley	Carol McLaughlin, David Iiams, Sharon Iiams & Mark Smedley
Jim Smith	Priscilla Smith
Jeannine Sieck	Yolande Bechard & James Fournier