

Order of Service – March 31, 2024 – 10:00AM Easter Sunday

Preaching – Pastor Bart • Presiding – Pastor Rick

Welcome to worship!

If you are a visitor today, please pick up a gift bag and learn more about our programs at the Welcome Table at the back of the narthex. Grab a coffee and mingle following the service. A family friendly area is available in the Gateway to sit with other parents or to allow your children to enjoy some snacks following the worship service and Sunday school. If your children require a quiet place during the service, feel free to take them to the narthex near the fireplace area where we have few quiet toys for them to enjoy.

If you are a visitor, we welcome you to come forward for communion. If your children have gone through communion instruction, they are welcome as well. If they are not taking communion, please bring them forward for a blessing. If you would like personal prayer this morning, you are invited to meet with our prayer team in the narthex either before or after you have taken communion. Individual prayer is also available following the service.

PRELUDE: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! LBW #144
(3 verses first of instrumental music)

Verse 4:

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King!

To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 5:

Your name we bless, O Risen Lord!

And sign today with one accord

The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN: Jesus Christ is Risen Today LBW #151

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!

Praise him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Words: Charles Wesley
Music: Lyra Davidica
Public Domain

LIGHTING THE CANDLES • WELCOME

Pastor: Christ is Risen!

All: He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia

RESPONSIVE EASTER GLORIA

Gloria! [Gloria!] Gloria! [Gloria!]
In excelsis [In excelsis] Deo! [Deo!]
He is risen! [He is risen!]
He is alive! [He is alive!]
Alleluia! [Alleluia!]
Now glorified! [Now glorified!]

We praise you! We bless you! We worship and magnify you!

Gloria! [Gloria!] Gloria! [Gloria!]
In excelsis [In excelsis] Deo! [Deo!]
He is risen! [He is risen!]
He is alive! [He is alive!]
Alleluia! [Alleluia!]
Now glorified! [Now glorified!]
Now glorified! [Now glorified!]

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OPENING PRAYER

All: Lord God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit we invite your presence into our worship this morning and consecrate this time to you. Be glorified in the preaching, in the singing, our praying and our meditation on your word. We ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, beseeching Him, in the name of our Lord Jesus, to forgive the iniquity of our sin.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open
All desires known, from You no secrets are hidd'n
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
By the power of your Spirit
That we love and magnify your name

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P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection)

P: Most merciful God...

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. Amen

THE GREETING

L: 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.

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy (2x)

Christe eleison, Christ have mercy (2x)

Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy (2x)

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy

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PRAYER: THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

ALL: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S STORY – PASTOR BART

FIRST READING – ISAIAH 25: 6-9 NIV

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. ⁹In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him;

PSALM 16 NRSVA

¹Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

²I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.'

³As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

⁴Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour Out or take their names upon my lips.

- ⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.
⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
⁸ I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.
¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.
¹¹ You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11 NIV

15 Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. ³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance^[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas,^[b] and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹ Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go, shall we go? (2x)
You have the words of eternal life, O Lord (2x)
Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go
Shall we go, shall we go?

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GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-18 NIV

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” ³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. ¹³ They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned

toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”). ¹⁷ Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

PRE-SERMON HYMN: Thine Is the Glory LBW #145

Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away
Kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay

CHORUS

Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won

Lo Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly He greets thee, scatters fear and gloom
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing
For her Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting

CHORUS

No more we doubt thee, Glorious Prince of life
Life is nought without thee; Aid us in our strife
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

CHORUS

CCLI Song # 21837
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SERMON – PASTOR BART

OFFERTORY CHORAL ANTHEM: *Resurrection Hymn* (Keith Getty, Stuart Townend, arr. David Hamilton)

CCLI Song # 4108797 | Keith Getty | Stuart Townend | © 2003 Thankyou Music | CCLI License # 1004145

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Blessed are you.

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your Goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of Him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**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. Amen.**

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY OF GOD

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 him thanks and praise

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of pow'r and might
Heaven and earth are full of you glory (repeat)**

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might
Heaven and earth are full of you glory,**

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father, who art in Heaven...

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONGS:

Hymn: I Am the Bread of Life WOV #702

I am the bread of life – you who come to me shall not hunger.
You who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father draws him.

Refrain

And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
And I will raise you up on the last day.

The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.
And if you eat of this bread, you shall live for ever, you shall live for ever.

Refrain

I am the resurrection, I am the life.
If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live for ever.

Refrain

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ
The Son of God, who has come into the world.

Refrain

Hymn: God and Man at Table Are Sat Down

O, welcome, all ye noble saints of old
As now before your very eyes unfold
The wonders all so long ago foretold.
God and man at table are sat down.

Elders, martyrs, all are falling down;
Prophets, patriarchs are gath'ring round.
What angels longed to see now man has found:
God and man at table are sat down.

Who is this who spreads the vic'try feast?
Who is this who makes our warring cease?
Jesus, Risen Savior, Prince of Peace.
God and man at table are sat down.

Beggars, lame, and harlots also here;
Repentant publicans are drawing near.
Wayward sons come home without a fear.
God and man at table are sat down.

Worship in the presence of the Lord
With joyful songs and hearts in one accord.
And let our Host at table be adored.
God and man at table are sat down.

When at last this earth shall pass away,
When Jesus and his Bride are one to stay,
The feast of love is just begun that day.
God and man at table are sat down.

Words and music by Robert Stamps
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BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Please see attached

CLOSING HYMN: *Now All the Vault* (LBW #143)

Now all the vault of heaven resounds in praise of love that still abound,
“Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah!”
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear, repeat their song of glory here,
“Christ hath triumphed, Christ hath triumphed!”
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Eternal is the gift he brings; wherefore our heart with rapture sings,
“Christ hath triumphed! Jesus liveth!”
Now still he comes and give us life and by his presence still all strife
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above,
That we conquer through your triumph
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day that by our lives we ever say,
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Adoring praises now we bring and with the heavenly blessed sing,
“Christ hath triumphed! Hallelujah!”
Be to the Father and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God
All the glory never ending!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Text: Paul Z Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

THE SENDING

P: Go in Peace.

C: Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week-at-a-Glance:

Apr 7 – Worship, 10 AM followed by the Annual General Meeting

Month in Advance:

Apr 10 –Wed, 10 AM: Grandparenting and the Faith

Apr 11 – Thur, 10 AM: Bible Study (Pastor Paul)

Apr 14 – Sun, 10 AM: Worship Service & Installation of our church council

Apr 18 – Thur, 10 AM: Bible Study (Pastor Paul)

Apr 19 & 20, Fri / Sat: CALC National Convention in Nisku

April 21 – Sun, 10 AM: Worship Service (*Mission Possible* with special Guest Pastor Roland Syens)

April 23 – Tues, 6 PM: Christian Caregiving Meeting (starting with soup)

Apr 25 – Thur, 10 AM: Bible Study (Pastor Paul)

Apr 26 & 27 – Fri / Sat: *Behold Him – The One Who Transforms* (see below for details)

Apr 27 – Sat, 8 AM: Men's Breakfast

Pray for St. Peter's

Please remember to keep praying for the church, our pastors, leaders, members and their families.

Thank you

Thank you for all those involved in making the Lenten and Easter season so meaningful. We are so blessed to have so many individuals sharing their gifts. We are so grateful to Pastor Paul and Elaine Knutson, who blessed us with an amazing Lenten video series, *Walk Through the Holy Land Series: A Franciscan's Journey*. We were all enriched by Father Bob's wisdom and insight.

Annual Reports

Please pick up a copy of your annual report today. Extra copies can be found at the Welcoming Table. Be sure to read them prior to the meeting.

AGM – April 7

Our Annual General Meeting will take place following worship. The annual reports and proposed budget will be available prior for your perusal. All who attend St. Peter's and those who consider this their church home are welcome to attend. If you are not a member, we welcome your voice, but you will not be able to vote. Please pray for the meeting.

Grandparenting and the Faith – Wed. April 10, 10 AM

We are called to *vocation* as Christians. Grandparents are called to pass on the faith to their grandchildren. How do you do this? Are there strategies? Join us to find out.

Installation of our Council – Sunday, April 14 (during worship)

Come and meet our new council as we install them and pray for their leadership. We are thankful for those serving in this capacity at St. Peter's.

CALC National Convention in Nisku – April 19 & 20

Dr. Leon Miles is this year's keynote speaker. The world around us seems to be going the wrong direction in many ways. This may lead us to wonder where God is in the middle of all these things which seem to be getting worse each day. God does have a plan for these things, however. As the world seems to get worse, the message of God's love and forgiveness shines even more brightly. In Dr. Mile's presentation, we are going to discuss how the ways in which the world is turning away from God right now are going to give us the opportunity to speak the gospel in new and distinct ways to a new generation of people who do not know the love that God has for them. Through the inevitable

hardships and suffering coming into the world through the evils we see all around us, we can share the love of God with them. We are going to look at the opportunities we have and what it will mean for us to take them. St. Peter's is looking for some delegates for the convention business sessions. Speak with Gary Buss. **Further information at: CALC.CA – Then click on the events tab.**

Sunday April 21, 10 AM – *Mission Possible*

We are very thankful to have Pastor Roland Syens teaching and preaching at our worship service on April 21. He has served as a missionary in Ukraine (over 10 years) and has been involved in numerous mission-related activities, the most recent being in Africa. Come and hear Pastor Syens' amazing story and discover how is anything is possible with God.

Behold Him – The One Who Transforms is coming to St. Peter's on Friday, April 26 (7 PM) and Saturday, April 27 (10 AM-3 PM). This exciting 40-piece art collection is an immersive experience of our King Jesus, the one true Monarch; to behold Him from birth to the cross, resurrection to the throne, in anticipation of His immanent return. Mindi Oaten, the artist, will display the whole collection for the first time with a hope that viewers are inspired to reflect upon their own spiritual journey. Mark your calendars for this spiritually enriching collection of art. Please invite your friends and neighbours.

Small Group Round-Up - May 8, 7 PM – 9PM An evening to explore our first year of small groups. We share what we have learned, and hear stories of why small groups are important in our faith journey. Come and see if joining a small group might be a good opportunity to grow your faith, meet new friends and draw closer to Jesus. All those who enjoyed the study on Pilgrims Progress, please come and share you experience.

The Tabernacle - May 11, 7PM

Make sure you put The Tabernacle evening worship service on your calendar and invite a friend!

Church Spring Clean-up - May 18

Please put this on your calendar. More information to how you might help is forth coming.

Getting to Know You

Last year, Erica and Pastor Rick invited people to their home to get to know them and hear their stories. We have so many new people in the church. They would love to open up their home again on Tuesday evenings. One of the side benefits is that you get to know each other as well! There are sheets on the welcoming table where you can sign up for one of the following Tuesday evenings:

May 21 or 28 / June 4 or 18

Bible Camps

Don't miss out on registering for one of our church Bible camps! Please find information on the bulletin board. You can also check them out directly:

- Hasting Lake Lutheran Bible Camp (www.hastingslake.com)
- Mulhurst Lutheran Bible Camp (<https://www.mulhurstcamp.ca/>)
- Wilderness Ranch Camp (<https://www.wildernessranchalberta.com/>)

Learn Guitar – Every Sunday after Worship

Starting at very beginner level and aiming at grade 4 children and up to and including adults. This is a group class, not private lessons, and we just learn basic chords and strumming, but it's free. Some kids can have troubles playing guitar, others have no troubles. But if you are interested, talk to Pastor Bart.

Men's Ministry

Now that Pastor Rick's call has been confirmed, he will be working hard to develop a strong and vibrant men's ministry for all ages. He is looking for committed men to help him design, construct and implement a strategy to encourage men in their faith. Interested? Our first big event is a men's retreat scheduled for the weekend of November 1-3 at Rivers Edge Bible Camp. Please speak with him or email him rick@rickbergh.com

Steve Bell Workshop at St. Peter's – February 2025

This amazing opportunity will take place in early February (Friday evening and all-day Saturday workshop, date TBC). Come and explore the depth and mystery of the Trinity with musician and liturgist, Steve Bell. Join Pastor Rick and Mike Gawryletz to be part of the planning and implementation of this important event. This is rare opportunity to have Steve Bell come to a small venue and to have him all to ourselves. You won't want to miss out on this!