

Third Sunday of Easter

4 May 2025

HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

419 Northmount Drive NW

Calgary, Alberta T2K 3H7

Telephone: 403-289-8206

Pastor: Rev. Michael Wellman

Organist: Rick VanderWoude **Secretary:** Liz Northam

Office Email: secretaryhlc@outlook.com

Email: pastorhlc@outlook.com

Website: www.highwoodlutheran.com

Organist's Blog: <https://highwoodorganist.wordpress.com>

Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4111340591>

PW: highwood

Zoom by Telephone Dial 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #



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## + HOLY COMMUNION SETTING NINE +

*It is appropriate to stand during prayer and when receiving the Eucharist during the Easter Season. The Easter emphasis is on justification: "Because of what God has done in Christ through the cross and resurrection, I am justified and can stand before him."*

**ORGAN PRELUDE** "Prelude in Eb" J.S. Bach

**GATHERING**

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**CATECHETIC MOMENT**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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Baptisms Celebrated this Month

Jacob Rath, Andres-Daniel Torres Ferrerosa. Audrey Sribney, Norman Wong, Avriana Crisanti, Arthur Wildeman, Megan Whitehead, Bruce Beamer, Phillip Tang, Don Cuch, Chrystina Cuch, Laura Woycenko

**GATHERING HYMN** Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs **No. 847**

**GREETING/ KYRIE**

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**THIS IS THE FEAST**

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**P** We pray. Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**FIRST LESSON** A Reading from the Book of Acts

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings

and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." (*Acts 9:1-20*)

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM     *Sung*                      Psalm 30**

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lift- | ed me up  
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.  
O Lord my God, I cried | out to you,  
and you restored | me to health.  
You brought me up, O Lord, | from the dead;  
you restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.  
Sing to the Lord, you ser- | vants of his;  
give thanks for the remembrance | of his holiness.  
For his wrath endures but the twinkling | of an eye,  
his favor | for a lifetime.  
Weeping may | spend the night,  
but joy comes | in the morning.  
While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never | be disturbed.  
You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong | as the  
mountains."  
Then you | hid your face,  
and I was | filled with fear.  
I cried to | you, O Lord;  
I pleaded with | the Lord, saying,  
"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?  
Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?  
Hear, O Lord, and have mer- | cy upon me;  
O Lord, | be my helper."  
You have turned my wailing | into dancing;

you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.  
Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;  
O Lord my God, I will give you | thanks forever.  
Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,  
and to the | Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the begin-| ning, is now  
and will be forever. | Amen

**SECOND LESSON** A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped (*Revelation 5:11-14*)

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia...

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*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

P The Holy Gospel...

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. 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. 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.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' 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. 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 lake. 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.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.’ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. 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. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

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.’ 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.’ 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. 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.’ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ (*John 21:1-19*)

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please stand as you are able.*

The response to “*Hear us, O God.*” is “**Your mercy is great.**”

A Trusting God’s promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A You call your disciples to follow the way of the cross by their words and works of love. Make your church a place of welcome and empathy for all people. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Every creature in heaven and on earth sings your praise. Give us deep appreciation for the vibrant diversity of creation—flowers and streams, animals and bugs, sunsets and stormy skies. Help us to conserve the beauty around us. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Come to the aid of those who are persecuted, oppressed, or imprisoned by hostile governments. Walk with refugees and immigrants as they seek safe homes. Raise up leaders who are generous and hospitable to migrant families. Bring peace to Ukraine and all that are torn apart by warfare and violence. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Bring relief to bodies weary with pain or sickness. Bless doctors, nurses, hospice workers, home health care providers, therapists, social workers, and all caregivers who demonstrate your love in acts of healing and tenderness toward those in need. We pray for: Bruce Beamer, Anna Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Chrystina Cuch, Colleen Dehmke, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Genevieve Janssen, Julie Janssen Downe, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Karin Olafson (Dakota, Remi and Ada), Jerry Rasmuson and family, Jim and Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Ron Sauer, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, John

Watt, those we name aloud... and those we carry in our hearts.  
Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for your holy catholic Church:

- the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, synod staff, pastors, people, and Bishop Trish Schmermund
- our Synod Campus Ministries and especially for Rev. Canon Erin Phillips, Chaplain for the University of Lethbridge, and Lethbridge College
- all Area council members and Highwood's council members
- Trinity Lutheran, Edmonton, and Grace Lutheran, Edson
- Emmaus Mission, Medellin, Colombia
- the bishop, pastors, and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of El Salvador
- the Canadian Council of Churches, its President, and its General Secretary
- the pastors and people of the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches of Canada

For all these, Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Be with those who mourn the death of a loved one, especially the family and friends of Rev. Edwin Bowen. Strengthen them with the message of your Son's resurrection and comfort them with your love. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Hear our prayers on behalf of those for whom we pray, and give us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen and exalted Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

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P The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**C And also with you.**

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** “Before the Throne of God Above”

*Setting of the altar and reception of the Offerings.*

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** (Easter)

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**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (Version I)

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**THE FRACTION**

**P** Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**C** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

**P** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Receive them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**LAMB OF GOD**

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## THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please be seated.*

*Assistants and those in need commune first.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

With High Delight Let Us Unite

**No. 368**

This Joyful Eastertide

**No. 391**

**TABLE BLESSING**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** (Easter)

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*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

**BENEDICTION**

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**SENDING HYMN**

The Day of Resurrection!

**No. 361**

**DISMISSAL**

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**P** Go in peace...

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** “Now Thank We All Our God” S. Karg-Elert

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WELCOME to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today's servants or speak with the pastor.

WE THANK TODAY'S SERVANTS

Usher:	Art Wildeman, Shannon Friesen
Lector:	Art Wildeman
Communion Assistant:	Jennifer Hanson
Altar Guild:	Pat Fedkenheuer
Refreshments:	Torres-Ferrerosa Family
Zoom Host:	Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Last Week	27 April 2025	Budget 2025
Current	\$ 2,155	\$2,911
Benevolence	\$ 0	
Building Fund	\$ 70	
Other	\$ 928.75	
Attendance	38	

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today	4 May	11:45 PM	Fellowship and Refreshments
		2:00 PM	CFMA Worship
Monday	5 May	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Tuesday	6 May	1:00 PM	HLW Bible Study
		6:30 PM	S.A.F.E. Place Peer Support
Wednesday	7 May	10:00 AM	12 Step Program
		7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Friday	9 May	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Saturday	10 May	9:00 AM	House of Hope Worship
Sunday	11 May	10:30 AM	Fourth Sunday of Easter

HLW BIBLE STUDY - All ladies are invited to join our bible study on Tuesday 6 May at 1:00 PM downstairs. Rides can be arranged with Pat, Clarice, or Helga. Friends are welcome too.

FESTIVAL CHORUS PRESENTS "Rutter Supper" on Saturday 10 May 2025 at 7:30 PM at Knox United Church. Purchase tickets [here](#). See handout downstairs for more details.

SWARM - The Southwest Area Refugee Mission is holding its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 13 May at 7:00 PM. at Advent Lutheran Church. A Zoom connection will also be available. As part of the Southwest Area of the Synod, you are welcome to attend. Email calgaryswarm@gmail.com with your interest. New members are welcome to our CORE committee.

HOSPICE CALGARY - Dying to Know: *"Transformation of Hope Through a Palliative Diagnosis.* Free online session 20 May 2025 from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM. Presenter: Iska Hollman. In the illness journey, hope and hopelessness are intertwined, often unrecognized or given little credit. By understanding this connection, we can better support others in their journey of life and grief. Register [here](#).

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL MINISTRIES – is hosting a Free Education Luncheon *"Caring for the Pessimist"* 31 May 2025 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in the basement (66 7 Street NE, Calgary). Lunch 11:30 AM, Presentation 12:30 PM This talk may provide some tools when caring for an individual or member of your family. RSVP before 22 May lhmsac@gmail.com. See poster downstairs for more details.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – If you need a ride to church, contact Elizabeth Anderson 587 897 0548 or Bill Strand 403 239 9894

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30