



Easter
Sunday, April 27. 2025

The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
454 East Church Rd., Cambridge, WI 53523
www.eastkoshkonong.org

Church Office: Phone 608-423-3017
Email: eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

Pastor Eric Hanson: 815-543-5077
Email: eric.hanson88@yahoo.com

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Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God

Presider ~

Organist ~ Judy Rusch

Assisting Minister ~ Kyle Durkee

Acolyte ~ Lena Skjolaas

Lector ~ Joy Graffin

Greeter ~ Peggy Luther

Ushers ~ Tom & Trudy Spike

Offering Counters ~ Brenda Schroeder & Leila Carl

Sermon One with Children

Gathering Hymn Now the Green Blade Rises ELW 379

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

Prayer of the Day

A: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading Acts 5:27-32

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:14-29

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!**

¹⁶ The 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.

²⁵ **Hosanna! O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD,
prosper our days!**

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ **The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a
procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God,
and I will exalt you.

²⁹ **Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.**

Second Reading Revelation 1:4-8

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was
and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are be-
fore his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the
earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his
blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and
Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.
Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him,
and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of
him.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God,
who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to John 20:19-31

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week,
and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear
of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said,
"Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them
his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they
saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with

you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Two

Hymn of the Day

We Walk by Faith

ELW 635

Creed

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

Prayers of Intercession

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way *especially* Jackie, Judy, Mary Lou, Brandan, Lisa, Landon, Terry, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert, Michelle, Karen, Monica, Gwendolyn, and Dennis. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering

Offering Prayer

P: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

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.

Words of Institution

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, 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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

Prayer after Communion

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Thine is the Glory

ELW 376

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Calendar

Sunday, April 27, 2025

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship

9:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

5:30 p.m. Worship

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Sunday, May 4, 2025

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Announcements

Our church will once again be hosting the Cambridge Community Meal. We will be hosting a little earlier this year, it will be on Thursday, May 1st, at the Cambridge High School. The meal is served from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. The Veley's will be cooking up their fantastic chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy. We are needing volunteers to make salads, cookies and bars. There are signup sheets in the Narthex. In addition to help with food, we are needing volunteers to help set up, serve and clean up. This is a very enjoyable time to meet and visit with your neighbors and friends. If you have any questions please contact Brenda Schroeder at 608-220-2008.

Church cleanup day will be Saturday, May 3rd from 9 a.m.-Noon.

Let us know if you are a college student or know of one that will graduate this spring. We will honor high school and college graduates during the service on June 1st.

