

**The Congregation at Prayer**  
*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*  
**For the Week of the Resurrection of Our Lord**  
*April 6-11, 2026*

**The Order of Meditation and Prayer**

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able,  
or as your family size and ages permit. Learn by heart the verse and catechism.*

**Invocation:** In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Speak the Apostles' Creed.**

**Verse: 1 Peter 2:2-3** – “ Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation - if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.”

**Hymn of the Week: Lutheran Service Book #470** “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

**Readings for the Week:** [The readings for **Thursday-Saturday** are the Scriptures for this coming Sunday.]

<b>Monday</b>	Exodus 15:1–18	<i>Read these verses and think about how they are true for Jesus in His victory over sin, death, and the devil!</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Luke 24:36–49	<i>Jesus proved His resurrection in three ways – what were they? Which was most important? Which is here also for us today?</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	John 21:1–14	<i>Read Luke 5:1-11. What did Jesus tell His disciples then? How might this same miracle be connected to and the start of that?</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	Acts 5:29–42	<i>Why were the Jewish leaders enraged? Why <u>were</u>n't the apostles enraged when they were flogged? What caused this in them?</i>
<b>Friday</b>	1 Peter 1:3–9	<i>What has Jesus' resurrection done for us? Why must we also suffer trials? How are these good for us?</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	John 20:19–31	<i>Why was Jesus' peace so important to the disciples? What was Thomas like without it? How will the apostles now give this peace to others? How do we receive it today?</i>

**The Catechism – The Ten Commandments: The Tenth Commandment:** You shall not covet your neighbors wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

**Collect for the Week:** Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

**The Prayers:** Please pray for . . .

- + yourself and for all in need (remembering especially those on our prayer list).
- + God's blessing, wisdom, and guidance for our congregational recording secretary, Caroline Trundle.
- + the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia, for God's wisdom, blessing, guidance, and provision.
- + God's blessing, guidance, wisdom, and provision for Lutheran Braille Workers.

*Conclude with the Lord's Prayer and Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.*

*Now joyfully go about your day (or to bed) in good cheer, child of God!*

## **In our prayers this week, we remember:**

**Kyle, David** (Grace's uncle), **Marna** (Kathy's aunt), recovering from hospitalizations.

**Christina** (friend of the congregation and former attender), **Tricia** (Mickey's neighbor), **Joel** (friend of the Johnsons), for healing and recovery.

For all with cancer, for Your strength, faith and hope, and endurance in their treatments: **Elizabeth Libby, Susan Kunkel, Fawn, Mary Ann, Katie** (friend of Whitney), **Stacy** (Logan's aunt), **Jeremy** (Jacob's brother), **Anthony** (friend of Pastor), **Erika, Brad, Rita, and Pam** (relatives and friends of Mickey), **Linda** (Mickey's sister), and **Jerry, Adriana, and Kristen** (friends of the Killians).

**Melody, Katrina** (Anna's sister), and **Ashley** (Michelle's daughter-in-law), for safe and healthy pregnancies and deliveries.

**Barbara** (Laurie's mother) in Memory Care; and **Leander**, for peace and faith.

**Emily** (Rob's co-worker), **Jude and Tobias** (friends of Nancy) for faith, strength, and peace.

**Suress** (friend of Elizabeth), in need of a kidney transplant; **David** (Marcus' father) for safety; and **Charlie** (Eric's friend), for health and peace.

**Melanie** (friend of Caroline), **Rene** (friend of Randy and TJ), **Eddie** (friend of Tim), **Timothy** (friend of Marcus), **Kristoffer** (Lena's son), and **Jason** (friend of Elizabeth), for protection, peace, hope, strength, and faith.

**Jonathan Malekzadeh, Lena, Greta** (Lena's mother), **Jacque** (Mickey's sister), **Heidi** (Michael Vondal's fiancé), and **Nikki** (niece of Kathy) for strength and continued health.

**Kim and Dan** (friends of Ben) for their upcoming marriage.

**The Vondal, Wing, Vigil, and Nus families** for Your blessing, protection, strength, and faith.

**Beth and Josh** (friends of the Killians), **Sahilis** (Viviana's sister), **Scott** (friend of Scott Killian), **Thomas** (Angela's brother), **Traci** (friend of Elizabeth), **Dorothy and Mackenzie, and their families**, for unity, protection, peace, and faith.

**Leslie, Dorris, and their children** (from our Spanish Bible Study) for protection and faith, and for Your wisdom and guidance for the future.

**Fatma** (friend of our church), **Lindsey** (TJ's friend's daughter), **Suress, Huan, Joylyn, and Sandy** (friends of Elizabeth), and **Tamim and his family** (friends of the Malekzadeh family), for the gift of faith.

For our adopted missionaries: **Rev. Chris and Jenny Yang** (Taiwan), the **Wolf family** (Africa), and **Rev. Rob Kieselowsky** (Philadelphia), for blessing, provision, wisdom, and guidance.

For our seminary students: **Nathaniel Hall** (Keisers' son-in-law), **Erik Preus**, and **Thomas Malmstrom** (on vicarage).

For our college students: **Joanna Douthwaite, Erik Eidsmoe, Nathaniel Faunce, Ben Galloway, Vincent Heuyer, Anna Kautz, Caleb Malekzadeh, Tristan Price, Timothy Strand, and Joshua Vigil.**

**The people of Ukraine and Russia**, for peace, protection, and an end to the war, and for God to provide for those separated and displaced, especially the children.

For those serving our country in the military: **Jacqueline Teixeira, Nathaniel Faunce, Juliana Wing, Zechariah Vigil, and John Boling and his son Daniel** (friends of Mickey).

Members and friends in prayer this week: **Kyle, Mary Ann, and Christian Wright**

For all who have placed their hope and trust in the name of Your beloved Son, but especially for those Christians in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Kenya, Sweden, Finland, the Sudan, and other countries, who endure serious and difficult persecution, even unto death.

For the Lord to bless **our mission church, Hope Lutheran Mission, in Purcellville**, and **our look into a possible Classical Lutheran School in central/western Fairfax County.**

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Remember to pray for our church officers, board members, and teachers:

President: Scott Killian  
Vice President: Rob Douthwaite  
Recording Secretary: Caroline Trundle  
Treasurer: Logan Hansen  
Financial Secretary: Dave Fields  
Executive Board, Member-at-Large: John Schatz  
Board of Elders: Jay Hertel (Chair), Scott Killian, Logan Hansen

Board of Evangelism and Outreach: Kathy Kielmeyer (Chair) and Nancy Nus

Church Technology Council: Michael O'Connor, Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, and Jonathan Malekzadeh

Building Committee: Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, Kathy Kielmeyer, and Scott Killian

Investment Committee: Logan Hansen and Scott Killian

Commission on Mercy: Grace Killian and Caroline Trundle

Sunday School Teachers: Scott and Grace Killian

Pastor's Assistant: Grace Killian

### **About this Sunday: The Resurrection of Our Lord**

Order of Service: Divine Service 1 (page 151)

#### ***The Victory of Christ Crucified Is Given to You in the Preaching of His Resurrection***

Every Sunday is the Lord's day, the day of His resurrection, "*after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week*" (Matt. 28:1). In the Divine Service, the Church enters upon the eternal "eighth day." The Lord Jesus, "*who was crucified,*" who "*has risen, as he said*" (Matt. 28:5-6), is the firstborn from the dead and the firstfruits of the new creation. Because "*you have died*" with Him in Holy Baptism, "*you have been raised with Christ*" and "*your life is hidden with Christ in God*" (Col. 3:1, 3). The Lord Jesus has become our God, as surely as He is "*the God of all the clans of Israel,*" and we now belong to His people (Jer. 31:1). In this, He "*shows no partiality*" (Acts 10:34), but "*everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name*" (Acts 10:43). As "*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power*" and "*raised him on the third day,*" He also raises us up and pours out His Spirit upon us through the Gospel (Acts 10:38, 40).



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## **This Week at Saint Athanasius / Hope Lutheran Mission**

TODAY	Hope Lutheran Mission Divine Service, 2:00 pm
Monday-Friday	Morning Prayer on the Web, 7:00 am
Monday, April 6	Board of Elders, 7:30 pm
Tuesday, April 7	School Chapel, 8:30 am
Wednesday, April 8	Evening Prayer @ PHC, 7:00 pm
Thursday, April 9	School Chapel, 8:30 am
Sunday, April 12	<i>The Second Sunday of Easter</i> Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 am Divine Service, 10:15 am

**Next week's hymns: 466, 470, 637, 472 (tune: 426), 486, TLH 202**

**Assist-ing Others:** Join us for the Walk-Run-Ride for Life to help raise support for the important work being done by Assist Pregnancy Center! This year, the 1 mile family stroll and 5k run are being held at Occoquan Regional Park on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Join our *Lutherans for Life* team or sponsor someone. Go to [runsignup.com/lfl](http://runsignup.com/lfl) to do so.

**(Home)school Chapel:** Every Tuesday, we review a part of the Catechism, and every Thursday we hear the Gospel for Sunday. Please join us! Live on our YouTube channel at 8:30 am Tuesday and Thursday. Each chapel is only approx. 25 minutes, easy to fit into your day, or over lunch if you can't join us live. It's always good to spend more time in the Word of God and prayer. Take advantage of this opportunity!

**Sacred Music for the Easter Season** . . . "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today," "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands," "I Know That My Redeemer Lives," "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness," "He's Risen, He's Risen." You can listen 24/7 to sacred music for the 50 days of the Easter season at [lutheranpublicradio.org](http://lutheranpublicradio.org), TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

**Life Thought:** "As Christians, we rejoice in the Savior who shines light on our lives when we only expected inky blackness. May God's strong Word remind us that the fullness of life is meant to be lived in the light. In our weakness, may the Lord bring alongside us faithful brothers and sisters to proclaim that God is light and life to us, and let us walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7). In Jesus we have light, and to have light is to have life. May we rejoice in proclaiming the message of Jesus as the Apostle John did. Thanks be to God that He is light, and He shines in the darkness." *Rev. Dennis Norby, Grace Free Lutheran Church, Valley City, North Dakota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Opportunity for Service:** Do you enjoy knitting or crocheting? Want to help mothers and babies? The Commission on Mercy is collecting handmade baby hats, blankets, sweaters, and other handmade goods to gift to Assist Pregnancy Center clients who are preparing for motherhood. All ages and abilities are welcome to participate. Larger sizes for clothing (ie 6+ months) preferred. Speak with Caroline Trundle if you're interested in helping out or want more information.

**Opportunity for Study:** Every Monday-Friday morning at 7:00 Pastor leads “Morning Prayer on the Web,” a time to start your day off in the Word of God and prayer. This is on our WebEx video conferencing service and lasts approximately 20 minutes. Luther once said that he was so busy that if he did not start his day in the Word of God and prayer, he would often not get back to it! You too? Join us here! Go to <[saint-athanasius.org/WebExInstr.html](http://saint-athanasius.org/WebExInstr.html)> for more information on how to log on and join us, or speak to Pastor if you need more help.



Create cards to bring some cheer to a cancer patient. Be one of “**Phil’s Friends!**” See Caroline Trundle for more information.

## Mark Your Calendars! Upcoming Events

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|----------|---|
| April 22 | Virginia State March for Life   |
| April 28 | Vicarage Placement Service<br><i>(Find out where our adopted seminary students will serve!)</i> |
| May 2    | Good Shepherd Seminar (see below)   |
| May 9    | Assist Pregnancy Center’s Walk-Run-Ride for Life  |



## Announcing our *Nineteenth* Good Shepherd Seminar

### Free Will: Myth or Fact?

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|--------|---|
| When?  | Saturday, May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 10:00 am until 3:30 pm<br><i>(Doors open at 10 am; Matins begins at 10:15 am)</i>                                     |
| Where? | Courtyard Marriott Hotel<br>6710 Commerce Street, Springfield<br><i>(near the Springfield Mixing Bowl)</i>  |
| Cost?  | <b>Free for members of Saint Athanasius</b><br>Suggested donation for others: \$15<br><i>(All proceeds to go to the Seminary’s student aid fund.)</i> |

Who?        Rev. Dr. Roland Ziegler, presenter  
              Professor of Systematic Theology and Confessional Lutheran Studies,  
              Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN

Lunch?     Catered by Malek's Pizza Palace

“We all have free will.” That’s a phrase often heard today – but is it true? Partially True? How? Martin Luther faced this question some 500 years ago and wrote one of his most famous and important treatises on it. Come learn about whether or not we have free will, and how to explain this to others.

Take advantage of this special opportunity to hear and learn from one of our seminary professors. And please pass the word to any of your friends and neighbors you think might want to attend. **It is open to all.** Space is limited, so please RSVP to Pastor Douthwaite if you will be attending, so we make sure we save a place for you and have plenty for lunch. **Thanks!**