

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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PEACE
be · with · you



J o h n 2 0 : 1 9

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 27, 2025

April 27, 2025
Second Sunday of Easter

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!* Richard W. Gieseke

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✙ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
 waters that open the hearts of believers
 and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
 waters that set your people on a new path,
 rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
 Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
 that our every day is shaped by these waters
 that give us our very lives in you.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia! (ELW 369)*



1	Christ the Lord is	ris'n to - day;	Al - le - lu - ia!
2	For the sheep the	Lamb has bled,	Al - le - lu - ia!
3	Christ, the vic - tim	un - de - filed,	Al - le - lu - ia!
4	Chris-tians, on this	ho - ly day,	Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten	on your way;	Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the	sin - ner's stead.	Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners	rec - on - ciled,	Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful	hom - age pay;	Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with	love re - plete,	Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is	ris'n on high;	Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing	death and life,	Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is	ris'n on high;	Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal	vic - tim's feet.	Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no	more to die.	Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and	awe - some strife.	Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no	more to die.	Al - le - lu - ia!

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

A reading from Acts.

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

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."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength ¹ and my song,
and has become ¹ my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents ¹ of the righteous:**
"The right hand of the ¹ LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD ¹ is exalted!
The right hand of the ¹ LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷ **I shall not ¹ die, but live,**
and declare the works ¹ of the LORD.

¹⁸ The LORD indeed pun- ¹ ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- ¹ ver to death.

¹⁹ **Open for me the ¹ gates of righteousness;**
I will enter them and give thanks ¹ to the LORD.

²⁰ "This is the gate ¹ of the LORD;
here the righ- ¹ teous may enter."

- ²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**
- ²² The stone that the build-ers 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

A reading from Revelation.

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

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 before 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 to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

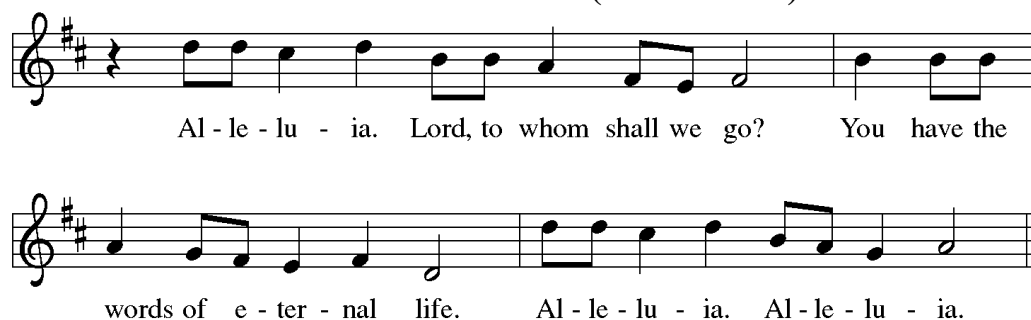
⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia* (ELW s142a)**



GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked 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, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Herb Spomer

***Please stand as you are able for the final verse**

HYMN OF THE DAY *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* (ELW 363)



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ has burst his pris - on,
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,
5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.
with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal:
who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;



loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
comes to glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing
Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
wel - comes in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.
Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: GAUDEAMUS PARITER, Johann Horn, 1490–1547

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***CREED**

**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 THE CHURCH** (*Please respond*)

P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

***OFFERTORY** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* (ELW 182)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

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.
Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

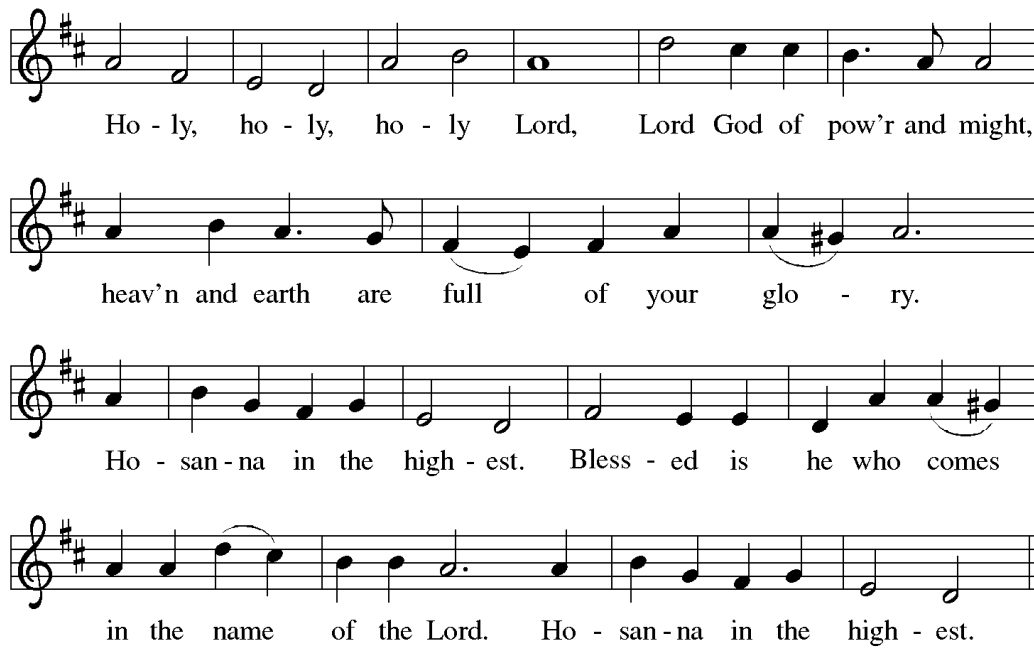
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW s153)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God* (ELW s154)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!* (ELW 380)

1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.

from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con-quer-or, has gone,
Christ who died our broth-er here lives our broth-er still on high,
joined to Christ, your liv-ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
Praise him in a no-bler song, cher-u-bim of heav'n-ly birth.
Let your cho-rus swell the strain which our fee-bler voic-es raise:

bright fore-run-ner to the skies of his peo-ple, yet to rise.
lives for-ev-er to be-stow bless-ings on his church be-low.
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic-tor you shall stand.
Praise the vic-tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o-bey.
Glo-ry to our God a-bove and on earth his peace and love!

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

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.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG** *Thine Is the Glory* (ELW 376)



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *Thine Is the Glory* Brian Glyncannon

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SERVING TODAY

Supply Pastor.....Rev. Herb Spomer
Church Office Email Addressoffice@solomonslutheran.org
OrganistMary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher..... Ron Coldsmith
AcolyteNorm Kuykendall
Lector.....Patricia Yetter
Securing Offering..... Tana Vance & Edna Harris
Communion Set-Up..... Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Clean-Up Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion BreadIlona Laney
Communion Assist Martie Veilleux
Attendance last Sunday.....54

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in celebration of Mark and Sally Gayman's 50th Wedding Anniversary given by Glenn and Susie Henicle.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Please welcome Rev. Herb Spomer with a warm thank you for preaching this morning.

Prayer requests for the following: *Doug Weaver, James Bersch, Evelyn Gomez, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Kaitlyn Dovey, Angela Puchalo, Katelyn Mary Dodge, Charles Carl, Fran Stouffer, Marty Wenger, Don Wildeson, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, Sam Mull, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

April 30 - Qigong/Tai Chi 7pm

May 1- Choir 7pm

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

2025 Relay for Life: The event will take place at Greencastle/Antrim High School on Friday, May 16th from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Solomon's is signed up as team again this year and if you like to join the team, please go to the website to join our team or call 1-800-227-2345. Sam & Becky will also be collecting the Luminary forms and will need the form and donation by Sunday, May 11th. Please reach out to Becky Mull if you have any questions and we hope to see you on the track! Thank you for your continued support.

During the month of April, Social Ministry will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the totes under the coat rack, next to the mailboxes.

The 2025 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$50.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$50.00 with the bulletin information.

The 2025 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

Power Pack Meals: The need for nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need is an on-going project. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

Our Hymn of the Day, "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" is a Greek Resurrection hymn written by John of Damascus (c. 675-749) in the 8th century. The text is from the Canon for St. Thomas's Sunday, the Sunday after Easter, and is based on the canticle "The Song of Moses" from Exodus 15. Based on this background, "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" is effectively used the Sunday after Easter. The main theme of this hymn is deliverance. Stanza one discusses the joy the Israelites had after being delivered from Pharaoh across the Red Sea. The next three stanzas transfer the focus to Jesus. They discuss Jesus' resurrection and the deliverance brought to man from their sins through his resurrection. In the final stanza, the hymn serves as praise to God for continuing to deliver God's people throughout history.

Thine Is the Glory (also known as Thine Be the Glory) was written by a French speaking Swiss evangelist, Edmond Burdy, in 1884, but it was not translated into English until 1923 by Baptist Minister Richard Birch Hoyle. This hymn, despite its words, would not have been such a success without the accompanying tune composed by George Frederick Handel, written for the oratorio, *Judas Maccabaeus* in 1746. The hymn has strong theology based on the gospel accounts of the resurrection; the first line being about the risen Lord which was foretold in the Old Testament. The hymn perfectly displays the glory and brilliance of Christ's resurrection and tells us to shed our doubt. Verse two talks about death losing its sting and is based on 1 Corinthians 15:55. The last verse is talking about Thomas who doubted and perhaps represents many of us asking hard questions. The refrain is the central message of the Christian faith ..'risen conquering son, endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.' Another great hymn to close our worship on this second Sunday of Easter. (Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins; Austin Lovelace pg.104; waltonparish.org/uk).