

# Welcome

Easter Worship

[www.hslckirkland.org](http://www.hslckirkland.org)

**New Here?  
Welcome!**

We'd love to get to know you!  
Please fill out a Welcome Card from your seat and drop it in the offering plate when it comes around. Thanks!

## \$ GIVING

### **GIVE IN PERSON**

Drop your offering in the plate when it comes around during worship.

### **GIVE BY Phone**



### **AUTOMATED GIVING**

Set up automatic payments using the qr code or, email our Parish Administrator, Marjorie Buchanan at [parishadmin@hslckirkland.org](mailto:parishadmin@hslckirkland.org)

Christ is risen – risen indeed!

Welcome to Easter worship at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church. As a community, we trust that Jesus' risen presence in the world calls us to radical love for each other, our neighbors, and the world. You are God's beloved child in all that you are, and you are welcome here.

If you would like to learn more about this community or speak with a pastor, please make a note on your Welcome Card so we can reach out to you. May God lead you in ways of justice and joy!

In Christ,

Pastor Katy McCallum Sachse  
Pastor Gina Herman

## SUNDAY MORNINGS

**Join us for worship every Sunday morning at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am**

Sunday School for children ages 3 through grade 6 available during our 9:30 am service (except today). Children are welcome in worship all morning. Childcare is available at the 9:30 and 11:00 am services (plus at 8:00 am today).



## CHILDREN & YOUTH

From fun and engaging Sunday School and exciting events like Trunk-or-Treat and Vacation Bible School, to innovative relationship-based Confirmation classes, and an inclusive and active high school youth group, we strive to provide age-appropriate and engaging faith formation activities for all ages. For more information, visit our website ([hslckirkland.org](http://hslckirkland.org)).

## MUSIC

There are many opportunities for people of all ages and skill levels to offer musical gifts! We have vocal and bell choirs, as well as instrumental groups for all ages. For more information, visit the Music section under Programs on our website ([hslckirkland.org](http://hslckirkland.org)).

## SPIRIT CONNECTIONS

If you're newer to the congregation and are single, married, without kids, or perhaps have kiddos, but need some time away to hang out with other adults, our Spirit Connections Group is designed for you!

We are a group of young(ish) adults that just get together every other month to hang out and have some fun together. Some activities include hiking, games, wine tasting, art, music, escape rooms, and dancing. We're even hoping to plan a weekend camping trip this summer!

To find out more information, contact Pastor Gina at [pastorgina@hslckirkland.org](mailto:pastorgina@hslckirkland.org).

## FEATURED EVENTS

Welcome to Holy Spirit! This community is enriched by your presence and we hope you will join us in 2024 for some wonderful events.

You are invited to join us Wednesday evenings with the whole family! Our **Midweek Meal** is served from 6:00 - 6:45 pm, and you are welcome to come just for the meal, or to stick around after to attend an evening activity like Kidz Club, Confirmation, or Way to Live. The meal is free-of-charge, though donations are accepted. It's a great opportunity to get involved and explore and deepen your faith life.

After the Midweek Meal, join us in the Sanctuary for **Way to Live** adult study led by Pastor Katy, which returns after Easter. From 7:00 - 8:00 pm, we gather in the sanctuary to explore the book "Reading While Black: African American Bible Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope". We'll also be exploring ideas and conversations about faith in daily life. We learn, build community, and seek God's way to live, together. No need to register, just come when you can.

We know attending worship every Sunday morning doesn't work for everyone. There are many ways to connect online including through our 9:30 **worship livestream**, the sermon podcast, and more.

This summer we're introducing our **Summer Book Club** with one book per month for June, July, and August, with one meeting per month. You are invited to read all three or just one. More information coming soon!

Learn more about these opportunities and more on our website!



## EASTER DEVOTION

“So they went out and fled from the tomb and said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”

What? What kind of ending is that?

It is, in fact, the ending of Mark’s gospel, the way in which this author wraps up the resurrection of Jesus. Not with a promise from Jesus to be with us to the end of the age; that’s Matthew’s version. Not by ascending into heaven while the disciples peer up into the sky; that’s Luke’s version. And not with a breakfast of bread and fish on the beach; that’s in John’s gospel. In Mark, everything just...ends. Suddenly. Awkwardly. With the rest of the story left unwritten.

Because there must have been more. After all, the evidence indicates Mark’s gospel is the first to have been written down, which means somebody must have said something about the resurrection or it would have remained a secret. Things didn’t really end in fear and silence, or there would be no gospels at all, right? The women must have told somebody. You and I wouldn’t be in Easter worship if they hadn’t.

And yet life is full of the kind of awkward, unpolished, confusing endings that Mark describes. Things can end so suddenly, without warning, in ways both big and small. We can leave things just like the women did: fleeing in fear, without understanding what on earth is going on. Perhaps our marriages end, or our good health ends, or our friendships end, or our dreams end; our jobs, our plans, our hope for the future can come to a crashing halt. We are unmoored, unprepared, and afraid.

Mark’s gospel stops in the middle of it all, somewhere between the ending and a new beginning. This is good news for those of us who spend a lot of our lives in the messy middle. Have you ever felt afraid to let go of the past? Then resurrection is for you. Have you ever been unsure about the future? Then Easter is for you. Have you ever been reluctant to say anything to anyone because you weren’t even sure how to start? Then you’re in good company, with the women at the empty tomb.

Easter joy arrives in the middle of it all. Right where you’re at, in endings and beginnings. May the joy of Jesus’ risen life, in all its beautiful, mysterious, persistent hope, find you today, and give you hope. For Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

## CONTACT US AT HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH

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