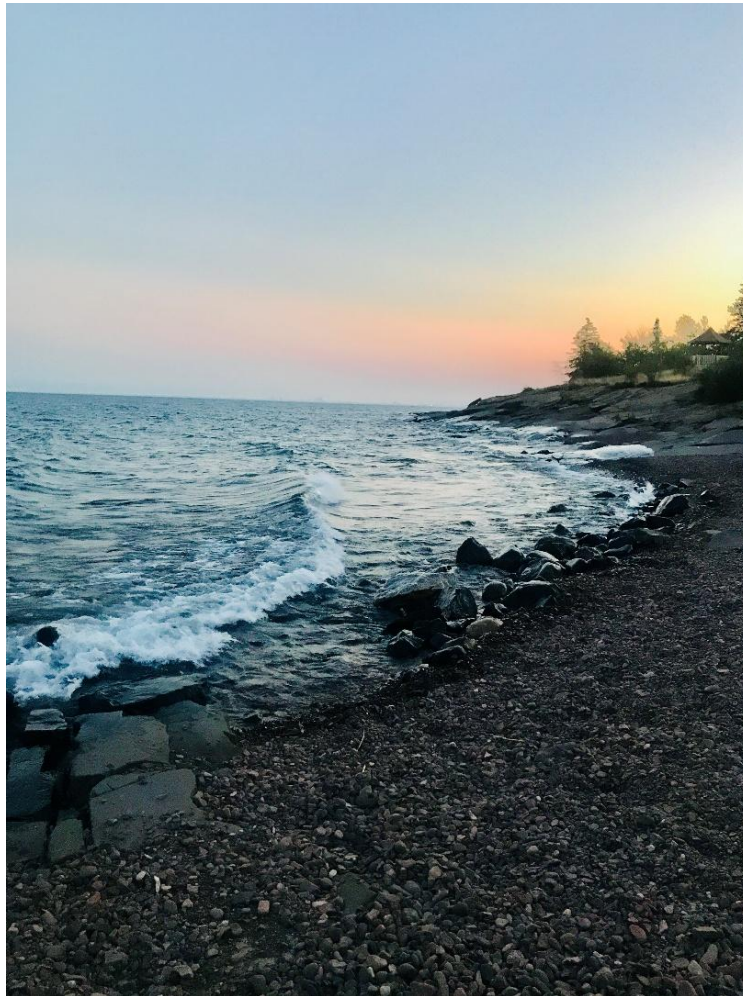


**Peace United Church of Christ
April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday
10:30am**



1111 North 11th Avenue East, Duluth, MN 55805

www.peaceucc.org
office@peaceucc.org

Prelude

Spring Winds, Ron Deters

Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bells

*Call to Worship from Psalm 16

Protect us, O God, for in you we take refuge,

We proclaim, "You are our God, we have no good apart from you."

The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup,

In you, O God, we delight.

The boundary lines have fallen for us in pleasant places;

We have a goodly heritage.

You show us the path of life, and in your presence we have fullness of joy.

Let us worship God!

*Song *Jesus Loves Me* #327, *New Century Hymnal*

Jesus love me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,

Taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

Refrain:

Jesus loves me! Still today, walking with me on my way,

Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

Refrain:

*Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond fully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether: everything has become fresh and new.

Friends, let us proclaim the Good News: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Amanda McElray Hunter
Confirmation Class of 2026

Sending the Children

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,

Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Gospel Reading

Mark 16:9-20

Georgia Lane, reader

Now after Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table, and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

Anthem *Gaelic Blessing*, John Rutter

Gospel Reading John 20:19-31

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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."

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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 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."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. 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.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Reflections from the Confirmation Class of 2026

Forest Fena, Nora Good,
Isaiah Langer, Heidi Olson,
Scarlett Romberg, Grace Ryan,
Josie Ryan, and Adeline Seele

Song *Lean On Me* #23, *Praise & Worship Songbook*

***Sometimes in our lives we all have pain
We all have sorrow
But if we are wise
We know that there's always tomorrow
Refrain:
Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on
Please swallow your pride
If I have things you need to borrow***

***For no one can fill those of your needs
That you don't let show
Refrain:
If there is a load you have to bear
That you can't carry
I'm right up the road
I'll share your load
If you just call me
So just call on me brother, when you need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem that you'd understand
We all need somebody to lean on
Refrain:***

Rite of Confirmation

Sung Amen

Offertory *When You're My Age*, Lori McKenna

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen!**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song

	<i>These Footsteps</i>	<i>#15, Praise & Worship Songbook</i>
<i>Follow in these footsteps Cast your burden down Breathe like it's your last breath Pray without a sound Offer up your best gift Pass it all around Follow in these footsteps Walk on holy ground</i>	<i>Jump into the river Feel the current's pull Let it overtake you Let it make you full When you reach the ocean Big and wild and blue Listen to the waves speak Love is calling you</i>	<i>You are called my daughter You are called my son Come up through the water Know that we are one Offer up your best gift Pass it all around Follow in these footsteps Walk on holy ground</i>

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:

Marsha Hystead, Mike Swanoski, Cindy Macauly, and Darlene Leafgren, Ushers
Ron Deters, Ian Connell, Emily Ramsey, John Bankson, and Matt Prois, Musicians
Guy & Nadine Hubert, Coffee Hour Volunteers
Anya Holmstrom and Kate Dean, Nursery Attendants