

Worship
Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024
9:45am



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH
651-451-6225
www.goodshepherdigh.com

Welcome to Worship

Whether one's feet are big or small, fresh or worn, running or crawling
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is:
Together on the Journey, Sharing God's Love

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

- L. The beauty of the Creator inspires us,
the grace of the Good Shepherd is with us,
and the unity of the Breath of Life enfolds us all.
- C. **May it be so!**

SONG *"Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"*

In the midst of His children the Lord said He would be. It doesn't take very many, it can be just two or three. And I feel that same sweet Spirit that I've felt oft times before. Surely I can say I've been with the Lord.

Refrain: **Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His Mighty Power and His grace. I can feel the breath of angel wings, I see Glory on each face. Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place.**

There's a holy hush around us, as God's Glory fills the place. I've touched the hem of His garment, I can almost see His face. And my heart is overflowing with the fullness of His joy; I know without a doubt that I've been with the Lord. *Refrain*

Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- L. Look! Here is water!
- C. **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**
- L. Here is water, through which God created and continues to create.
In the beginning, weaving with the Breath of life every living being;
throughout history, a gateway for divine deliverance,
in every moment, remembering the mystery of life,
bonding all of creation as one.
- C. **We give you thanks, blessed Creator, for the gift of life,
for this water without which life would cease,
for the gift of baptism,
through which these waters birth us again
into your promise of newness, wholeness, and oneness.**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

- L. Blessed be Creator God; Creative Word, Creating Spirit.
- C. **Blessed be each soul here and not here, one people, one with all that is.**
- L. Blessed be this water that births us, renews us, and welcomes us home.
- C. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE *“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”*

“Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give. If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live.”

Jesus, ever-flowing fountain, give us water from your well. In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, is with you all.

C. And also with you.

L. Let us pray together,

C. Ever-present God, who by the power of the Holy Spirit transforms us individually and as a church to be your dwelling place, confront us here in the midst of our doubts, grant us your peace while we face our fears, and increase our trust that we may embrace life in all its fullness. Speak to us now the word we need, empowering us to be a unifying presence in our broken world. Amen.

(Those who are able, please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, halle, hallujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

BIBLE READING John 20:19-31

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!” But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

L. The Word of the Lord,

C. Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE Pastor Leesa Soderlind

SONG *"We Walk by Faith"*

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as non e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod; but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(based on Psalm 23)*

Children:

You, O God, are our Shepherd.

All:

You provide everything we need.

You let us rest in green meadows and lead us beside quiet streams.

You renew our strength and guide us in ways that bring honor to Your name.

**Even when we walk through difficult valleys, we will not fear,
for you never are far away— protecting and comforting,
guarding and guiding every step we take.**

You prepare a feast for us in the presence of our enemies.

You welcome us as friends and lavish your blessings on us.

**We know that your goodness and unfailing love
will continue to pursue us all the days of our lives,
and that after our lives here are over,
we will spend eternity in your presence.**

Children:

You, O God, are our Shepherd.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The following is sung before and after the prayer petitions.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

OFFERING RECEIVED

(Those who are able, please stand)

OFFERING SONG *"Let All Things Now Living"*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who still guides us on to the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night, till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

C. Whatever we ask, in accordance with your will, we receive and our cup overflows. Confident in divine abundance we return what we have received for the Shepherd's word, that green pastures and safe folds will welcome any who live in fear; that peaceful waters will sustain hurting hearts; that a voice of welcome will be heard at each gate; that a feast will be prepared for all who hunger and thirst. In the name of the One who is our comfort. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

SONG *"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord"*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see you. I want to see you. Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see you. I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory. Pour out your pow'r and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy." Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see you. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see you.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see you. I want to see you. Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see you. I want to see you.

SONG *"O Come to the Altar"*

Are you hurting and broken within, overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling. Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

Refrain: **O come to the altar; the Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ!**

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today; there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling. Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes, a new life is born. Jesus is calling. *Refrain*

Oh, what a savior! Isn't he wonderful? Sing alleluia. Christ is risen! Bow down before him, for he is Lord of all. Sing alleluia. Christ is risen! *Refrain x2*

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown. Tell the world of the treasure you've found.

COMMUNION BLESSING

BLESSING

L1. Little children, sheep of the Good Shepherd:

L2. As we journey toward the fold,
we travel through the valley of shadow,
growing in grace, becoming a blessing.

C. **Baptismal wells restore our souls,
a rich feast is spread by divine abundance
and divisions end as our cup overflows.**

SONG *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: **In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

DISMISSAL

L. Go in peace. Journey gently on the planet's green pastures.

C. We will! Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL

This Week Please Pray For:

Bob Pieper, cancer, son of Ardis & Lyle Pieper

Nancy Kopet, cancer, daughter-in-law of Ardis & Lyle Pieper

Mike Walkowiak, transitional care, father of Matt Walkowiak

Carlene Samuelson, healing

David Tilly, infant in ICU after open heart surgery (great-grandson of Wally Schmidt)

Caroline Besky, transitional care

John Hessler, healing, brother of church member

Steve Gossett, healing after surgery, brother of Joan Killeen

Maureen Twist, healing, sister of Diane Dorothy

Faith Reitan, hospice

Ivonne Dickerson, healing

Jake Madison, cancer, family of Amy Ryan and Ash Madison

Ann Borgen-Lindberg, knee replacement surgery

Chris Kelly, upcoming hip replacement surgery

Margie K. - end stage cancer, sister of Judy Fritz

Danny Djurich, recovering from third shoulder surgery, relative of Millie Mlinarevich

All those grieving the death of James Madison, especially Jenna Madison, family of Amy Ryan and Ash Madison

Jackie Schroeder grieving the death of her husband, Howie Register