

Worship
Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024
8:30am



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 *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"*

**Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's mighty stone is rolled away; let all the earth
rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which cannot die, and sing with
hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you call us your children. At your table, fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, and share this Good News with the world. Amen.

(Those who are able, please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

BIBLE READING Luke 24:36b-48

While they were saying these things, Jesus himself stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" They were terrified and afraid. They thought they were seeing a ghost.

He said to them, "Why are you startled? Why are doubts arising in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet. It's really me! Touch me and see, for a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones like you see I have." As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. Because they were wondering and questioning in the midst of their happiness, he said to them, "Do you have anything to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish. Taking it, he ate it in front of them.

Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. He said to them, "This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

L. The Word of the Lord,

C. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE Pastor Courtney Steitz

SONG *"As We Gather at Your Table"*

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(based on Psalm 23)*

You, O God, are our Shepherd.

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.**

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 *"Lift High the Cross"*
Refrain: **Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.
Refrain

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

SONG *"One Bread, One Body"*
Refrain: **One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one
Lord.**

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

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 *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*

Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

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

C. We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

This Week Please Pray For:

Bob Pieper, cancer, son of Ardis & Lyle Pieper

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

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

John Hessler, healing, brother of church member

Steve Gossett, healing after surgery, brother of Joan Kileen

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, recovery from knee replacement surgery

Chris Kelly, recovery from hip replacement surgery

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

Danny Ojurich, recovering from 3rd shoulder surgery, relative of Millie Mlinarevich

Friends and family grieving the death of Howie Register.