

Worship  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024  
9:45am



**Good Shepherd**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
651-451-6225  
[www.goodshepherdigh.com](http://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 *"Gather Us In"*

**Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away – here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

#### 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. God of love, we lift our hearts in thanksgiving and joyful praise for the gift of your love. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, guide us to not only lift up our hearts in worship, but upon leaving this time and space, offer our hearts in love to our neighbor. Amen.**

(Those who are able, please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

BIBLE READING     I John 4:7-12

Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. The person who doesn't love does not know God, because God is love. This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him. This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins.

Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. If we love each other, God remains in us and his love is made perfect in us.

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 Leesa Soderlind

SONG             *"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.**

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son; as members of each body joined, in him we are made one.**

**Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease. Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.**

**Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.**

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 work, 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            *"You are My King"*

**I'm forgiven, because you were forsaken. I'm accepted, you were condemned.  
I'm alive and well, your Spirit is within me, because you died and rose again.**

*Chorus:*        **Amazing love, how can it be that you, my King, should die for me?  
Amazing love, I know it's true and it's my joy to honor you.  
In all I do, I honor you.**

**I'm forgiven, because you were forsaken. I'm accepted, you were condemned.  
I'm alive and well, your Spirit is within me, because you died and rose again. *Chorus*  
You are my King, you are my King. Jesus, you are my King. You are my King. *Chorus*  
In all I do, I honor you. In all I do, let me honor you.**

SONG            *"Make Us One"*

**Make us one, make us one. Make us one, make us one. For the sake of your name,  
make us one.**

**Make us love, make us love. Make us love so the world will know we love you.  
Make us love, make us love. For the sake of your name make us love.**

**Make us pure, make us pure. Make us pure and righteous, make us holy. Make us  
pure, make us pure. For the sake of your name make us pure.**

**And make us one, make us one. Make us one, undivided body. Make us one, make us  
one. For the sake of your name make us one. For the sake of your name till you  
come. For the sake of your name make us one.**

#### 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            *"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"*

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets  
and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age, till earth and sky  
and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

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:**

Travis Rieck, healing after surgery

Bob Pieper, cancer, son of Ardis & Lyle Pieper

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

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

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

Danny Djurich, recovering from 3<sup>rd</sup> shoulder surgery, relative of Millie Mlinarevich

Bill, healing, brother of a Good Shepherd member

Caroline Besky, recovering at home after hospitalization

Joyce Vogt, upcoming surgery

Ed Bratvold, upcoming knee replacement

Larry Calmer, friend of Karen Pipho

Judy Fritz grieving the death of her sister, Margie