

Worship
Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026
9:00am



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

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism*

L. Christ is risen!

Christ is alive among us!

**C. We gather as people set free –
free from fear, free from sin, free for love.**

L. Scripture tells us:

“For freedom Christ has set us free.”

**C. So we come not as slaves to the past,
but as children of promise.**

L. Come, people of God –

walk in the Spirit,

live in grace,

and celebrate the new creation God is making among us.

C. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

SONG *“Children of the Heavenly Father”*

**Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in
heaven such a refuge e'er was giv'n.**

**God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish. From all evil
things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever; unto them his grace
he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

L. Let us pray together,

**C. God of grace, in Christ you make us your children and gather us into one family.
Break down the walls that divide us and teach us to live together in your love;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**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.**

BIBLE READING Galatians 3:23-29

Before faith came, we were guarded under the Law, locked up until faith that was coming would be revealed, so that the Law became our custodian until Christ so that we might be made righteous by faith.

But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian.

You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Now if you belong to Christ, then indeed you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to the promise.

L. For freedom Christ has set us free.

C. **Thanks be to God for the gift of grace.**

MESSAGE Pastor Leesa Soderlind

SONG *"In Christ Called to Baptize"*

In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace and gather a people from each land and race. In deep, flowing waters, we share in Christ's death, then, rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.

In Christ called to banquet, one table we share, a haven of welcome, a circle of care. Although we are many, we share in one bread. One cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our head.

In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach the life-giving gospel; God's love we will teach. By grace may our living give proof to our praise in costly compassion reflecting Christ's ways.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God,
who calls us beloved children
and makes us heirs of the promise.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
who gave himself in love
to set us free from sin and death
and who is risen, making all things new.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who lives within us
and grows in us the fruit of love, joy, and peace.**

**We believe the church is a community of freedom,
where there is no longer division,
but all are one in Christ Jesus.**

**We trust that through the Spirit,
God is creating something new in us and in the world.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *The following is sung before and after all petitions:*
**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

OFFERING RECEIVED

All who are able, please stand

OFFERING SONG

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are
an offering. We are an offering.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 *"In Christ There Is No East or West"*

**In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one community of
love throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere their high communion find; his service is the
golden cord close binding humankind.**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be. All children of the living
God are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north; all Christly
souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.**

SONG *"We All Are One in Mission"*

**We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the
Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above to plan and work
together that all may know Christ's love.**

**We all are called for service, to witness in God's name. Our ministries are different;
our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace, so
ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.**

**Now let us be united, and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's
redeeming Word. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts
united by Christ, the Lord of all.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

BLESSING

L. The Creator of all things,
the Risen Christ,
and the Spirit of life
make you a new creation this day and always.

C. Amen.

SONG *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav’ling through this wilderness.

DISMISSAL

L. Go in the power of the risen Christ.
L. Bearing the fruit of patience and gentleness in the world.

C. Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

This Week Please Pray For:

Friends and Family of Members

Harper, recovering from injuries, granddaughter of Judy Fritz

Joe Heinz, recovering from cancer surgery, brother of Fred Heinz & Rachael Nelson