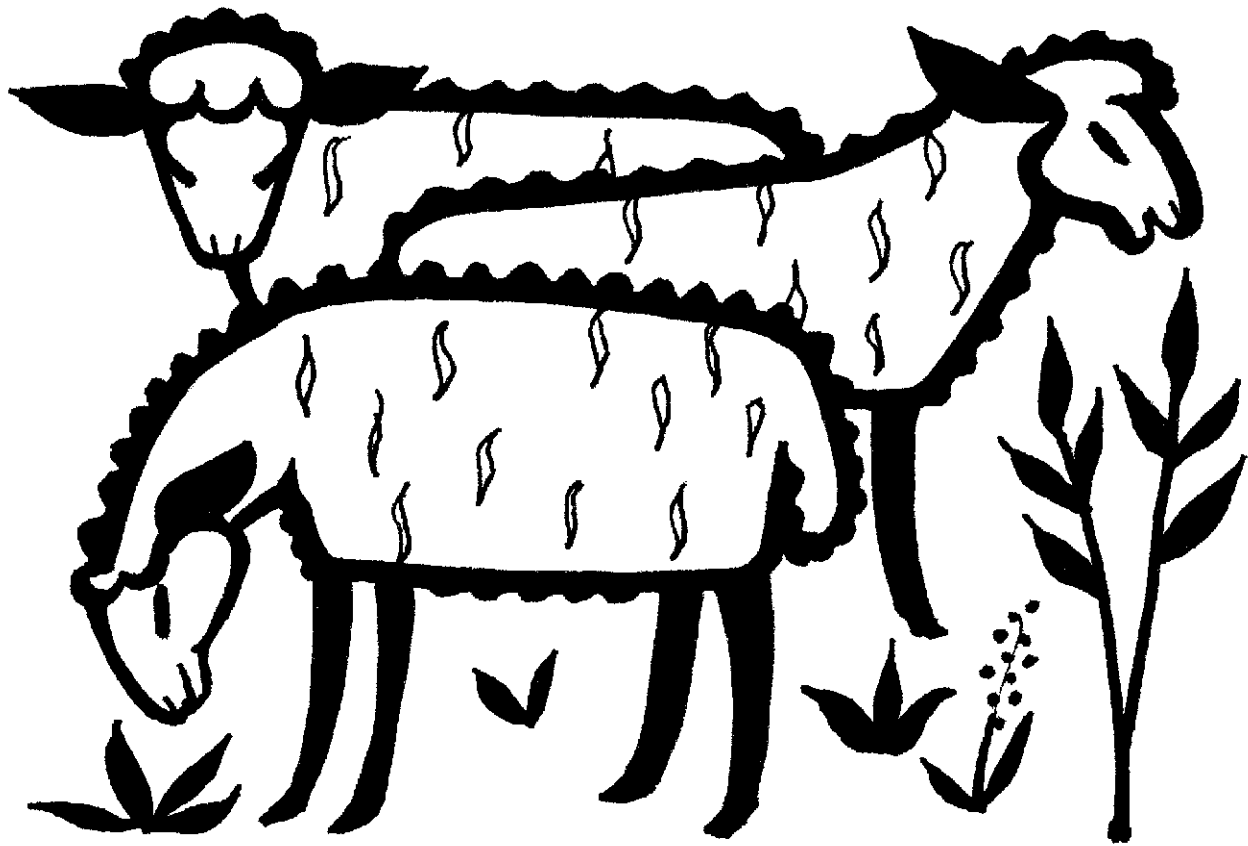


# 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 11, 2025

*NOW THE FEAST & CELEBRATION LITURGY*



United in Christ  
Lutheran Church

MORRISONVILLE, WI

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Call to Worship written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, *Hold Fast to What Is Good*. Used with permission.

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# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

## GATHERING

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### INVOCATION

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

P: In the name of ☩ the One  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: **Amen.**

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: **make us one as you are one.**

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: **make us one as you are one.**

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;  
waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: **make us one as you are one.**

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

Insert

## GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

## KYRIE – *Now the Feast & Celebration*

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: In the light of this day we have gathered;  
 C: **We are a community that is one, bringing our questions and our joy.**  
 P: In the song and silence we will listen –  
 C: **What is it that God would have us hear this day?**  
 P: In our praise and our prayers we will remember  
 C: **That God's glory shines around us and within.**  
 P: This is the day the Lord has made.  
 C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE – *Now the Feast & Celebration*

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray...

C: **Amen.**

## WORD

FIRST READING

Insert

PSALM

Insert

SECOND READING

Insert

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – *Now the Feast & Celebration*

Insert

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

Insert

*(Please be seated.)*

SERMON

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Insert

## APOSTLES CREED

P: Together with the whole body of Christ gathered around the world,  
let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed:

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need...

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: ...We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: **Amen.**

## PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*



# MEAL

## OFFERTORY – ACS 934

### Christ Is Living



*¡Cris - to vi - ve, fue - ra el llan - to, los la - men - tos y el pe - sar!*  
1 Christ is liv - ing! Gone with sor - row! Tears and ter - ror, be no more.  
2 For if Christ is not a - ris - en there is noth - ing to be - lieve.  
3 Death is swal - lowed up in vic - t'ry; sin has lost its poi - son sting.



*Ni la muer - te ni el se - pul - cro lo han po - di - do su - je - tar.*  
Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.  
Je - sus' prom - ise is ac - comp - lished: "Since I live, you too shall live."  
Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.



*No bus - quéis en - tre los muer - tos al que siem - pre ha de vi - vir.*  
Why then seek the liv - ing Sav - ior in the haunts of death and fear?  
Dust we are, to dust re - turn - ing, but in Christ we are re - stored.  
For the sure - ness of sal - va - tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"



*¡Cris - to vi - ve! es - tas nue - vas por do - quier de - jad o - ir.*  
Christ is ris - en! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.  
Doubt dis - pel - ling, claim the tri - umph: Je - sus is the liv - ing Lord!  
Christ is ris - en! We are liv - ing! Spread the word of grace a - broad.

Text: Nicolás Martínez, 1917–1972; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: CENTRAL, Pablo D. Sosa, 1933–2020; arr. Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

Spanish text © 1962 Blanca Staude de Martínez

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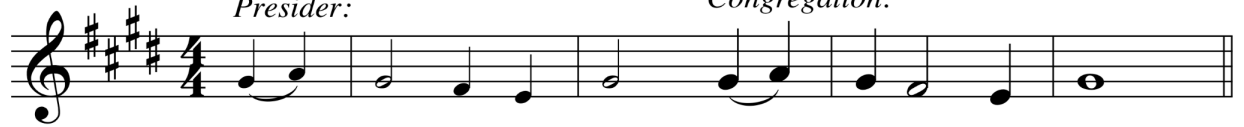
## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P:** Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with the gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

**C:** Amen.


GREAT THANKSGIVING (May be spoken or sung.)

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

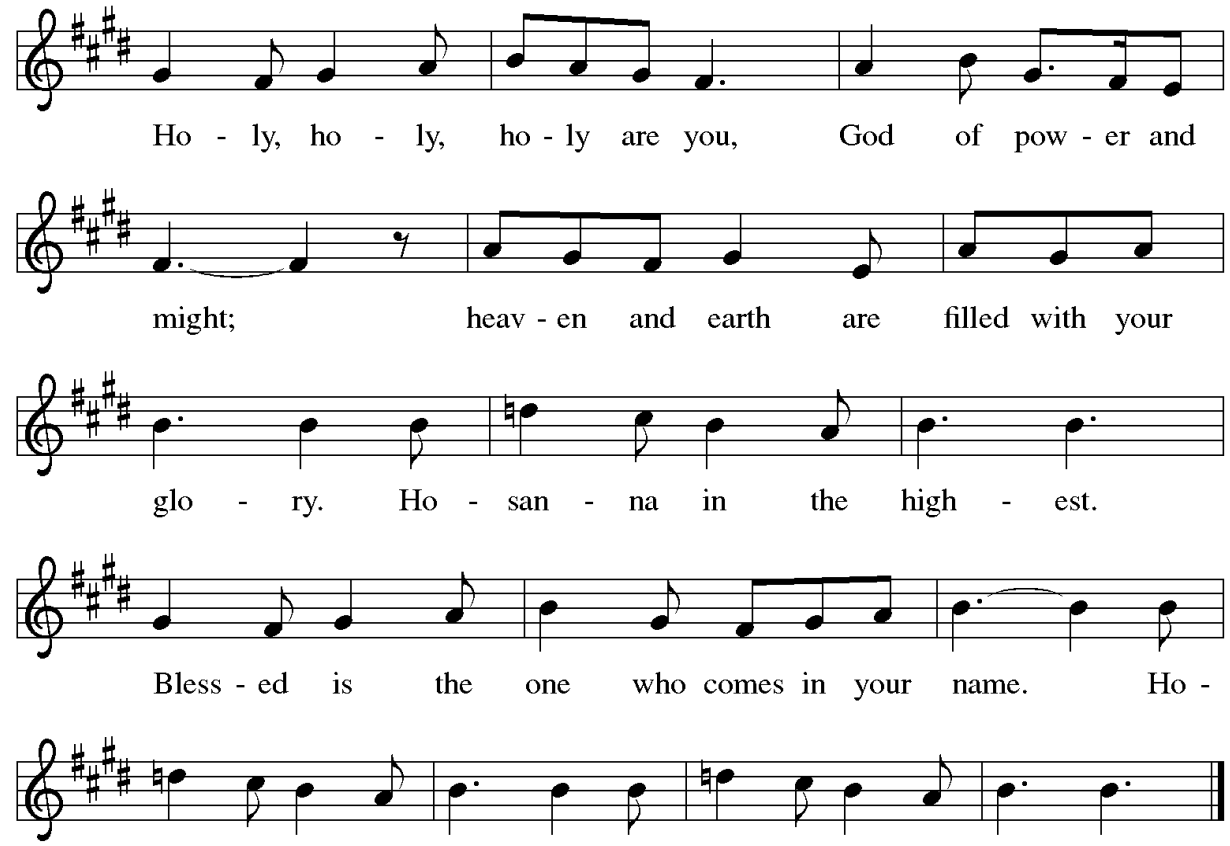


right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...  
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, we praise you....  
...through Christ your Word made flesh,  
in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

C: **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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion. The Presiding Pastor will provide verbal instructions for communion. If you are unable to come forward, we will bring communion to you. Gluten free bread is available. Children or those who wish not to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.*

## COMMUNION HYMN - *Now the Feast & Celebration*



1. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha-tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus-tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your  
wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: **Amen.**

# SENDING

## BLESSING

P: Now may the triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✠ Savior,  
and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

C: **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

Insert

## DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**



## OFFERING

Any offerings (financial gifts) may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the worship space anytime before or after the service. Your contributions to the congregation help us make a difference in our community by enabling us to share the Gospel and serve in areas of need. You may also make a donation online on our website or by scanning the QR code on the right.



## United in Christ Lutheran Church

*Sharing the Hope of Jesus in a Troubled World*

[www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org](http://www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org)

(608) 846-5902

4650 County Rd DM, Morrisonville, WI 53571

[worship@unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org](mailto:worship@unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org)

Rev. Jason Poole-Xiong, Pastor

A congregation of the



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

# 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 11, 2025

*The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

GATHERING HYMN – ELW 414

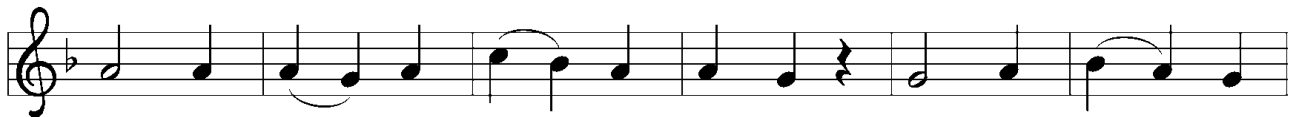
## Holy God, We Praise Your Name



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -  
3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred  
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,  
bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,  
name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,  
three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with  
and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to  
un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
sweet ac - cord: “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!”  
set of sun through the church the song goes on.  
bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900

Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

# WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 9:36-43

A reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>36</sup> Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 23

*(Please read the bold text responsively)*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**



A reading from the Book of Revelation.

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup>I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat,

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – *Now the Feast & Celebration*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup> At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 502, vs. 1-2, 4 & 6

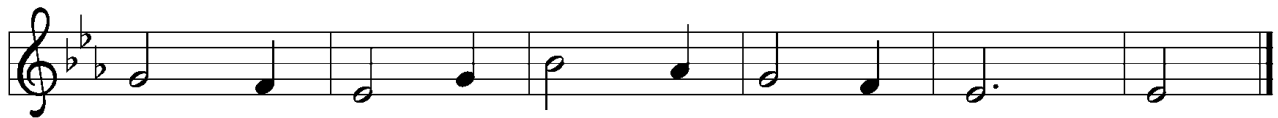
The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877  
Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

SENDING HYMN – ELW 631

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

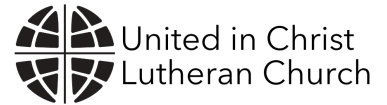


thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

# ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAY 11, 2025



## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by **Paul & Rona Anderson in loving memory of Paul's mother Juanita Cumpton and for all mothers in the world.**

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Music - Ivy McLaughlin  
Reader - Chandra Diring  
Communion Assistant - Chet Gabris  
Ushers - Norm Harris & Mark Harris  
Altar Guild - Donna Gilles  
Head Usher - Bob Harm

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Rev. Elizabeth Eaton**, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA  
**Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe**, Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA  
The **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America**  
For the **people of United in Christ Lutheran Church**

**John Kincaid** - brother-in-law of Chet Gabris - at St. Mary's Care Center  
**Betty Bader** - at The Legacy, DeForest  
**Bill Mitchell** - friend of the Anderson's - liver cancer  
**Clifford Netzer** - stem cell procedure  
**Heather Fjelstad-Bunce** - niece of Dennis Stephenson - has Leukemia  
**Dorothy Hasey** - at Columbus Health & Rehab  
**Joanne Quam** - continued rehabilitation at home  
**Geno Lainberger** - at Madison Health & Rehab Center  
**Wyatt McLaughlin** - Ivy McLaughlin's brother - recovering at home from an accident  
**Kathy Olsen** - sister-in-law of Dick & Ann Olsen - lung cancer  
**Monique Duerst** - Chandra Diring's mother - recovering from blood clots & infection.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our entire congregation is involved in the ministry of caring for one another. As Pastor Jason prepares to leave, we're looking to expand our **visitation and home communion** efforts. Would you be interested in spending time with our home-bound members or sharing Holy Communion with those unable to attend worship? During our pastoral transition, we'll bless our home communion kits at the end of worship, which anyone can use to serve our home-bound members. Please consider sharing your gifts with our members outside the church setting.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Monday, May 12 Pastor Jason Away (Through May 18)
- Tuesday, May 13
- Wednesday, May 14
- Thursday, May 15
- Friday, May 16 [Pastor Jason @ Synod Assembly]
- Saturday, May 17 [Pastor Jason @ Synod Assembly]
- Sunday, May 18 Worship - 8:30 a.m., 5th Sunday of Easter  
*Rev. Derek Rosensteil, Presiding*

# Beyond Sunday

AN INVITATION TO GO DEEPER -  
DWELLING IN THE WORD,  
DISCOVERING HOW IT CONNECTS  
TO OUR DAILY LIFE.

Though our gospel's setting says "it was winter" (John 10:22), our minds and bodies are likely caught up in the new life of Easter and spring. Perhaps that invites us to consider how we hear and interact with the Bible depending on the season. With all the rich creation imagery of Psalm 23, how do you envision and understand the pastures, streams, and valleys, particularly during spring? How would the role of a good shepherd change with the seasons in your landscape? Moreover, how would you view Easter differently if this were autumn, as in the southern hemisphere? When have weather events and climate trends in your location affected how you receive God's word?

*Texts for Next Sunday, May 18:*

*Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148  
Revelation 21:1-6, John 13:31-35*

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