

Faith Lutheran Church

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10:00am Worship Service • Sunday, April 26, 2026 • Fourth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* ELW 857

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

PASTORAL WELCOME

Faith's Mission is to openly share the saving grace of Jesus' love.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Forever* Chris Tomlin

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King, His love endures forever, For He is good, He is above all things, His love endures forever, Sing praise, sing praise!

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm, His love endures forever, For the life that's been reborn, His love endures forever, Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise!

Refrain: Forever, God is faithful, Forever, God is strong. Forever, God is with us, Forever. Forever.

From the rising to the setting sun, His love endures forever, And by the grace of God, we will carry on, His love endures forever, Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise!

Sing Refrain

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

You may be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: EZEKIEL 34:7-15

A The First Lesson is from the 34th chapter of Ezekiel.

Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep, therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: Thus says the Lord God: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 23 *Shepherd Me, O God* ELW 780

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of 1st Peter.

It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

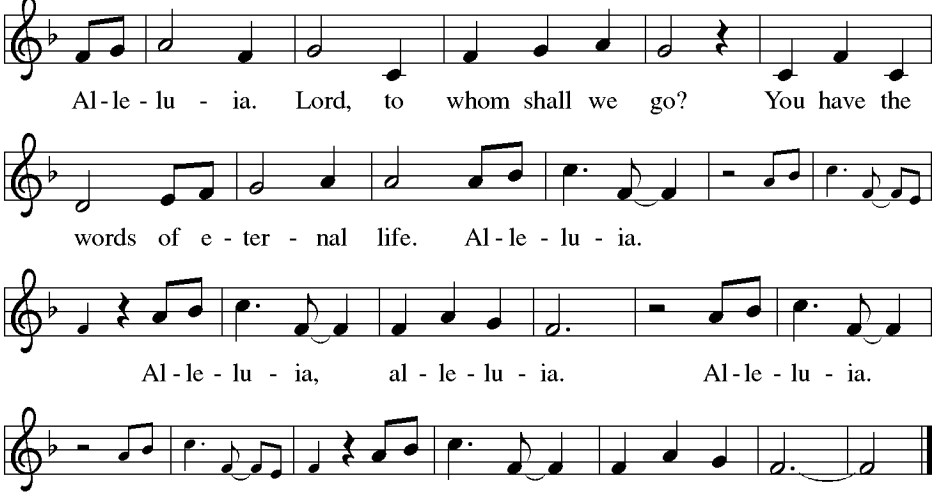
When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



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

GOSPEL
John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

Jesus said: "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

You may be seated

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day: *Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us* ELW 789

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

You may be seated.

FAITH MISSION MOMENT

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

| | | |
|---|---------------|----------------------------|
| Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community... | Merciful God, | receive our prayer. |
| Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death... | Merciful God, | receive our prayer. |
| Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth... | Merciful God, | receive our prayer. |
| Gentle Shepherd, draw near to those who are ill or in pain... | Merciful God, | receive our prayer. |
| Eternal One, we give thanks for all who share in the joy of your resurrection... | | |
| Merciful God, | | receive our prayer. |

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING *Please stand as you are able.*

Be Not Afraid, ELW 388 (sing 3xs)

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

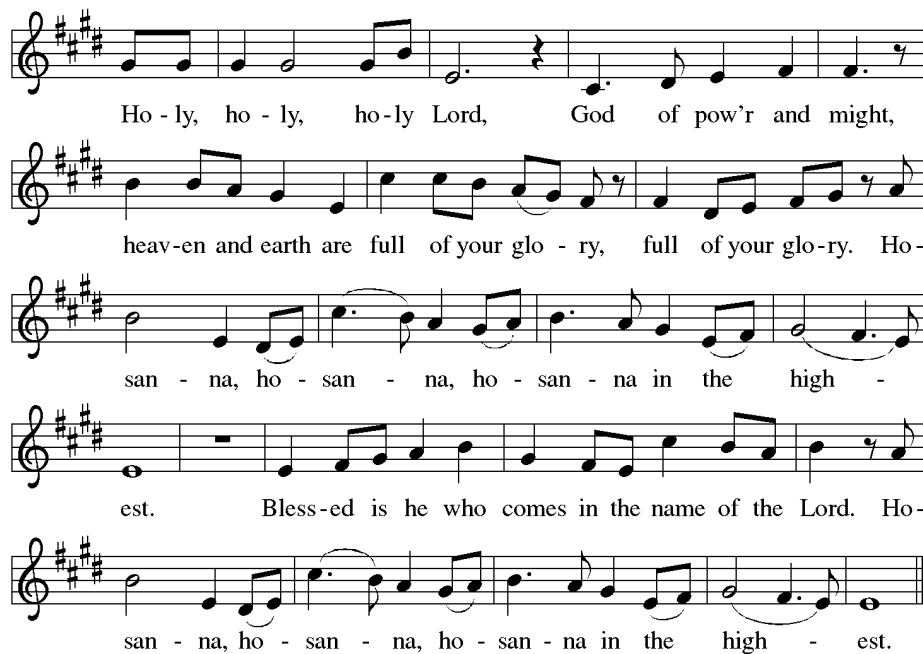
C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

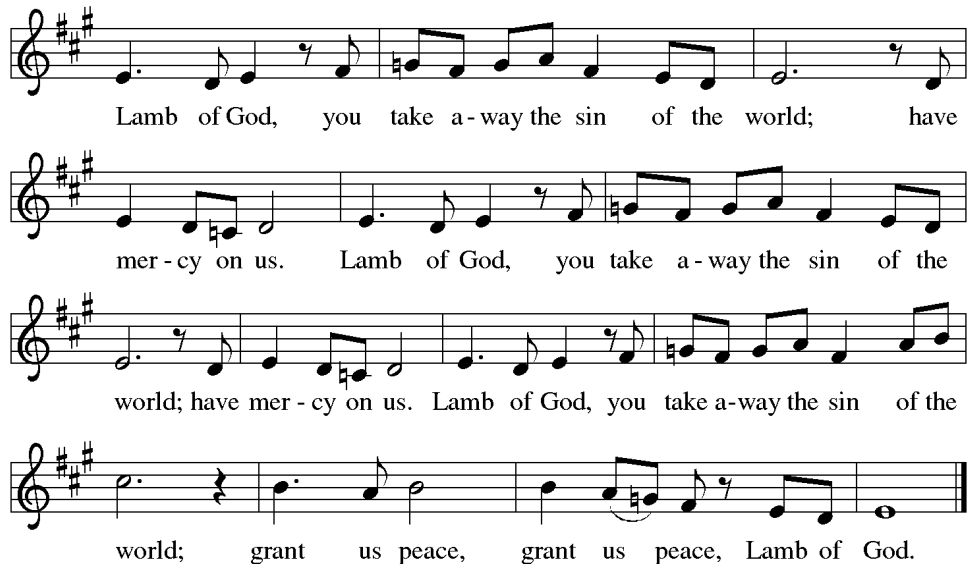
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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**

You may be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the
nations. In the name of Jesus,

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit,
our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sending Song: *The King Of Love My Shepherd Is* ELW 502

DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

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

POSTLUDE