



He tends his flock
like a shepherd

(Is. 40:11)



LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Church of the Lutheran Confession

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April 21, 2024

Easter 4

Welcome to our visitors! We appreciate your joining our worship family this morning, and we invite you to sign our guest book. If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor at 414-427-9337.

Choir...8:00 a.m. Sunday family worship...9:00 a.m.
Sunday school and Bible class...10:15 a.m.

Today's Worship

"We are his people, the sheep of his pasture" (Ps. 100:3).

Greeting and prayer:

Invocation:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.



P: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!
C: And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!

Hymn 816: *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

Confession and Absolution:

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not followed in the ways You have set forth for us. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace, bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins for Jesus' sake. As a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Prayer:

P: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

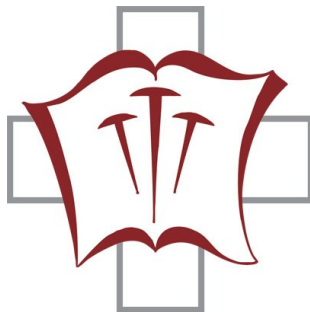
First lesson:

Acts 4:23-33...No matter how great the opposition and intense the persecution, the Lord's saving will is accomplished.

When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, ““Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’—for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.



I WILL PRAISE YOU

Antiphon

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-
joice and be glad! This is the day the
Lord has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Psalm Tone

I will praise You, for You have answered me,
and have become my salvation.

I will praise You, for You have answered me,*
And have become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.*
This was the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Antiphon

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!*
We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.

God is the LORD, and He has given us light;*
Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will praise You;*
You are my God, I will exalt You.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon

Epistle lesson:

1 John 3:1-2...Covered with Jesus' righteousness, we can look forward to a bright, eternal future.

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

The Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 537: *Beautiful Savior*

Sermon: John 10:11-18

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, and one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

SOMEWHERE SAFE WITH SOMEBODY GOOD

I. Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

II. We are safe with Him.




C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -


new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me


not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly


Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of


Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Choir: *I Am His and He Is Mine*

*Loved with everlasting love; led by grace that love to know.
Gracious Spirit from above, Thou hast taught me it is so.
O this full and perfect peace! O this transport all divine!
In a love which cannot cease, I am His, and He is mine.*

*Heav'n above is softer blue, earth around is sweeter green.
Something lives in ev'ry hue Christless eyes have never seen.
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow; flow'rs with deeper beauties shine,
Since I know, as now I know, I am His, and He is mine.*

*His forever, only His. Who the Lord and me shall part?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss Christ can fill the loving heart!
Heav'n and earth may fade and flee, firstborn light in gloom decline,
But while God and I shall be, I am His, and He is mine.*

Offering

Hymn 692:1: *Praise to You and Adoration*

*Praise to You and adoration,
Blessed Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation,
Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may
From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding
Follow where Your steps are leading.*



Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Hymn 710: *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

Closing prayer:

P: Holy Spirit, thank You for enlightening our hearts and increasing our joy this morning with Your Word of truth. Help us going forward to put our full trust in Christ Jesus for forgiveness, salvation, and daily direction for our lives. In His name.

C: Amen.

Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing hymn: *Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep*



1 Je - sus, shep-herd of the sheep, Who Your Fa-ther's flock does keep,
2 In Your prom-ise firm we stand; None can take us from Your hand.
3 By Your blood our souls were bought; By Your life sal - va - tion wrought;
4 Fa - ther, draw us to Your Son; We with joy will fol - low on
5 We, in robes of glo - ry dressed, Join th'as - sem-bly of the blest,



Safe we wake and safe we sleep, Guard-ed still by You.
Speak! We hear! At Your com-mand, We will fol - low You.
By Your light our feet are taught, Lord, to fol - low You.
Till the work of grace is done, There to live with You.
Gath - ered to e - ter - nal rest In the fold with You.



Announcements

Loving care for one another

There is no better way to live our love for the Lord than to care for one another as fellow members of Jesus' flock. The Wednesday Bible class will conclude our study of James this week with the Lord's encouragement to support and encourage one another in our faith. You're welcome to join us either in person or via Zoom: Meeting ID: 880 2582 3220 Passcode: 414237.

Work day next Saturday

The spring work day is set for Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. The more hands, the better! There is plenty to do inside and out. If you want to get a head start, the project list is posted on the cupboard doors in the hall.

Photo shoot

Photos will be taken for the church membership board on Sunday, May 5. Anyone is welcome to have their photo updated, but especially those whose photo is not on the board are asked to plan for this.

You're invited...

The McKenney family is thankful for the Christian love and prayers of Messiah's congregation over the years. Rebecca McKenney, daughter of Kim and the late Pastor Kevin McKenney, and Scott McLaurin, new distance member of Messiah, would like to invite the congregation to their wedding ceremony at the church on Saturday, May 4, at 3:30 pm. A reception meal will follow in the fellowship hall. The couple kindly requests that those planning to stay for the reception send an email to mckenneyRL@gmail.com so the family will have an accurate guest count for seating and food.

CLC call news...

Seminary graduate Paul Agenten has accepted the calls from St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran of Iron River, MI and Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI. *Ms. Ann Sprengeler* has accepted the limited call from Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE to teach the lower grades from August through December 2024. *Pastor David Ude*, Living Hope Lutheran,

Looking Ahead...

- ♣**Today:**
11:00 A.M.: Elders meeting.
- ♣**Tuesday:**
11:00 A.M.: New Perspective, Franklin, service.
- ♣**Wednesday:**
10:00 A.M.: Villa of Greenfield service.
6:30 P.M.: Bible class.
- ♣**Thursday:**
7:00 A.M.: Adult class.
- ♣**Saturday:**
9:00 A.M.: Spring work day.
9:00 A.M.: Adult class.
- ♣**April 30th:**
7:00 P.M.: Sunday school teachers.
- ♣**May 2nd:**
6:00 P.M.: Bd. of Property.
- ♣**May 4th:**
3:30 P.M.: McKenney/McLaurin wedding.
- ♣**May 5th:**
11:00 A.M.: Voters meeting.

Appleton, WI, has been called to Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN. *Teacher Mathew Kranz*, Immanuel Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, has been called to Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN. *Teacher Neil Bernthal*, Immanuel Lutheran School, Winter Haven FL, has been called to Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. *Teacher Katie Naumann* of Immanuel Lutheran School in Winter Haven, FL has returned the call to teach at Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI. *Blair Sydow* has received a one-year call to teach the upper grades at Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran School in West Columbia, SC. Blair is a member of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran.

Council notes

Finances: Offerings for March were \$187 over budgeted needs, and the balance of available funds decreased by \$977, due partially to a large insurance premium paid. Offerings for the fiscal year are \$27,730 below budgeted needs, and the balance of available funds has decreased by \$9,680. It is very encouraging to note that in recent weeks, offerings for the most part have been keeping pace with the budget. May the Lord continue to graciously supply all we need to carry out his work.

Property upkeep: The mowing list is posted on the cupboard doors. Your weekly help is appreciated in keeping our property neat and attractive.

Bible Readings:

4/21	2 Samuel 4-6; Luke 18:18-43
4/22	2 Samuel 7-9; Luke 19:1-28
4/23	2 Samuel 10-12; Luke 19:29-48
4/24	2 Samuel 13-14; Luke 20:1-26
4/25	2 Samuel 15-16; Luke 20:27-47
4/26	2 Samuel 17-18; Luke 21:1-19
4/27	2 Samuel 19-20; Luke 21:20-38



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

April Ushers

Kyle Ackerman
Ethan Bailey
Daniel Nelson-Leete

April Slideshow
Eric Williams

Cleaning Team 4/26-5/3

T/M Blue
C. Blue
N. Blue
A/J Brown
F/S Goodrie

Fruits of Faith

	<i>Last Week:</i>	<i>To Date:</i>
Budgetary Offerings*:	\$13,354.60	\$333,339.62
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,380.21	\$358,328.81
Over (Under) Budget:	\$4,974.39	(\$24,989.19)
Sunday School:	\$1.33	\$115.77
Kinship**:	\$150.00	\$1,947.56
MDF:	\$30.00	\$1,805.00

*Includes E-giving 4/1-4/15: \$4,990.25

**Offerings in memory of David Lau and Betty Nolting

Attendance Last Sunday: 121

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