



Welcome
We are thankful you have joined us today!

The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026 - Setting One

Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is | 709

Although we “were straying like sheep,” the Lord Jesus Christ has willingly suffered and died for us, bearing our sins “in his body on the tree” (1 Peter 2:24–25). We are healed by His wounds (1 Peter 2:24), and in His resurrection He gathers us to Himself as our Good Shepherd, by whose righteousness we “have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Now through other shepherds whom He calls and sends in His name, He guards and keeps us in the green pastures of His Church, leading us beside the quiet waters of our Baptism and spreading the feast of His table before us. Since He has called us by the Gospel to be His own dear sheep, we also “hear his voice” and “know his voice” (John 10:3–4) in the faithful preaching of His Gospel, and we follow Him by faith. When we receive His Gospel, we have the abundant life and common unity of the entire flock under one Good Shepherd, in “the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship” and in “the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42).

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Psalm

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

**I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**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.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

☩ In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

☩ **Amen.** [Matt 28:19b; 18-20]

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** [1 John 1:8-9]

Quiet time for self-examination and confession

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

[Psalm 23:1-6]

Lord, Have Mercy (Chanted)

[Mark 10:47, Setting 1]

Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.
Ⓐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.
Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.
Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. Ⓒ A - men

Hymn of Praise-This Is The Feast

[Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9]

Sung to music on page 155.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. **Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the Hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. **Amen Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. **Alleluia.
Refrain**

Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray...[silence for individual prayer] 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The First Reading is from Acts:

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. [Acts 2:42-47]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Time for reflection.

The Second Reading is from First Peter:

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

[1Peter 2:19-25]

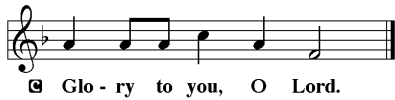
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse. [John 6:68]

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.



The Holy Gospel according to St. John:



Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and 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. [John 10:1-10]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please sit.

Children's Message

The children are invited forward for a message led by Pastor Fitch.

Hymn I Am Jesus' Little Lamb | 740

Sermon

Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the Nicene Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord; Lord, have mercy.

Please be seated.

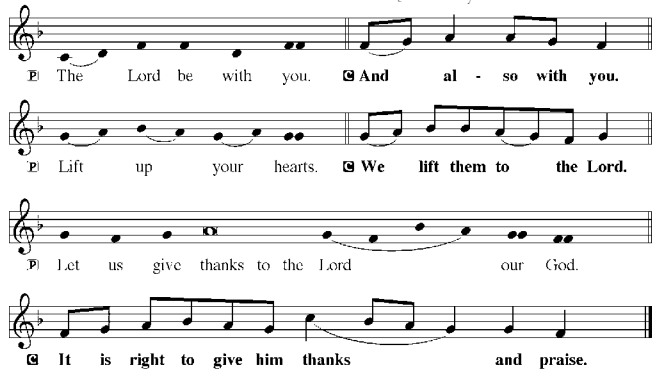
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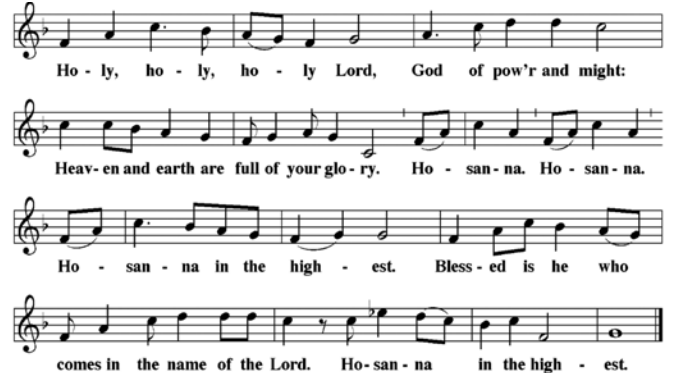
Offertory Hymn In Thee Is Gladness | 818

Sacrament of the Altar [2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

The Holy, Holy, Holy [Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as he bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

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

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. [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

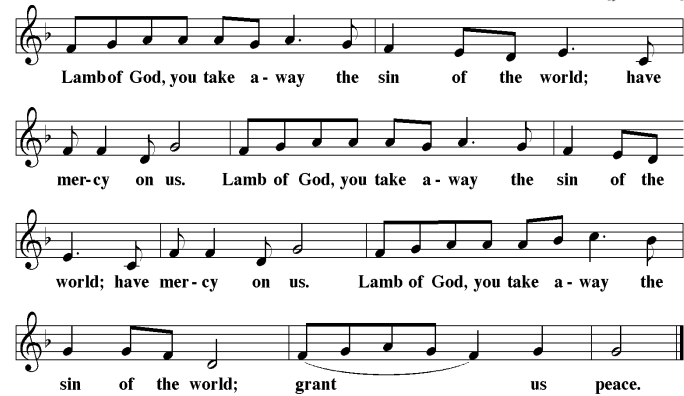
In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. *(chanted)*



Lamb of God

[John 1:29]



Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

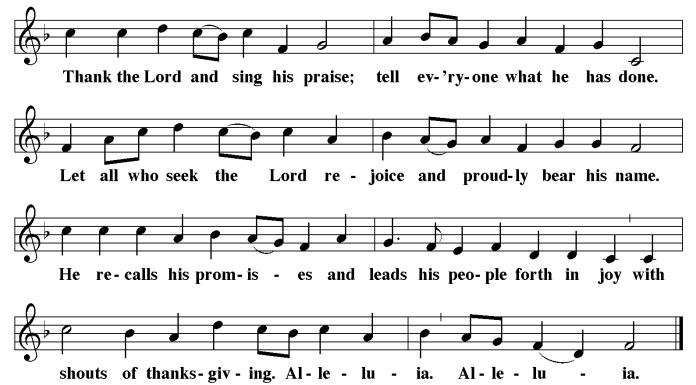
Hymns

Choir Chimes

- He's Risen! He's Risen! | **480**
- I Leave All Things to God | **719**
- O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace | **693**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song



Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you + peace. **Amen.** [Numbers 6:24-26]

Hymn

Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go | **920**

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Postlude

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Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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