



“I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.”

~ John 10: 9

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 26, 2026**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshipping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an * and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



*You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Guest information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*A **playroom** is available downstairs for children who need a break from the worship service. This room is by the elevator on the lower level. An adult must remain with the child. Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.*

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***GREETING**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you people.

We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture (Psalm 100:1, 3b)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps 118:24)

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving, give thanks and bless God's holy name!
(Psalm 100:4)

***GATHERING HYMN *Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing* (ELW 385)**



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Creating God, blessed are you. 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 that nourish us.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Redeeming God, Jesus Christ, blessed are you. You are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We praise you for joining us in sorrow and joy.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Sustaining God, Holy Spirit, blessed are you. You are the breath of life.

Who calls us, gathers us, and declares us holy.

We ask you to fill us with the breath of peace and break down barriers that divide us.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

People of God, in our baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are joined to Christ and born anew, called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Give us new life, shaped by your grace and emboldened to witness to your resurrection.

Living God, we give you thanks, for in these waters, you promise welcome, forgiveness, and life everlasting. In these waters, you claim us as your beloved children.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen .


Let us sing for joy at God's victory over death!

*THIS IS THE FEAST


Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be




peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of




vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and




join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **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. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:7-15

God will shepherd Israel

⁷ Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ⁸ 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, ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sheep are an image of vulnerability, finding safety in the care of a good shepherd and the support of the community. What does it look like for you to find and feel care and support in God's love for you as well as in your faith community?

Silence for reflection

SPECIAL MUSIC

Unreserved Love by Juwita Suwito (歡：盧水享詞：盧永)

I've always been told love won't survive.

Promises will turn into lies.

The world just thinks love comes and passes through.

It never lasts pure and true.

But I still believe love can last.

It's your unfailing love that gives me rest.

You were there when I needed you the most.

I will never walk all alone.

On the Cross you died and took away my curse.

Love so wondrous no one ever could deserve.

Your bleeding hands proved your love unreserved.

You are my greatest joy and treasure on the earth.

Make my life a fragrant offering I pray.

Help me Lord to serve you truly every day.

Through tears and joy I'll give you all my praise.

Let the whole world know your love and Grace.

常听说世界爱没长久. 哪里会有爱无尽头. 尘俗的爱只在乎曾拥有. 一刻灿烂便要走. 而我却确信爱是恒久. 碰到了你已无别求. 无从解释不可说明的爱. 千秋过后仍长久不朽. 谁人受痛苦被悬挂在木头. 至高的爱不见于刺穿的手. 看血在流反应爱没保留. 持续的爱到万死不休. 惟求奉上生命全归主所有. 要将一切尽救于我主的手. 我已决定今生再没所求. 惟忘得主称赞已足够.

SECOND READING: Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

If you could cultivate any one faith practice in your congregation, what would it be?

Silence for reflection

***GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL (ELW 172)**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

***GOSPEL READING: John 10:1-10**

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“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. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

How do you figure out whom to believe, whom to follow?

Silence for reflection

***GOSPEL RESPONSE (ELW 164)**

*The cantor will sing the leader part,
the congregation is invited to join in the "all" parts and all group parts.*

Leader




Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

All




Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Leader All




To God be glo-ry for-ev - er! To God be glo-ry for-ev - er!

Leader Leader



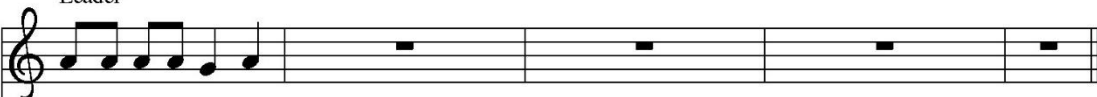
Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1 Group 1, 2




Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2, 3



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY *My Shepard, You Supply My Need* (ELW 782)**

(Blue prayer cards are collected)



1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.
one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.
oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;
Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.
no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

***NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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.

**Or, "who proceeds from the father." The phrase "and the son" is a later addition to the creed.*

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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 for reflection*

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured, especially Geneva, Cherry, Henry, Harry, Sally, Debi, Karen, Nan, Beverly, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember in our hearts. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listening God, we carry in our hearts joys and concerns known only to you. We offer the prayer we bring into this space on this day (*blue prayer cards are read*) and all the prayers we do not yet have the words to speak. Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love. 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**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcome to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

You are invited to share a gift to support the ministries of this congregation during the following song. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Prayer requests, connection cards, and communion records are also collected at this time.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Have No Fear, Little Flock* (ELW 764) *Rise on verse 4



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. "You, Lord God, are good indeed, your steadfast love is everlasting, your faithfulness endures from age to age," (Psalm 100:5, adapt.). Day by day you shower us with blessings and raise us to new life in Christ. Give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the church of all times and places and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join the unending hymn:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



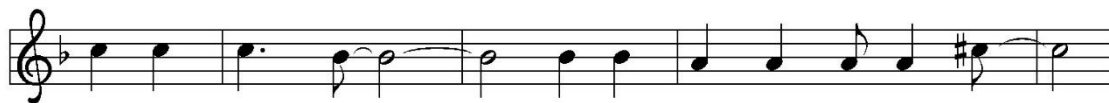
Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

God, you are indeed holy and wholeness. You give us the gift of faith, surrounding us with such a great cloud of witnesses who accompany us on our baptismal journey, strengthening and nourishing us in word and sacrament.

You come into the space of the locked room and fearful hearts, offering a word of peace and grace. We learn from Thomas and all the disciples to hear your Word. **Amen.**

You meet the disciples along the road, making yourself known in the breaking of the bread. We learn from them to share together in the Lord's Supper. **Amen.**

You are the Good Shepherd who calls us by name and gathers us together. We learn to live among your faithful people in your care. **Amen.**

You emboldened Stephen to care for those in need, even at the expense of his own safety. We learn from Stephen to serve all people following in the example of Christ, striving for justice and peace in all the earth. **Amen.**

You dwelt in Paul as the Spirit of truth as he brought your Gospel to new ears. We learn from Paul to proclaim your Good News in Christ through word and deed. **Amen.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people.

Blessed are you, Lord God, for coming near in this bread and wine.
Alleluia! Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Every one of us are invited to the table God has prepared before us just as we are. For here we are gathered with the cloud of witnesses of all times and places, here we are fed with the body and blood of Christ, here we know God's overflowing grace for us. Now come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. Taste and see that the Lord is good. This meal is for you. **Thanks be to God!**

Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God* (ELW 198)



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

COMMUNION HYMN *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* (ELW 484)



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - jice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

COMMUNION HYMN *Now We Join in Celebration* (ELW 462)



1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace.
Amen

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise* (ELW 207)**



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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.

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not be in want

God restores my soul and guides me along right pathways (Psalm 23:1, 3)

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May the Creator of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

Alleluia! Amen.

***SENDING SONG *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* (ELW 535)**

Refrain – sung twice each time



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. *End*
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

***DISMISSAL**

My cup is running over

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23:5b-6)

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118: 23-24)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go forth in joy to love and serve the risen Christ!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: Denise H.

Young Reader: Anna K.

Acolyte: Lydia M.

Offering: Ava N. and Ella N.

Notes for the day's texts:

Abundant life is promised to those who follow Jesus. But what is meant by abundant life? Some Christians, and much of contemporary American culture, interpret an abundant life to mean the “good life” of many fine things, an opulent lifestyle. Much of our economy and leisure time revolves around consumerism—shopping and buying things which we hope will make us happier and our lives better. But an abundance of things does not necessarily lead to an abundant life.

The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life in relational terms. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. This relationship between our Lord and us who are his followers is a relationship with one who knows us abundantly, who knows us by name, and who knows what we truly need to be fulfilled. The image of Jesus as our shepherd reminds us that he is with us at all times, and our relationship with him provides us all we need. Fed and nourished, we go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

Today's Music

Good Christian Friends Rejoice and Sing! Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt., Music: Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP) / Public Domain.

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need. Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23, Music: North American traditional. Public Domain.

Have No Fear, Little Flock. Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4, Music: Heinz Werner Zimmerman, b. 1930. CPH Publishing (SESAC).

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart. Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, Music: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996. International Liturgy Publications.

Now We Join in Celebration. Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990, Music: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662. Estate of Joel W. Lundeen c/o Augsburg Fortress. / Public Domain.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise. Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927. Augsburg Fortress.

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises. Text: South African; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984, Music: South African; arr. Freedom Is Coming. Walton Music / Public Domain.

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Next Week's Readings

Proverbs 4:10-18 *The way of wisdom is your life*

Psalm 119:25-32 *Set the way of faithfulness before me.*

Acts 7:55-60 *The martyrdom of Stephen*

John 14:1-14 *Christ the way, truth, and life*