



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word
4th Sunday of Easter

Order of Worship

April 21, 2024

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of + Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the faithful community living out Christ's mercy and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen**

Opening Hymn

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789

Greeting

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

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

Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

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 mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father: we worship you and we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One; you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. O Lord Christ, **good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

[Sit]

Youth Message

"The Shepherd's Voice..."

Choral Anthem

Like a Lamb Who Needs the Shepherd

arr. Fettke

The Luther Singers

First Lesson

Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Response: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 23

(Congregation speaks together.)

¹**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

²**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.**

³**He restoreth my soul;
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.**

⁴**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup runneth over.**

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Second Lesson

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Response: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

[Stand]

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**



John 10:11-18

Jesus said: ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ**

[Sit]

Sermon

"Whose Voice Do You Want to Hear?"

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day

Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 764

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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, and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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**

Prayers

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

[After each petition, the congregation responds with: **Hear our prayer.**]

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
(The congregation is asked to greet one another with the words of Christ: "Peace be with you.")

Offering

[Sit]

Offertory

[Stand]

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be filled with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. Risen One, **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. 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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

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.

Lord's Prayer

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

Lamb of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

[Sit]

Communion

*All are welcome at the Lord's table.
We're nourished together by the body and blood of our Lord.*

Communion Hymns

***By Your Hand You Feed Your People
Give Me Jesus
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less***

ELW 469
ELW 770
ELW 596

Post-Communion Canticle

[Stand]

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ry one what he has done.
Let ev'ry one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray together. Shepherding God, **you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen**

Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

Benediction

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. **Amen**

“The Peace of God”

Whatsoever things are honest,
 whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely,
 think on these things.
Whatsoever things are wholesome,
 whatsoever things are good,
If there be any virtue, be any praise,
 think on these things.
And the peace of God
 that passes all understanding
Shall keep your hearts,
 shall keep your minds
 on Jesus Christ.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

“Our worship is ended; our service and our witness continue!”

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Today's Heavenly Helpers

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| * Assisting Minister | 8:15 service | Carol Townsend |
| | 10:45 service | Ellen Hancock |
| * Church Pianist | | Sandy Hunter |
| * Choir Director | | Matt Newton |
| * Lector | 8:15 service | John Kilpatrick |
| | 10:45 service | Janice Weber |
| * Greeters | 10:45 service | Art & Wanda Dodge |
| * Ushers | 10:45 service | Frank & Suzie Quido |
| * Communion Assistant | 10:45 service | Janice Weber |
| * Counters | | Steven Freese & Eileen Ashley |

Last week's attendance, in person and streaming: 143

Prayer List

In addition to those named during worship today, a full prayer list is available in the narthex.

Calendar of Events for This Week

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Monday | - Knitting & Crochet ministry, 2 PM |
| Tuesday | - Men's Bible Study/Elijay, 9 AM, Mike's Restaurant - Ladies Bible Study, 12:15 - May <i>anchor</i> deadline, noon |
| Wednesday | - Food Pantry, 10 AM-12:30 PM - Choir rehearsal, 6 PM |
| Thursday | - Quilters, 10 AM - Co-ed Bible Study, 2 PM |
| Saturday | - Men's Breakfast, 9 AM |

Next Week's Scripture Readings Are...

Old Testament – Acts 8:26-40

Psalms – Psalm 22:25-31

Epistle – 1 John 4:7-21

Gospel – John 15:1-8

Mid-Week Altar Guild – Doris Goplin

Next Week's Worship Assistants Are...

8:15 **Lector** - Charlie Brown

10:45 **Lector** - Joan Blomquist

Greeters - Mike & Linda Hoover

Ushers - Janice Weber & Jack O'Donovan

Communion Asst - Joan Blomquist

Counters - Mary Leyden & Mike Hoover

Fellowship - Julie Deloney & Linda Hoover

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Outreach Team Meeting

The Outreach Team will meet this Wednesday, April 24th, at 4:30 PM in Founders Hall. They will be filling 135 snack bags for elderly shut-ins in Gilmer County. The Outreach Team fills 270 bags a year. Every other month 45 bags are taken to the Gilmer Senior Center and then delivered to Meals on Wheels clients (elderly shut-ins). The snack bags are filled with food and treats such as ramen noodles, granola bars, fruit cups, crackers, cookies and pudding. Everyone is welcome to come and help fill the bags!

Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Breakfast will be this Saturday, April 27th at 9 AM. All are invited! Come hungry!

Sunday School Update

The church has recently purchased the first three seasons of the movie series – *The Chosen*. Starting today, Sunday, April 21st, beginning with the first season, the 9:30 Adult Sunday class in Founders Hall will view an episode each week (they last about 45 minutes) with time for discussion following the showing. All are welcome to join with the class.

Spring Blessing of the Bikes

Our Spring *Blessing of the Bikes* will take place Saturday, May 4th. We'll have breakfast in Founders Hall starting at 9 AM followed by the blessing of the bikes in the parking lot.

Hope Lutheran Church

Ministering in His Mountains



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*"Making Christ known through reaching, welcoming,
praising, equipping and sending"*