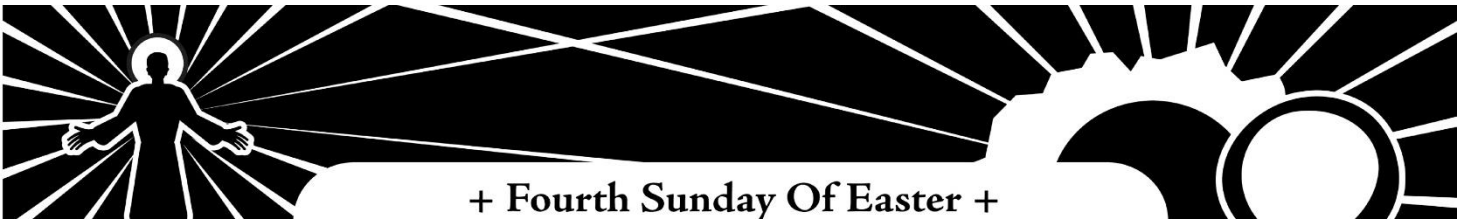


*I am the gate  
for the sheep*

JOHN 10:7





+ Fourth Sunday Of Easter +  
**April 29-30, 2023**

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**AS WE GATHER**

Today we hear about Jesus as both our Shepherd and the door for us, the sheep. Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who leads us to green pastures and still waters. And Jesus is the door, the gate by which we enter eternal life. As we follow Jesus, we know that He is always leading us toward righteousness—toward an eternity dwelling in the house of the Lord.

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**REGARDING COMMUNION**

*After his resurrection, the crucified but now-living Jesus appeared to his disciples and said to Thomas (who had his doubts that Jesus could really be alive again): ‘Touch my pierced hands and feel my wounded side; stop doubting and believe.’*

*We come to the Lord’s Table with our own doubts and worries, fears and sorrows, often lingering on uncertainty and the realities we think are beyond change. Our Lord points us to his unchanging yet life-changing reality—he has died, he has risen, he will come again. His Holy Supper is the place where we encounter his saving, risen, and healing Body and Blood ... as he said: ‘Those who feed on my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.’ **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

*If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer for Communion,  
please let Pastor or an Elder know.*

**Liturgical Color:**

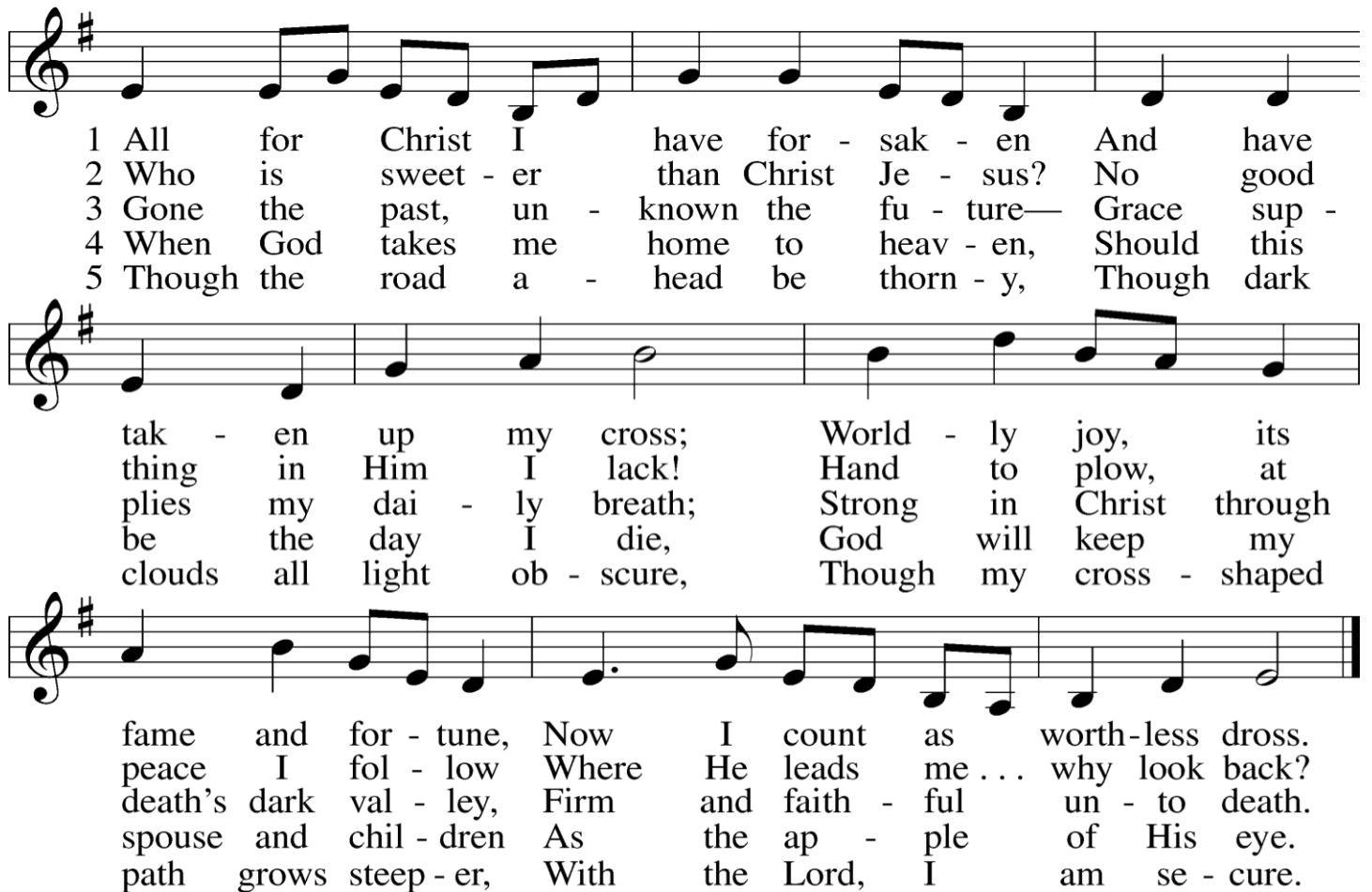
***White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church***

*Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to be with us today! We would especially like to follow-up with you beyond today, so please take a moment to leave your best contact information in the guest books at each entrance/exit. A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway, and there's a wonderful nursery downstairs at the end of the fellowship hall for you to make use of at any time. Do you have any questions about anything here? Don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers or elders, or talk to the pastor.*

## Prelude

*(Prayer request cards will be collected by an usher passing through the aisle.)*

## Invocation Hymn..... "All for Christ I Have Forsaken" #753



1 All for Christ I have for - sak - en And have  
 2 Who is sweet - er than Christ Je - sus? No good  
 3 Gone the past, un - known the fu - ture— Grace sup -  
 4 When God takes me home to heav - en, Should this  
 5 Though the road a - head be thorn - y, Though dark

tak - en up my cross; World - ly joy, its  
 thing in Him I lack! Hand to plow, at  
 plies my dai - ly breath; Strong in Christ through  
 be the day I die, God will keep my  
 clouds all light ob - scure, Though my cross - shaped

fame and for - tune, Now I count as worth-less dross.  
 peace I fol - low Where He leads me . . . why look back?  
 death's dark val - ley, Firm and faith - ful un - to death.  
 spouse and chil - dren As the ap - ple of His eye.  
 path grows steep - er, With the Lord, I am se - cure.

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*Please rise.*

# Divine Service, Setting One

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**Confession and Absolution.....page 151**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** 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.

**P** Almighty God . . .

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Entrance Hymn ..... "Praise to You and Adoration" #692



1 Praise to You and ad - o - ra - tion, Bless - ed Je - sus,  
2 Hold me ev - er in Your keep - ing; Com - fort me in



Son of God, Who, to serve Your own cre - a - tion, Came to  
pain and strife. In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing Be with



share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I nev - er may  
me through - out my life. Give me great - er love for You,



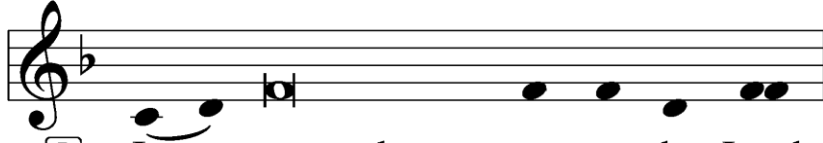
From Your fold or pas - tures stray, But with zeal and  
And my faith and hope re - new In Your birth, Your



joy ex - ceed - ing Fol - low where Your steps are lead - ing.  
life, and pas - sion, In Your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

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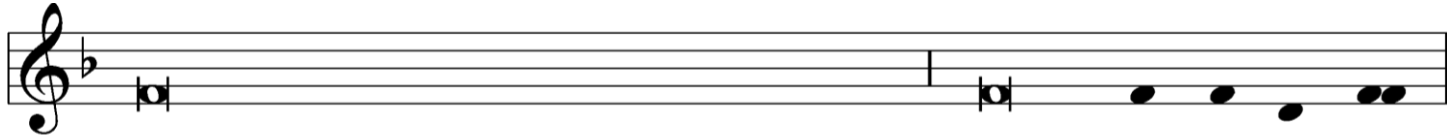
**Kyrie**.....*pages 152-153*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



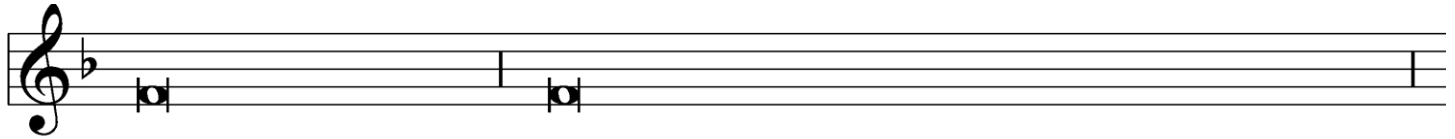
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



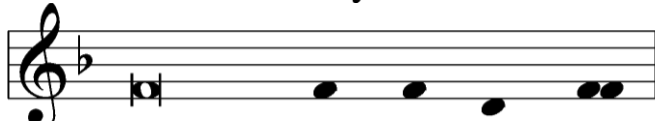
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



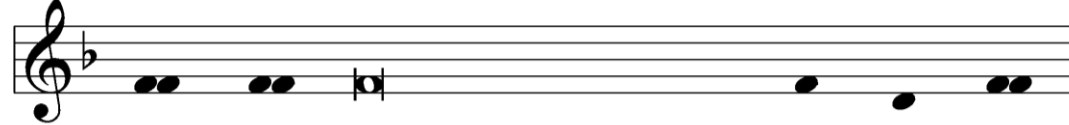
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

**This is the Feast** .....page 155

*Refrain*



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day** ..... (*spoken in unison*)

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. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**First Reading** ..... **Acts 2:42-47**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and 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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual** ..... (*spoken in unison*)

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet. (*Matt. 28:7, Heb. 2:7; Psalm 8:6*)

**Epistle Reading** ..... **1 Peter 2:19-25**

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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please rise.*

**Alleluia and Verse** .....page 156

**C** 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.

**Holy Gospel** .....**John 10:1-10**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] “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.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

**Hymn of the Day** ..... *“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” #709*



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

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**Sermon**..... *“Devotion to the Shepherd”*

*Please rise.*

**Nicene Creed**..... *page 158*

**I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth**

and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.  
**P** . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Offering

*Please rise.*

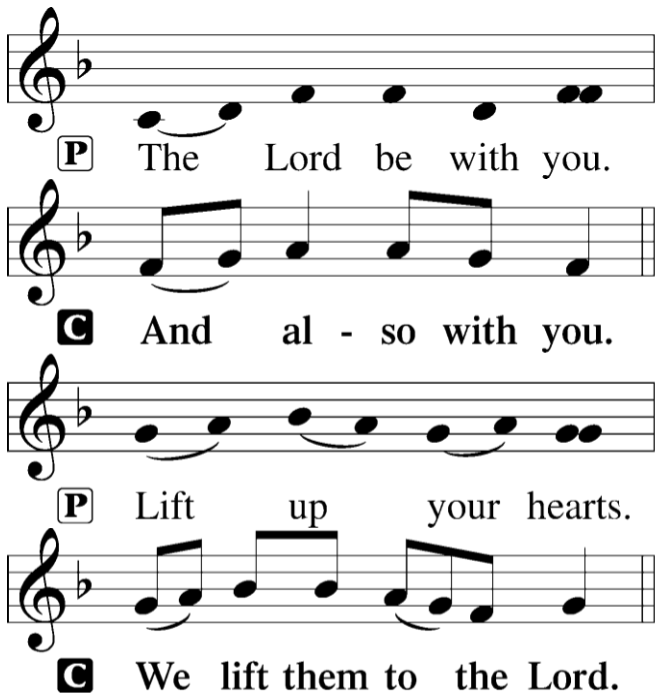
Offertory .....pages 159-160



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgy .....pages 160-163

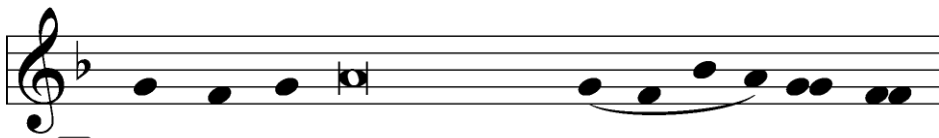


**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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



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



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

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and singing:

**Sanctus**.....*page 161*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**.....*page 161*

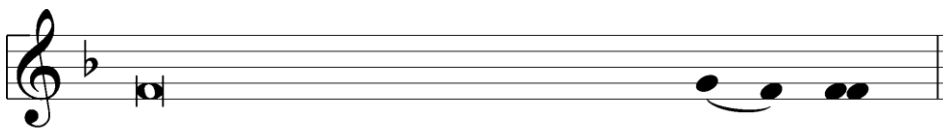
**P** Blessed are You . . . one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Lord's Prayer**

**Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini**.....*page 163*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



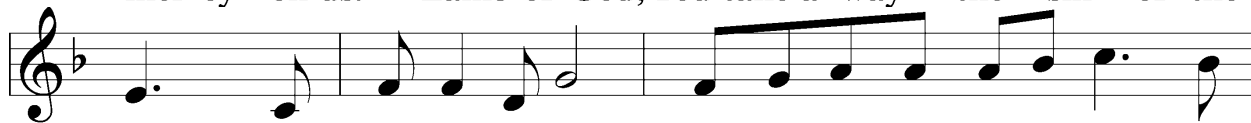
**C** A - men.



☐ 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

## Communion Distribution

*Sit (until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).*

## Instrumental

(Sunday Only)

## Communion Hymn ..... "Where Charity and Love Prevail" #845



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There  
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His  
 3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let



God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er  
 char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and  
 we our faults con - fess, And let us love each  
 all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.  
 mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.  
 oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.  
 that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
 Dwells Christ, His only Son;  
 As members of His body joined  
 We are in Him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
 That names the Savior's name;  
 His family embraces all  
 Whose Father is the same

Communion Hymn ..... "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" #685



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He  
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to  
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

*Please rise.*

**Post Communion Canticle** ..... “*Thank the Lord*” page 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



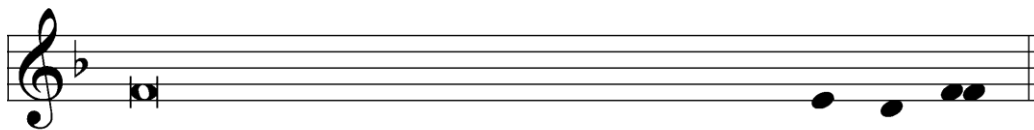
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

**Post Communion Collect**..... page 166

**P** Let us pray.

**C** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Benediction**..... page 166



**P** 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.



**C** A - men.

# Sending Hymn..... "Crown Him with Many Crowns" #525



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;  
2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,  
3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,  
4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.  
Whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won Which now His brow a - dorn:  
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won - drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And  
Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The  
No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But  
His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who  
Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown



hail Him as thy match - less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.  
down - ward bend their won - d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.  
Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

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## Dismissal ..... (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

## Postlude

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## Next week's readings:

**First: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60; Epistle: 1 Peter 2:2-10; Gospel: John 14:1-14**



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**Attendance Last Saturday: 25**  
**Total Offering: \$2,549.08**  
**Home Use: \$2,184.08**

**Attendance Last Sunday: 74**  
**Missions: \$0.00**  
**Benevolences: \$365.00**

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### **Serving us today:**

Elders.....Jack Easterwood (Sat), Alan Miller, Ken Pederson (Sun)  
Musicians ..... Cody Clemons (Sat), Jerrode Marsh (Sun)  
Altar Committee.....Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Mary Creswell  
Peggy Hoyer, Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith  
Flower Committee .....Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Penny Humphrey

### **This Week's Schedule**

Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
Tuesday	11:30 p.m.	Braille in Concordia
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Thursday	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion

### **Absence/Presence**

Pr. Joel left this past Friday and will be gone through May 15—backpacking the last leg of the Camino de Santiago in Spain (see his Pastor's Page in the May issue of *The Tidings*). We are thankful that Pr. Ricky will be filling in for the weekend services and Bible studies! If an emergency arises during this time, please contact your elder or the head elder (as listed at the back of the bulletin).

### **Altar Flowers**

The beautiful floral arrangements on the altar are in celebration of Larry and Judy Smith's 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary happening on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Much joy and ongoing goodness in Christ to them in their shared life together!

### **Prayers**

**Prayers of Rejoicing For Our Youth Catechumens** who will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday next month: Anna Florida, Morgan Holmberg, Aedan Pederson,

and Neil Tebbenkamp. May our Lord continue to strengthen them in their baptized faith and lead them forth in continued faith and service this Easter season!

**For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision**—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Charlie Becker, Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Karon Harding, Mary Johnson, Miriam Kurz, Wanda Kreisel, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

**For Military Members**—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter and Chance Hillsman.

**Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care**—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain, feel free to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

### Special Days for Members This Week

**Birthdays**—Gabrielle Fatka-1<sup>st</sup>, Sonia Smithers-1<sup>st</sup>, Mark Brown-2<sup>nd</sup>, Shana Neumann-2<sup>nd</sup>, Ted Tomblinson-4<sup>th</sup>, Bryson Welch-4<sup>th</sup>, **Anniversaries**—Larry and Judy Smith-3<sup>rd</sup>, Randy and Teresa Alewel-4<sup>th</sup>.

### Worship Services

**Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m.** Sunday's Services are live on Facebook and YouTube and the webpage at [blchurch.com](http://blchurch.com).

**Ascension Day Service**—Join with others in our sanctuary on **Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** as we mark the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Sunday and reflect on the meaning of Christ's Ascension for our lives.

### Sunday School and Christian Education

**Wednesday Bible Study** will return on **May 17** when Pr. Joel gets back from vacation.

**Sunday Bible Study (normally 9:15-10:10 a.m. in the conference room)** will still be happening while Pr. Joel is gone, but instead of the regular study, Pr. Ricky will be leading a discussion of the Sunday lectionary texts. Please come for this time of growth in the faith!

## Youth

**Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings downstairs for ages Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.** We invite all children of the congregation (and outside too!) to come and be a part of this time set aside for growing together in Christ.

**Summer Camps**—Saint Paul Lutheran High School is offering a variety of camps over the summer for students entering Kindergarten through 8th grade (depending upon the camp). Camps include athletic training, volleyball, basketball, soccer, football, Spanish, and Hispanic cooking. More information and access to the Google registration form can be found at [splhs.org/events](http://splhs.org/events).

**Vacation Bible School**—Mark your calendars for **June 23-25!** Those wanting to help with reading, crafts, music, games, snacks, etc., please get in touch with Ellen Pederson.

## Music

**Sedalia Symphony Society Spring Concert**, conducted by Dr. Jerrode Marsh, will be held on **Monday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Heckart Performing Arts Center in Sedalia. Some of Bethlehem's musician will also be playing at this concert.

**Choir Practice is on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.** in the conference room. The first half-hour is dedicated to fellowship, then a full one-hour rehearsal. All previous and **prospective** choir members are invited to attend. Please give this opportunity prayerful consideration to strengthen our church and the unified Body of Christ through songs of faith.

## Fellowship and Opportunities to Serve

**Food Center Help**—Bethlehem's month to staff the Food Center is June. We are responsible for **Tuesday and Thursday afternoons**. Please sign up to help so we can help impact food insecurity in Johnson County. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board by the mailboxes.

**Exercise Class** happens at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone, men or women. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

**The Games and Card Group** meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room downstairs. Anyone, men and women, are welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

## This & That

**Thank you** to everyone who helped with the Bob Bennett concert this past weekend! It made for a great weekend of encouragement in Christian faith and

community, plus a large amount of tangible and monetary donations came in for The Food Center. Pictures can be found on the Missouri District website, and the concert recording can be viewed through our website as well.

**Congregational Life Facilitator**—We are looking at hiring a part-time CLF (since our previous two moved on to other ventures) who will assist with faith-life growth within groups and with overall congregational cohesion. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please refer to the details in the bulletin.

**The Katy Trail medical mobile unit** continues to be in Warrensburg each **Tuesday from 9am-3pm**. If you know someone who has medical needs and would benefit from *affordable or free healthcare* (thanks to a generous Bethlehem donor), *along with prescription help as well*, please pass on this information! The unit is located behind the food pantry at **137 E. Culton Street Warrensburg**. First Presbyterian Church is currently hosting a **free lunch** at that time (with others, such as us, donating the ingredients). **The lunch is served from 11:30am-1pm**. All are welcome. Most insurances are accepted. **Call 877-733-5824 to schedule an appointment.**

**Fuller Center for Housing of Johnson County** is looking for volunteers to help with many aspects of building houses. Needs are for skilled and unskilled construction laborers, public relations, tool organizers, hospitality, etc. If you would like to volunteer please call 660-429-2763 or email: [fullercenterjocom@fullercenter.org](mailto:fullercenterjocom@fullercenter.org). The organization is named after Millard Fuller, the founder of Habitat for Humanity, and adheres to a local vision in keeping with the original intention.

**Country Kitchen Cards**—We have Country Kitchen Cards. Stop by the office if you would like to purchase one. They are \$10 and you get 10 buy-one- get-one free meal deals. All proceeds go to the youth group. Thanks for your support!

**Ongoing thanks** to those who generously give to the Bethlehem Emergency Fund, which enables Pr. Joel to assist members and certain people in the community who are in crisis situations. Much appreciation for your good support in shining the light of Christ! If you'd ever like to hear some of the stories from how these funds have been used, just ask Pr. Joel.

### 2023 Elders

**Willie Crespo** (last name begins A-F) 660-679-8121, [crespo6fam@gmail.com](mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com)

**Ricky Bertels** (last name begins G-K), 660-262-8080, [rick1janice2@gmail.com](mailto:rick1janice2@gmail.com)

**Jack Easterwood** (last name begins L-O) 660-678-2045, [easter.egg2380@gmail.com](mailto:easter.egg2380@gmail.com)

**Alan Miller** (last name begins P-Z) 660-909-1764, [alormiller@aol.com](mailto:alormiller@aol.com)

## **Job Description: Congregational Life Facilitator (part time)**

**Scope:** Working with the Pastor and the Elders, The Congregational Life Facilitator will coordinate ministry programs designed to meet the spiritual growth of our members of all ages. They will display a commitment to serving Jesus Christ through serving His people at Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Warrensburg, MO.

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Provide leadership, plan and implement age-appropriate activities for Seniors, Adults, Jr. and High School and Elementary age youth that promote spiritual growth and community through faith development, fellowship, and enjoyment of God's gifts. Such activities might include: weekly activities, small group Bible study, retreats and service projects.
- Work with the Education, Mission, Evangelism, and Fellowship boards to help coordinate efforts among them, connect their activities, and encourage congregational and community participation in all of these areas.
- Attend monthly Education Committee meetings.
- Maintain regular communication with youth, parents, the pastor, church office and the surrounding community using appropriate technology and social media.
- Assist the Sunday School superintendent in the recruitment and training of adult volunteers to serve as Sunday School teachers and youth group leaders.
- Periodically meet with the various fellowship and volunteer groups at Bethlehem: Mary Martha, Men's club, Merry Widows, Singles, etc.
- Focus on one to three of these Bethlehem groups where guidance and direction is most needed for cohesion and strength.
- Meet with community groups that interface with Bethlehem (4H, Boys and Girls Scouts, etc.) at least once annually.
- Assist with preparation of Vacation Bible School if the need arises.

**Requirements:** The candidate should have experience working with youth and children in a faith community setting. This position shall be an example of dynamic leadership for a team of volunteers who can relate to persons of all ages and support Sunday school and other spiritual formation activities. The person in this position shall work closely with the pastor to develop and execute a program that includes Christian education advancement for participants of all ages and maintains high visibility with educational and social groups within our congregation. An organized and creative self-starter who is a team player with a positive attitude. High School or equivalent diploma required.

**Hours:** Part time schedule (20 hours / week). Able to work flexible hours; including weekends, evenings, and holidays

**Supervisory Responsibility:** This position will help supervise adult volunteers and student leaders.

Please submit resume and names of references to the church office manager via mail or email (officemanager@blchurch.com) or mail: Office Manager, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire Street, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

## Contact Information

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093**

### **Our Mission**

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

### **Our Vision**

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



#### **Rev. Joel R. Kurz**

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: [pastor@blchurch.com](mailto:pastor@blchurch.com)

Website: [www.blchurch.com](http://www.blchurch.com)      Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

#### **Office Manager:**

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

[officemanager@blchurch.com](mailto:officemanager@blchurch.com)

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

[financial@blchurch.com](mailto:financial@blchurch.com)

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.