

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday, April 21, 2024
MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Gary Koltz, Vacancy Pastor
9:30 a.m.
WORSHIP

Sunday Service Streamed at www.marcolutheran.org

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

www.marcolutheran.org/foundation

OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

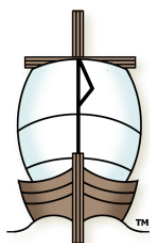
secretary@marcolutheran.org

TO CONTACT CHURCH STAFF PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

(239) 394-0332

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“At Marco Lutheran Church, we are followers of Jesus Christ who share His Good News by loving and serving all people.”



THE SHIP OF THE CHURCH

For Christians, since the days of the apostles, *THE SHIP* has been a symbol for the Christian Church. The mast and yardarm form a simple *CROSS* (in wood) which stands for Jesus who saved us by giving Himself on a cross that we might be forgiven.

The *CHI RHO* ✠ (in metal) is a combination of the first two Greek letters of the name *Christ*, meaning "The Anointed One" or "The Messiah." *THE WAVES* symbolize the troubles and difficulties of life on earth. *THE SAILS* are filled with wind, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which empowers the Church. Thus, the Christian Church, under the Cross of Christ carries the faithful safely across the troubled seas of life to heaven. As we come together for worship,

the cross of Christ is before us. We choose, you and I, to worship with people for whom the cross is both the sign of salvation and the sign of Christ in our lives.

A special *welcome* to our guests today.

May you find grace and blessing in the time we spend together. If you are looking for a church home, please speak to the Pastor, the Lay Minister for the day, or an Usher. We would be most pleased to share with you ways in which you might become a regular part of our Christian fellowship.



HOLY COMMUNION – WHAT WE BELIEVE

In this Sacrament, Jesus gives us Himself, His true Body and Blood as we receive the bread and wine. On the night He was betrayed and before He was put to death, Jesus celebrated this Meal with His disciples assuring us that each time we receive it, we are again remembering His death and receiving the full benefits of His grace, namely the forgiveness of sin.

In 1 Corinthians 11, St. Paul says that we should “examine ourselves” ahead of time. We can do so each time by asking ourselves these basic questions:

- † **Do I acknowledge the fact that I am indeed a sinner and that I am sorry for my sin?**
- † **Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from all sin?**
- † **Am I trusting in Jesus’ promise that I receive full pardon and strength through this Holy Meal?**
- † **Do I believe that the body and blood of Jesus is truly present in, with and under the bread and the wine of Holy Communion?**
- † **Finally, with the Lord’s help, will I seek to amend my life and live in conformity with His Holy Will?**

Jesus Himself invites baptized followers, who believe in Him as their Lord and Savior, who recognize their sinful condition and who seek His forgiveness, to come to His Table to receive His precious Body and Blood. May the Lord bless your personal reception as well as your daily living under His power and blessing. Should you have questions, please see a Pastor or a Lay minister prior to the worship service. If you prefer not to participate in the sacrament, please cross your arms when coming forward to receive a blessing.

For those who prefer, **white grape juice is in the center of the tray**. There are also **gluten free wafers** by informing a distributing Host. For those who may have **difficulty coming to the front**, please **inform an usher** so that the Sacrament may be brought to you.



As We Gather

Flocks of sheep can number in the hundreds or even thousands. An annual trek from winter quarters to summer pastures and back again at a location in rural Idaho consistently draws hundreds of spectators to a location where the sheep must cross a major highway to reach their destination. Keeping track of two or three thousand sheep on the move is quite a task! Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows how to care for not just thousands but millions of His sheeplike people. The prophet Isaiah says of the Lord God that He “will tend His flock like a shepherd” (40:11). Assured and reassured that we are part of His flock, we travel through life following the guidance of our caring Shepherd!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PLEASE STAND

HYMN

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of his Spirit, washed in His blood

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
Praising my Savior all the day long

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Jesus said: "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him."

People: **Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ.**

Pastor: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.

People: **Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.**

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

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

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

People: **And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: **O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not followed in the ways You have set forth for us. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have not honored those in authority and have not without reservation encouraged them. We have not completely put the best construction on all things and on all people. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace, bring us to everlasting life. Amen.**

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

People: **Amen.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

LSB 770



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!

Text and tune: Public domain

SALUTATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

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.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

LSB 770, v. 2



2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Text and tune: Public domain

FIRST READING

Acts 4:1–12

Leader: And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴ But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵ On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷ And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus^[a] is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.^[b] ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men^[c] by which we must be saved.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:16–24

Leader: ¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God,[Ⓜ] and God[Ⓜ] in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PLEASE STAND

HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

LSB 770, v.3



3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

Text and tune: Public domain

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11–18

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: ¹¹I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

MUSICAL OFFERING

Oh How He Loves You and Me

MLC Choir

SERMON

Pastor Gary Koltz

CREED

First Article

Pastor: As our Good Shepherd leads us, even so our heavenly Father hears the prayers of His people. Assured of His fatherly care, let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the First Person of the Holy Trinity.

People: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

OFFERING VIDEO/ OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERTORY GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us;
and now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks...

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, beseeching Him for the needs of ourselves and others.

Trusting in God's loving response, we pray for the church and all who are called to lives of service to God's people, asking that the Lord will bless His undershepherds and all who care for His flock. We pray for the pastor that you have chosen to be our shepherd, our leader, for this family of believers that is Marco Lutheran Church.

People: **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for ourselves, that the Holy Spirit guide us into gracious ways and instill in us a holy confidence in the goodness of our God, aiding us in our prayers. With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthly journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ yet inspires us, let us pray to the Lord:

People: **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for the blessing of God upon our nation and its leaders that we may lead peaceable lives, and we pray for the needs of ourselves and others for healing and restoration, for solace and comfort.

People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pastor: These things and all else that we should have asked grant us according to Your gracious will, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

People: Amen.

HYMN Open Our Eyes

Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him,
and say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord,
and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord eternal, and blessed be Your name. In Your great love, You sent Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be the promised Savior, whose power was shown in humble care and whose life of service fulfilled Your will and completed the work of our salvation. With thankfulness we receive the blessings He has obtained for us. Gather into one, we pray You, all Your people

who now join at Your Holy Table. Bless and nourish us, so that all we who partake of Christ's holy body and blood may be strengthened to serve You and our neighbor, as You would have us do. To You, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in Your holy church, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee

Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH ME

When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom's shore, to Thy shore

Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

People: Let us pray.

Gracious and eternal God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus. Grant that the bread of life and blood of Christ that has been shared and received in this blessed Meal be for us that life-giving food that sustains us on our earthly journeys as we serve You all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

PLEASE STAND

HYMN

O Jesus, King of Glory

v. 1,2,6

1 O Je - sus, King of Glo - ry, Both
2 The east - ern sa - ges, bring - ing Their
6 And bid Thy Word with - in me Shine

Da - vid's Lord and Son! Thy
trib - ute gifts to Thee, Bear
as the fair - est star; Keep

realm en - dures for - ev - er, In
wit - ness to Thy king - dom And
sin and all false doc - trine For -

heav'n is fixed Thy throne. Help
hum - bly bow the knee. To
ev - er from me far. Help

that in earth's do - min - ions, Through -
Thee the star is point - ing And
me con - fess Thee tru - ly And

out from pole to pole, Thy
the pro - phet - ic Word; Hence
with Thy Chris - ten - dom Here

reign may spread sal - va - tion To
joy - ous - ly we hail Thee: Our
own Thee King and Sav - ior And

each Sav - ior - night - ed soul.
in the - and world - ed our Lord!
to the world to come.

Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS - Martin Koepke, Bob Kelley, Dick Clark, Emily Forslin Lauth, Carol Rayner, Robert Tessarolo, Joyce Fenelon, Lori & Logan Gross, Lindy Kowalczyk, Jeanette Franchino, Mary Moyer, John Noffze, Walter Jaskiewicz, Ray Skelley, Shar Wyatt, Loren Beck, Joyce Maxfield

Names are kept on the prayer lists for 4 weeks unless the office is notified!

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY - Andrea Sager(Rooksberry), Mark Sheridan (Patti Naughton), Darrin Leist (Susan Charles), Celia Cole & Dennis Bryant (Lili Surber), Mary Jane Vetter, Zach Lowe, Kerrie Wallace (Joni Lowe), Tom Malota (Lydia Krueger), Miranda Curiale, Alexis Fosmer (Judy Volker), Toni Hammer (Roland Leypoldt), Elenita Grijalro, Dom Di Crosta family, Ron & Pam Spering (Cindi Kramer), Paul Meyer & Baby Amelia Smiles (Vicki Ross), Jim Daley (Vicki Williams), Linda Eversole (Carolyn Ohman), Gina Lauth (Loren Drews), Niels Jorgensen family, Judy Iacono (Meredith Bair), Nanette Dolphin (Carolyn Ohman), Michelle Brown, David Durand, Elenita Grijalvo, and those we name in our hearts.

Names are kept on the prayer lists for 4 weeks unless the office is notified!

Please review the prayer lists and let us know if we can remove someone. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK - David Long, Pete Schmidt

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK – William & Marjorie Witkop, Bruce & Debbie Woolnough

ATTENDANCE - SUNDAY: 249 ONLINE: 67 TOTAL: 316

CONTRIBUTIONS -

April Target: \$ 92,900 April Actual (2 weeks): \$ 34,872 (38%)

YTD Target (thru April): \$371,085 YTD Actual: \$288,565 (78%)

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS - There are 4 ways to give:

ONLINE, BY MAIL, BY PHONE, BY TEXT!

All transactions are secure and confidential. You can make a one-time donation or set-up a regular weekly or monthly donation. If you have difficulty or questions, please email financialsec@marcolutheran.org You can also place your offerings in the offering boxes that are located at the exits.

THANK YOU TO OUR HELPFUL SERVANTS THIS WEEK!

Worship Leader: Carolyn Ohman
Lay Minister: Mark Kuhnly
Communion Assistants: Karen Kuhnly, Linda Harrison
Head Usher: Greg Waltrip
Ushers: Annette Bertelson, Mark Muedeking
Transporters: Linda Harrison, Karen Kuhnly
Altar Guild: Anne Rozite, Ellen Donselman



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, APRIL 28 AT 10:45 a.m.
PLEASE MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO ATTEND!

THE ENTIRE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED FOR FUMIGATION
BEGINNING MONDAY, APRIL 22 AND REOPEN FOR SERVICE ON
SUNDAY, APRIL 28.

EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED THAT WEEK, AND THERE WILL BE
ABSOLUTELY NO ACCESS TO THE CHURCH!
(WORSHIP SERVICES WILL NOT BE INTERRUPTED!)

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 21 – MAY 11, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
21 9:30 WORSHIP	22	23	24	25	26	27
ENTIRE CHURCH CLOSED!						
28 9:30 WORSHIP w/ GUATAMALA MISSION TEAM PRESENTATION 10:45 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	29 12:30 GENTLE YOGA 2:00 CHAIR YOGA	30 6:30 BSF MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 BSF WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	MAY 1 4:00 CHOIR REHEARSAL	2 12:30 GENTLE YOGA 2:00 CHAIR YOGA	3 12:30 BRIDGE	4
5 9:00 CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30 WORSHIP	6 12:30 GENTLE YOGA 2:00 CHAIR YOGA	7 6:30 BSF MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 BSF WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	8	9 12:30 GENTLE YOGA 2:00 CHAIR YOGA	10 12:30 BRIDGE	11

