



PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

The Lord's My Shepherd

HYMN #778



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

GREETING

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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE

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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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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

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

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

KRISTY WICKLUND

READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

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.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

The holy gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Love One Another

PASTOR GRETCHEN ENOCH

HYMN OF THE DAY

Have No Fear, Little Flock

HYMN #764

1 Have no fear, little flock; have no fear, little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom; have no fear, little flock!

2 Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

Let us pray: God, you bless us in so many ways – even ways we do not know. Give us glad and generous hearts so that we may praise you and support our church and those around us who are in need. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

OFFERING HYMN

Signs and Wonders

HYMN #672, v.1



1 Signs and won - ders lead the danc - ing from the heart God frees from fear:
2 Hope and free - dom join the cir - cle: Mar - y to the gar - den came,
3 Cast a - side all fear and hid - ing; hand in hand we dance the round.



wings of an - gels greet the mai - den, and God finds a dwell - ing here;
saw the ra - diance of the mar - vel, heard the Ris - en call her name;
God is with us, Christ, a - bid - ing, and the Spir - it's gifts a - bound.



bold - ly may we lift our hands, bow the head, and voice A - men;
bold - ly may we heed Christ's call, step be - yond the gar - den wall:
Called by God to ho - li - ness, let us bold - ly serve and bless;



thus does glo - ry shine at mid - night: o - pen hearts in - vite the star - light.
beau - ti - ful the feet pro - ceed - ing with good news of death's de - feat - ing.
and to hearts that sigh and hun - ger may our lives dance signs and won - ders.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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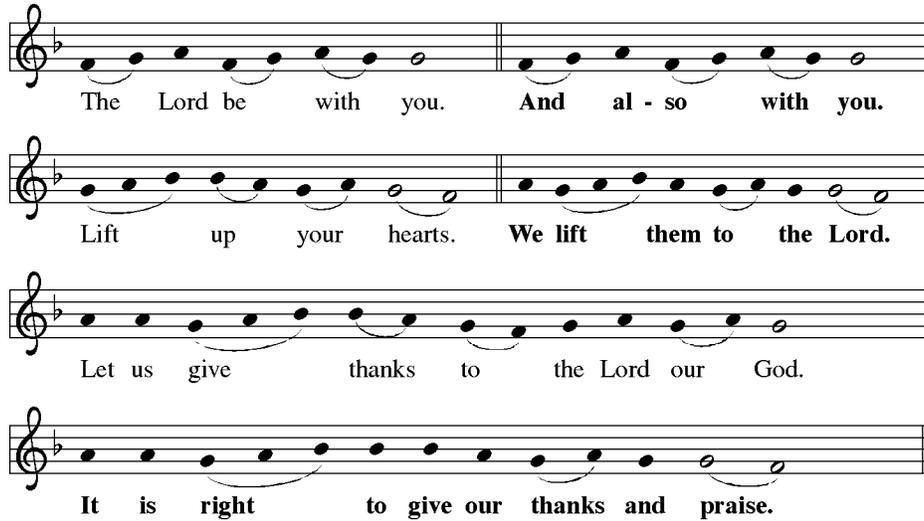
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COMMUNION

This is the Lord's Table, all are welcome here. In your home is an ordinary table now set apart and holy, Christ is present there. All are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper, wherever you may be.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

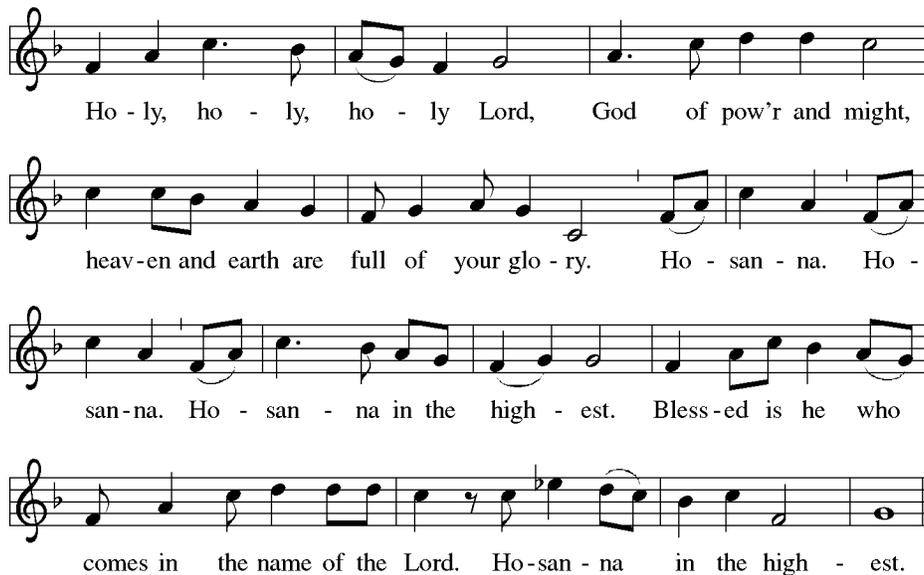
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The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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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.

Together as the body of Christ, trusting that the distance that separates us is bridged by the Holy Spirit who makes us one, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

COMMUNION HYMN*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart***HYMN #484, v. 1,3,4**

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 - joice.
 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.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
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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.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us***HYMN #789, v.1,2**

1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

DISMISSAL**Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

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Senior Pastor: Gretchen Enoch
Intern Pastor: Lynn Melchior
Visitation Pastor: Stan Satre
Council President: George Mathison
Organist: Keith Melberg
Director of Children's Ministries: Kristy Wicklund
Hosanna Handbells Director: Linda Mellon
Worship Team Director: Anne Taylor
Office Assistant: Laurie Whitehead
Administrative Assistant/ Youth Director: Calie Anderson

ANNOUNCEMENTS SUNDAY APRIL 25, 2021 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 25:

- 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:30 am Confirmation Photos
- 11:00 am Confirmation Worship Service

Monday, April 26:

Note: First Lutheran delivering Meals by Wheels all week

- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm WELCA Love Days
- 4:00 to 5:00 pm FLY 7-9 meet at Applebees

Wednesday, April 28:

- FLY K-6 watch for info
- 5:00 pm Small Group Bells

Thursday, April 29:

- 10:30 am Senior Book Study *Fellowship Hall*

Friday, April 30:

- Church office closed

Saturday, May 1:

- Church office closed

Next Sunday, May 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 12 to 4 pm Clean Up Day at Fossen Woods

The radio broadcast and flowers are sponsored by Augustana Lutheran Church.

Today, Sunday, April 25, our 8th graders will be confirmed at 11:00 am. God's Blessings to the 2021 Class of First Lutheran Confirmands.

We are collecting hygiene items for the Lake Region Halfway Home. Items needed include disposable razors, shaving cream, toothbrush, toothpaste, roll-on deodorant, shampoo & conditioner (or combined), soap, soap box, fingernail clipper, toenail clipper and lotion. There is a collection basket in the Narthex. Thank YOU!

Students entering or continuing a nursing degree program next fall have a scholarship opportunity to pursue through the PioneerCare Auxiliary. Applications are now being accepted for the Lillian Saure Nursing Scholarship, with an application deadline of Saturday, May 15, 2021. Candidates may download the application online at www.pioneercare.org. There are also applications on the counter in the Narthex.

Do you have 1-3 hours a week to share on Tuesday or Thursdays? The Welcome House Thrift Store Needs You! A variety of volunteer opportunities are available such as sorting, organizing, tagging, cleaning, etc. Funds raised from the store help support people in need in the community. For more information on volunteering, stop by the store at 1678 College Way (behind Fleet Farm), call 218-998-4779 or email ffwelcomehouse@gmail.com. Ask for Maria.

Sound/Video Operators Needed! Please contact the church office if you are interested in receiving training to run the sound board or camera during worship! Thank you.

Butterflies Vacation Bible School June 29 from 9:15 to 11:15 am at First Lutheran. For ages 0-5 years old and favorite adult! FREE! We will be outside if possible (inside if it rains). Register on the church website, or pick up registration forms in the Narthex on the counter outside the office window.

Luther Crest Day Camp Vacation Bible School (First Lutheran & Augustana combined) June 29 from 9 am to 3:00 pm outside at Augustana Lutheran Church. Free! Register on the First Lutheran website, or pick up registration forms in the Narthex on the counter outside the office window.

Coming up in the next few months:

- May 15 Dairyland Outing for FLY 7-9 from 1 to 2:00 pm, and for FLY 10-12 from 2 to 3:00 pm.
- May 16 at 9:30 am – Senior Recognition Sunday.
- June 11 – Relay for Life. Contact Sue at 218 770-5156 for more information or to join the First Lutheran team.
- June 21 at 5:30 pm – Funeral Planning Workshop. Contact the office if interested.
- June 29 from 9:00 am -3:00 pm - Luther Crest Day Camp Vacation Bible School for K-6th graders. FREE! Register in the church office before June 7.
- June 29 from 9:15 to 11:15 am – Butterflies Vacation Bible School for 0-5 years old and favorite adult. FREE! Register in the church office before June 7.

Our Sunday worship service is broadcast on AM 1020 KJKK or FM 97.7. To listen online go to www.channel977.com. Livestream on YouTube, link found on website. PEG Access Channel 8.