



GRACE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH • SCHOOL



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 24, 2021 - 5:00 PM**

**APRIL 25, 2021 - 10:45 AM**

*(The \* indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** *(Several tunes played on the Hammered Dulcimer)*

**WELCOME**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” *Hymn 463*  
*(sts. 1-3)*  
*(Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)*

**Christ the Lord is ris’n today; Alleluia!  
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!  
At the paschal victim’s feet. Alleluia!**

**For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!  
Sinless in the sinner’s stead. Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord is ris’n on high; Alleluia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

**Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!  
When contending death and life, Alleluia!  
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**

**\*THE INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People:** Amen.

**\*THE OPENING SENTENCES**

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**People:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Pastor:** By this way we know love,  
**People:** that He laid down His life for us.

**Pastor:** “I am the good shepherd,” says the Lord.  
**People:** The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

**Pastor:** Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him.  
**People:** And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

## \*THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.

People: **Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we confess to You that we have been ungrateful for all You give us to sustain our bodies and lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

People: **Like sheep, we are distracted and tend to wander and scatter. We forget who we are as baptized children of God and fail to respond to Your shepherding in our lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and staff, they comfort me.

People: **We confess that in difficult times of life, we sometimes struggle to be confident in Your presence and protection, seeking to find our own comfort. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

People: **As we journey through this sinful world, we overlook the goodness and mercy that flow into our lives from You. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: Jesus, our Good Shepherd, hears our cries and says to us, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." Receive the forgiveness won for you through Christ's laying down His life and rising from death in victory. As a 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. Thanks be to God.**

## THE ANTHEM

"The Lord Is My Shepherd"  
(Grace Chorale)

A. Pote

## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Acts 4:1-12

<sup>1</sup>The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to

Peter and John while they were speaking to the people.<sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.<sup>3</sup> They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.<sup>4</sup> But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.<sup>5</sup> The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.<sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family.<sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!<sup>9</sup> If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed,<sup>10</sup> then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.<sup>11</sup> He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone."<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### THE EPISTLE READING

*1 John 3:16-24*

<sup>16</sup>This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.<sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?<sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.<sup>19</sup> This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence<sup>20</sup> whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.<sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God<sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.<sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.<sup>24</sup> Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### \*THE HOLY GOSPEL

*John 10:11-18*

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

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

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.  
<sup>12</sup>The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup>The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father - and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life - only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

## **[10:45] CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH**

### **\*SERMON HYMN**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

*Hymn 709*

**The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death’s dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.**

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

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

### **THE SERMON**

“Sent to Love”

1

## **\*PROFESSION OF FAITH - NICENE CREED**

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.

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

## \*PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

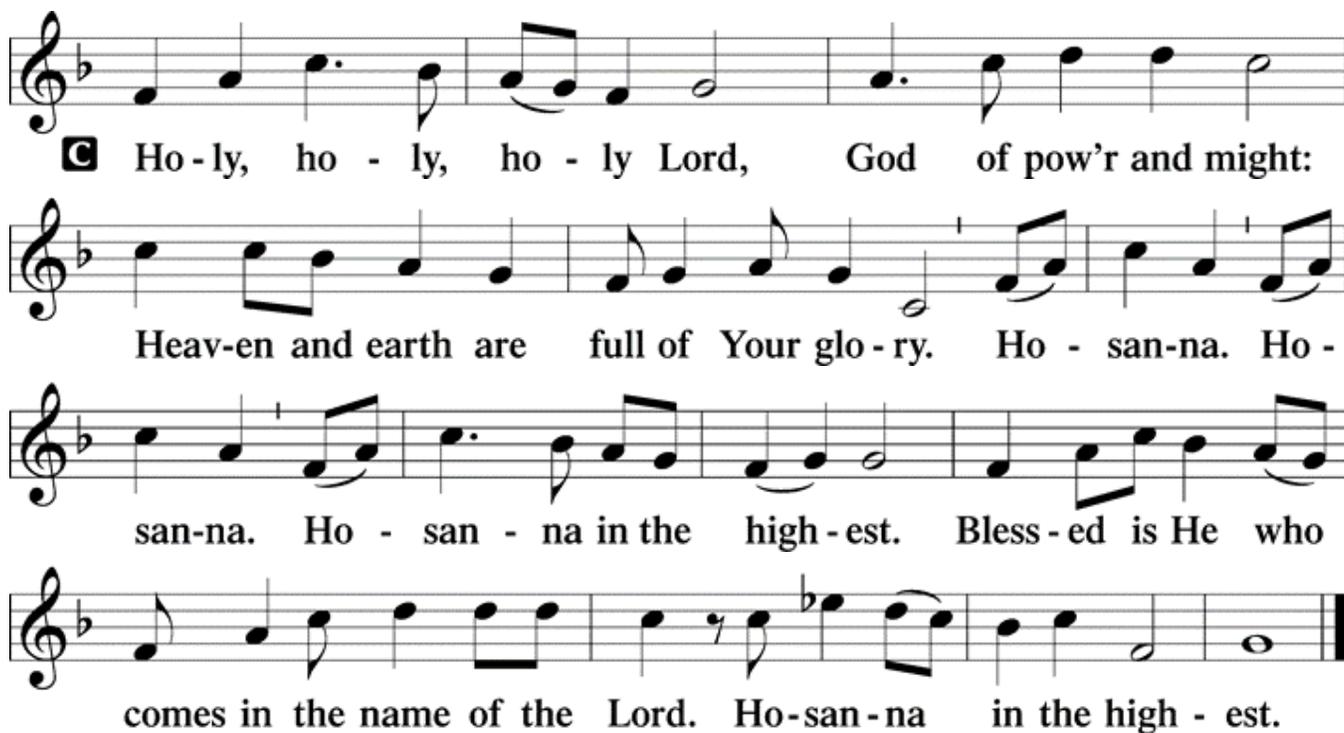
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

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

## \*SANCTUS



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.

## \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER

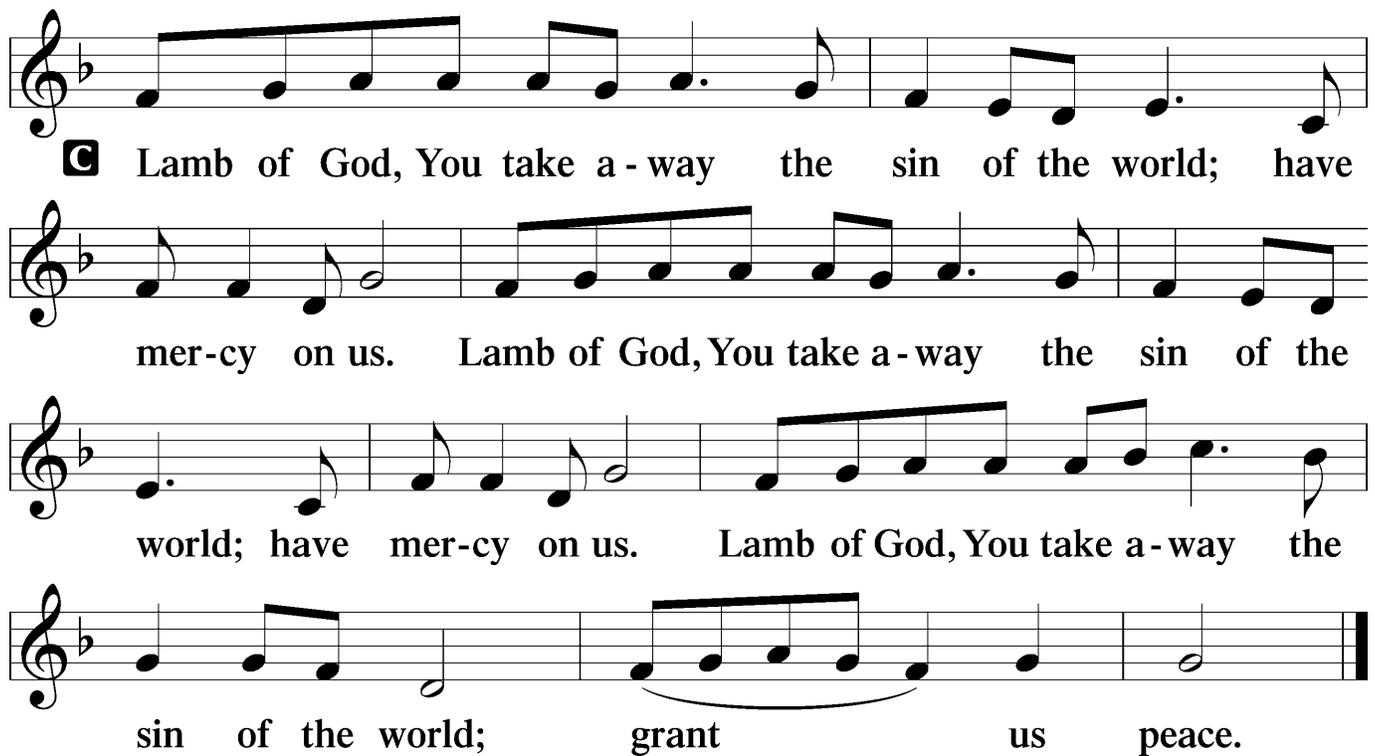
Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;

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.

## \*AGNUS DEI

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**C** 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  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“Amazing Grace”  
(*Hammered Dulcimer Solo*)

**“The Lamb”**

*Hymn 547*

**The Lamb, the Lamb,  
O Father, where’s the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes  
God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain**

***Refrain***

**Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb,  
One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb,  
Let earth join heav’n His praise to sing. Refrain**

**The Lamb, the Lamb,  
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will  
On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain**

**He sighs, He dies,  
He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives,  
He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain**

**He rose, He rose,  
My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong  
Till ev’ry heart to Him belong. Refrain**

**“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want ”**

*Hymn 710*

**The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.**

**My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make**

**Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for His own name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.**

**My table Thou hast furnishèd  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.**

## **\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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**Pastor:** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary 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

**People: Amen.**

### **\*THE BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** Jesus said, "As the Father has sent Me, so I am sending you." 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.**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”  
(sts. 1 & 4)

Hymn 711

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
Much we need Your tender care.  
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,  
For our use Your fold prepare.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have bought us; we are Yours.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have bought us; we are Yours.

Early let us seek Your favor,  
Early let us do Your will;  
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,  
With Your love our spirits fill.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have loved us, love us still.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have loved us, love us still.

**\*DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

**POSTLUDE**

**CREDITS**

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**Acknowledgments**

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## WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

### SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Pastor	The Rev. Charles T. Reich
The Organist	Lois Walker
The Communion Deacons	Jan Struck, Roger Walker
The Lector	Jim Joiner
The Usher/Greeter Team	Don & Connie March, Jennifer March

### SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Pastor	The Rev. Charles T. Reich
The Organist/Choir Director	Wynn Bonner
The Sound Technician	Rodney Steffen
The Instrumentalist	Sally Anderson
The Elder on Duty	Georgia Fisher
The Communion Deacons	Janet Hostler, Dr. Terry Hostler, Louis Marinelli
The Lectors	Carl Locke, Krista Bernthal
The Robing Leader	Leah Welter
The Crucifer	Lilliann Witcher
The Acolyte	Olivia Zinsmeister
The Welcome Team Greeter At the Welcome Center	Jason Witcher and Annabelle Britta Witcher
The Welcome Team Ushers	Steve Hnatiuk, Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker