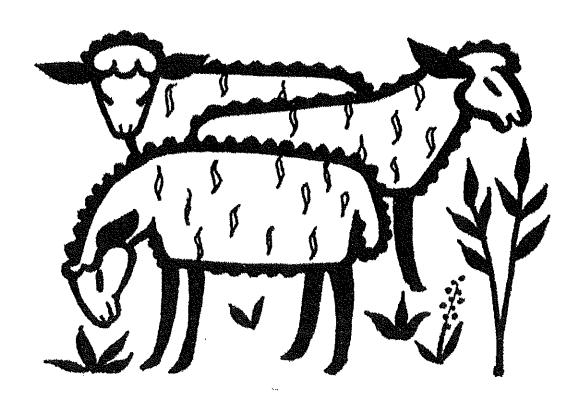
welcome to worship

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 2024 ♦ 10:00 am



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement

5 Wyomissing Boulevard
Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081
phone: 610-375-3512 ♦ www.atonementwyo.org
The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

The assembly's responses are in bold print.

PRELUDE

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Stanford

WELCOME Deacon Tom

The assembly stands.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

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

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN

362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing—stanzas 1, 2, 6, 7

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.

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.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Caitlyn

READING

I 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.

A reading from I John.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ This is how we've come to understand and experience love: Christ sacrificed his life for us. This is why we ought to live sacrificially for our fellow believers, and not just be out for ourselves. If you see some brother or sister in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear.

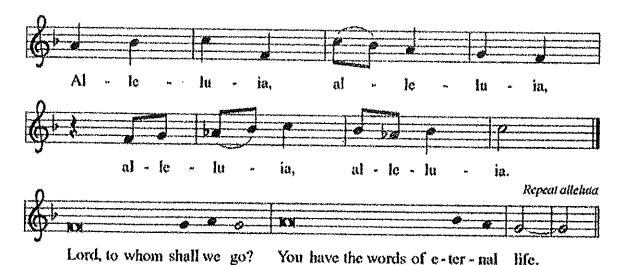
¹⁸⁻²⁰ My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.

²¹⁻²⁴ And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're able to stretch our hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what he said, doing what pleases him. Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

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.

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

¹¹⁻¹³ "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him.

¹⁴⁻¹⁸ "I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They'll also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father."

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

SERMON Pastor Tom

The assembly stands.

IONA CREED

Let us affirm our faith together:

We believe that God is present in the darkness before the dawn:

in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.

We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.

We affirm a faith that takes us beyond a safe place:

into action, into vulnerability...

We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line:

to bear responsibility, take risks,

live powerfully and face humiliation:

to stand with those on the edge,

to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes... God of grace, receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude ... through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. Amen.

PEACE

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

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Scan the QR code to the right.



OFFERING HYMN

780 Shepherd Me, O God

The assembly sings the refrain after the choir and again after each verse.

The assembly stands.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

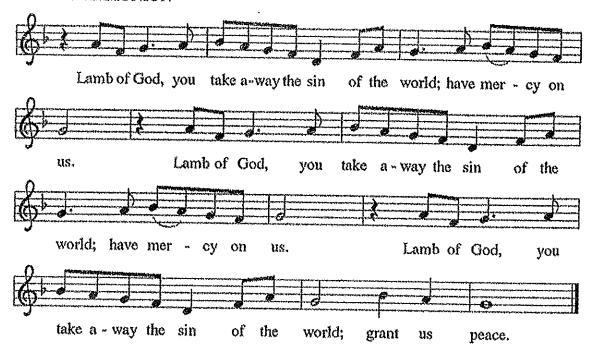
The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



Hymn 502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is Hymn 782 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

SENDING HYMN

789 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us-stanzas 1, 2, 4

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Te Deum Recessional

Charpentier, arr. Rawsthorne

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Assisting with Worship

Susan Beam, greeter
Usher Youth Team 1
C. Louise Fair, lector
Bob Bailey, assisting minister
Susan Beam, Joanne Gable, Tyler Good, Diane Melcher, communion assistants
Thomas Gentry, Crystal Shirk, audio/visual
Doris Fraser, Susan Kauffman, nursery

Susan Mehos, altar captain Matt Lepera, sexton Atonement Choir

Atonement Staff

Katie Lyon, Pastor
Tom Yenser, Deacon
Jen Dauber, Preschool Director
Caitlyn Marrella, Director of Children's Ministry
Arthur Wyse, Visitation Pastor
Crystal Shirk, Office Manager
Amy Rogers, Financial Secretary
Tom Gresh, Property Manager
Tom Scornavacchi, Mission Developer
Michelle Endy, Room Coordinator
Ken Lord, Congregational Health Advocate
Lois Hein, Pastoral Care Coordinator

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pastortom@cgrcommunity.org
calendar@atonementwyo.org
klord@atonementwyo.org
lhein@atonementwyo.org

WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community! Together we are on the journey of discipleship with Jesus, who guides us from worship to formation, from formation to fellowship, and from fellowship to Christ-like servanthood.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available at the entrance to the worship space. Children from 3 years of age to 2nd grade are invited to experience worship geared just for them—follow the CHILDREN'S CHAPEL leader to the privacy room after the Children's Message. Children will return to their families for communion.

THE NURSERY is available for preschool aged children and younger in Room F126 during worship.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Grace Wiser.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are 10:30am-2:30pm Monday through Thursday, or by appointment.

FAITH FORMATION for all ages meets Sundays, 8:45-9:45 am.

PICKLEBALL in the Atonement gym continues this afternoon, 2:30-5pm.

MEAL POP-UP FUNDRAISER for Atonement Christian Preschool is Thursday, April 25 with Crave Café. Visit MealPopUp.com for the menu and to place your order.

END OF LIFE PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR runs through May 19, 9-9:30 am in the nave. Next week, April 28, Daral Woerle will be here to discuss legal issues and concerns.

ATONEMENT VOLUNTEERS SERVE AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE the third Saturday of every month. Interested in joining the team? Contact Bob Eisenbrown at 484-332-8788.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES for those interested in joining Atonement continue today, April 21, and next week, April 28, in room F122 at 11:00 am, following the 10:00 am worship. New members will be welcomed during 10:00 worship May 5. Everyone is welcome!

WALK FOR THE ANIMALS, one of our Reach Out stewardship events, will be Saturday, May 4. Contact Bob Eisenbrown if interested in participating. 484-332-8788

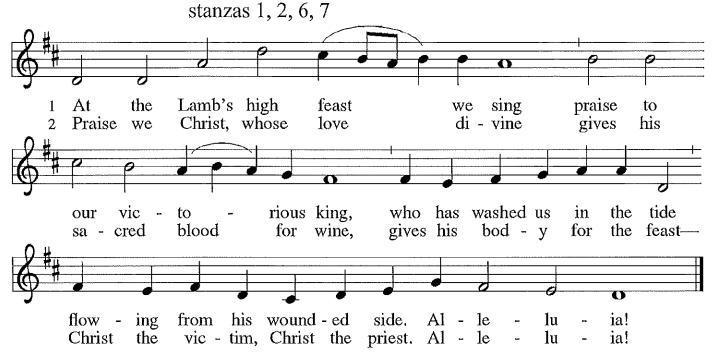
ELCA MATCHING FUNDS CAMPAIGN is still underway for youth traveling to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Checks can be made payable to Atonement with "Youth Gathering Matching Funds" on the memo line.

RESERRECTION GARDEN BOWLS may be brought back to the church after your garden finishes blooming to be used another year.

KAUFFMAN'S CHICKEN BBQ fundraiser for Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom will be May 5. If you are interested in placing an order, call Crystal in the office—if we get enough interest they will deliver to Atonement for pick-up after worship.

SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS for high school seniors can be found online at www.atonementwyo.org. Details can be found in the April newsletter.

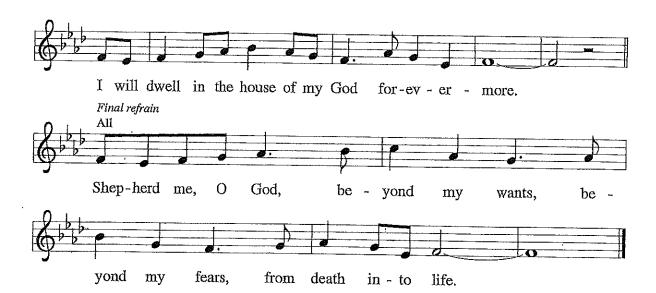
GATHERING HYMN 362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



- 6 Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall; you have opened paradise, and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 newborn souls in you to be.
 Alleluia!







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The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 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.



SENDING HYMN

789 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us stanzas 1, 2, 4



- 1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us;
- 2 We are yours; in love be friend us,
- 4 Ear ly let us seek your fa vor,

much we need your ten - der care.

be the guard-ian of our way;

ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior,

for our use your fold pre-pare. seek us when we go a - stray. 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, 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, you have loved us, love us still.