

April 26, 2026
4th Sunday of Easter

St. John Lutheran Church

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

(Congregation greets one another in the name of the Lord.)

GATHERING HYMN

Who you Say I Am

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned 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.

L: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given His Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

C: Amen.

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE ELEISON (TIMELINE)


Refrain




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour - ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

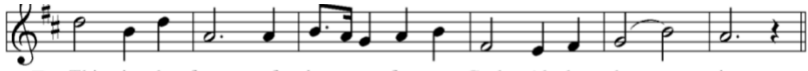


Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE (TIMELINE)

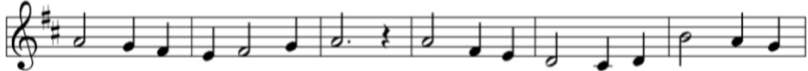
This Is the Feast



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



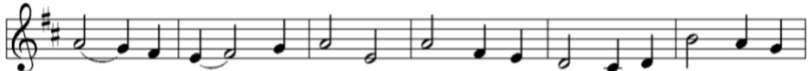
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

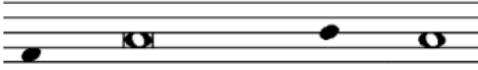


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

GREETING (ACAPPELLA)



L: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray...

c: Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all that are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Acts 2:42-47

L: The First Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of Acts.

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45 they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous

hearts, 47 praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

L: Here ends the reading.

PSALM 23

L: We will read the Psalm responsively.

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

3 he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

**4 Even though I walk through the darkest
valley,**

**I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

L: The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of 1 Peter.

19 For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering

unjustly. 20 If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. 21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

L: Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ACAPELLA)

L: Please rise in honor of the Gospel.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL
John 10:1-10

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.



10 "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." 6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. 7 So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

"Do Something Great!"

PRAISE SONG (TIMELINE)

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

APOSTLE'S 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 into hell.**

**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 again to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERING PRAYER

C: Creator God, your Spirit surrounds and sustains us. As we offer these gifts, stir our quiet faith into confident witness. Replace our hesitant whispers with the courage to speak your truth. Shape our giving into acts of praise. We believe and pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

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.**

BENEDICTION

L: 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: Amen.

CLOSING

CLOSING SONG (TIMELINE)

Everlasting God

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. He is Risen.

C: He is Risen Indeed!

POSTLUDE

Everlasting God (Play song quietly)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

April 28 - @ 6:30 PM - Pastor Ann's Bible Study
April 29 - @ 9:00 AM - Women's Bible Study
@9:00-12:00 - Pastor Ann's Office Hours
@6:00 PM - Confirmation Class
April 30 - @ 1:30 pm - Bible Study at Sunporch
May 3 - @ 9:30 Confirmation Service

Special Offering: There will be a special offering for those who have been affected by the recent Nebraska fires on these Sundays: April 26th, May 3rd and May 10th.

The Nebraska Farm Bureau has established a Disaster Relief Fund at the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation to gather donations to support farm and ranch families and communities affected by the March 2026 wildfires. 100% of the donations will be distributed to support farmers, ranchers and rural communities affected by the disaster.

Keep those extra Bibles and Christian materials coming! Join our Lenten LOVE packages drive and bring your items to our display! Would you like to be part of a youth/adult mission group trip to help deliver our donations - July 23-25? Let Pastor Ann know if you would like to be a part of this mission experience!

FUTURE EVENTS: Help us Celebrate!

May 3 - Confirmation Sunday - Brinley Hickert and Blaine Lehmann

May 17 - Graduation Sunday - Kharson Montgomery
& Gavin Hickert

May 17 - VBS Kickoff Picnic in the Park! 5:00 PM

Scriptures for

1st Reading: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Psalm 146

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Gospel: John 14:1-14

Sermon Title: "I Am The Way, the Truth, and the
Life"

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OFFICE HOURS- WEDNESDAYS 9AM-NOON