

“Prayer and Praises” is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at www.ascensionav.org. Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

Carol Buchanan
Marvin Eisenbeiss
Gwen Strasburg
Rick & Didi Gift
Charlene Krentz
Renee Moore
Linda Rogers
Lonny Stumbaugh
Rachel Clark
Cathy DeRose
David Enos
Faith Lutheran Church
Government
Pastor Harris
Justin Huf Family
Scott Kaiser
Jennifer LaRue
Ronnie Longero
Morgan
Kayla Overmyer
Gail Peterson
Nevin Purbaugh
Peggy Rhoades
Diane Short
Carrie & Braden Stedje
Delvin Tumbling
Robert & Pat Tylisz
Kat Walker

Kenny Cabral
Gaylon Pastella
Marjorie Wilson
Mo & Rocky Gamas
Steve Martines
Carolyn Penna
Mildred Sears
Nikki Stumbaugh
Congregation
Gene Dooner
Lynn Fairgrief
Carol Furn
Grace Lutheran Church
Jeanne Hecksel
Sandy Jurey
John & Connie Kays
Rylee LaTrace
Military
Janet Mowery
Tim & Marguerite Pastella
Rita Poole
Lori Reisner
Dave Riffel
Daniel Singleton
Terry Strey
Denise Turner & Family
Deidre Tyska

Pat Lorenzen
Kevin Smith
Detwiler Family
Roger Hall
Beverly Moglich
Judy Pepper
Barbara Stumbaugh
Angela Alder
Larry Cramins
Francis Durfee & Family
Riley Faith
Josh Garcia & Family
Marty Hall
Dayna Hedden
Pam Kaiser
Emma Kraus
Celeste Lewis
Jennifer Millgate
Sally O’Neil
Persecuted Christians
Donna Pringnitz
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Carla Rosen
June Spradlin
Frances Truslow
Sue Twarowski
Tammy VanVliet

GRIEF & STRENGTH:

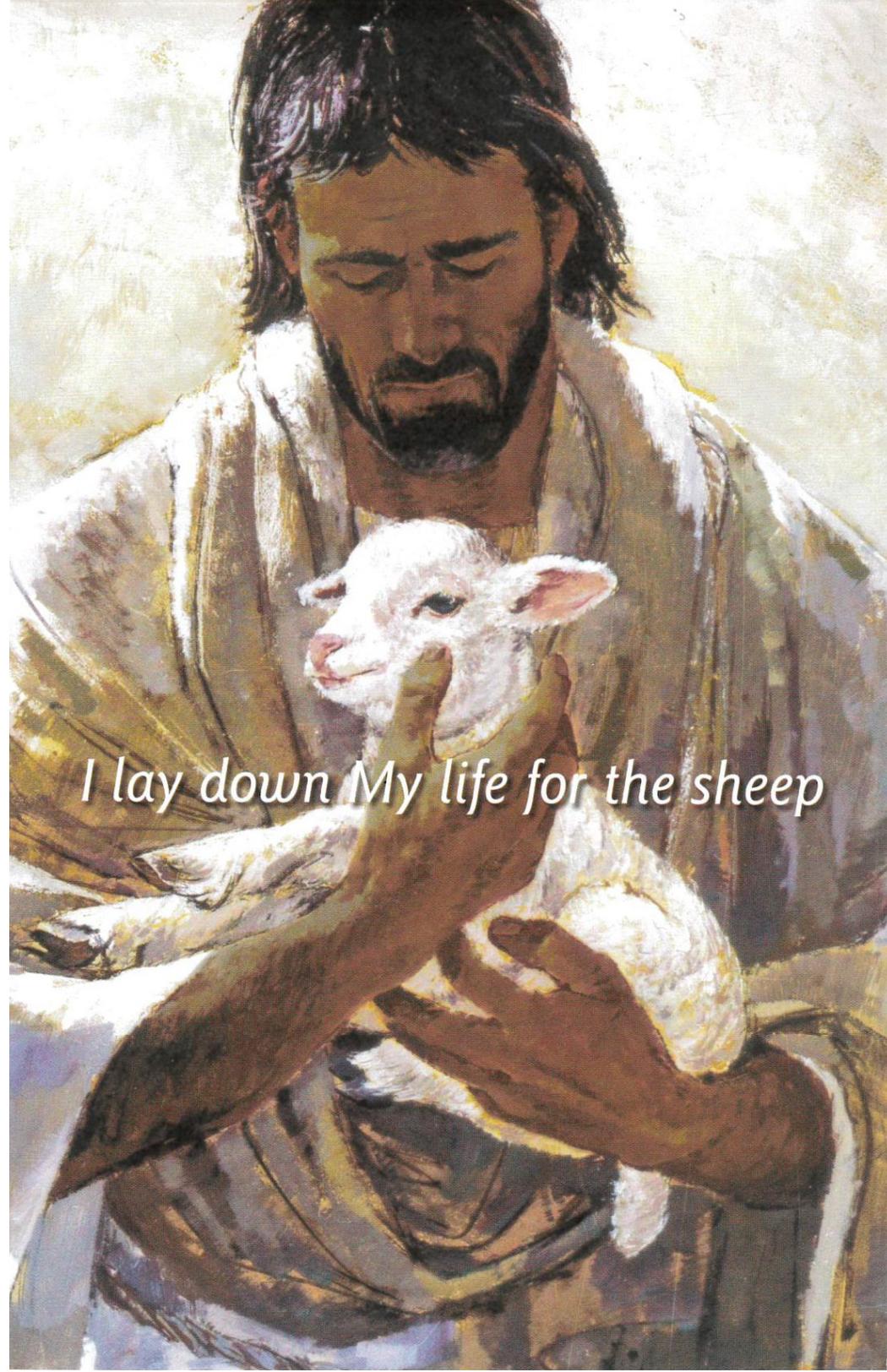
Family of Gene Hill
Family of Rev. August Ristow

THANKSGIVING:

Jason Holling
Cindy Nielsen



About the Cover: With patient and loving care, Christ looks upon each and every sheep in His flock. Such care above all else is demonstrated in that He laid down His life for us and took it up again three days later. Since He was willing to die for us upon the cross and lives today, surely He daily cares and tends to our needs as our shepherd in order to guide us into life everlasting.



I lay down My life for the sheep

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor@ascensionav.org; office@ascensionav.org
Website: www.ascensionav.org
Rev. James Harris, Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 a.m. Inside & Drive-In Service April 25, 2021
93.5 FM
COWBOY WORSHIP

Thoughts as we Gather:

In Series B of the three-year lectionary, the Day of Resurrection directs us to the empty tomb. On the Second Sunday of Easter, Jesus commissions the apostolic office to bring forgiveness of sins and comfort to the doubting through His death and resurrection. On the Third Sunday of Easter, we see that the apostolic office proclaims the death and resurrection of Jesus as it is revealed in Scripture for “repentance and forgiveness of sins” (see Lk 24:47).

Then the Fourth Sunday of Easter is Good Shepherd Sunday. Today we reflect on how the Holy Spirit continues to direct the Church to “hear the voice of our Shepherd” (*Collect*) as we live in this “valley of the shadow of death” (*Introit* and *Psalms*). In Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we know what true love is, for He lays down His life for us (*Epistle*), His sheep (*Gospel*). Moreover, as our Good Shepherd leads us to our eternal home, we love one another as He first loved us (1 Jn 3:23; 4:19). Through the love of the Church and the Word that she confesses, the Spirit calls others in this lost world to hear the Good Shepherd’s voice (Jn 10:16).

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Faith

Instrumental

I tell you the truth
You are looking for Me
Not because you saw miraculous signs
But because you ate the loaves and had your fill
Do not work for food that spoils
I know a man who toils and toils
Work for the food that endures to eternal life
By faith believe in Me
By Faith believe

Amy Grant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be sure to sign the registration book as you drive in. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

MOSES HOUSE

Thank you to everyone who made donations to help out Moses House.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Sun. (04/25)	9:00 a.m.	Drive-In & Inside Worship
Wed. (04/28)	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
Sun. (05/02)	9:00 a.m.	Drive-In & Inside Worship

ATTENDANCE:

04/18/2021	9:00 a.m.	87
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OFFERING:

Needed weekly:	\$ 3,737.00
Received 04/18/21	\$ <u>2,294.65</u>
Short	\$ (1,442.35)

Then they asked Him what must we do
 To do all that God requires
 Jesus answered: “the work of God is this”
 To believe in the One He sent
 To believe
 To believe

Faith is being sure of what we hope for
 And certain of what we do not see
 Faith is being sure of what we hope for
 And anyone is welcome to believe

What miraculous sign then will You give
 That we may see it and believe
 What will You do
 What will You do

Our forefathers ate manna in the desert
 As it is written
 He gave them bread to eat
 Bread from Heaven it’s true
 By faith believe in Me
 By faith believe

Jesus said, “I’m gonna tell you the truth...”
 It was not Moses who has given you bread from Heaven
 It was My Father who has given you true bread from Heaven
 The bread of God is He who gives life to the world
 Believe, believe in Me
 Believe, believe

Faith is being sure of what we hope for
 And certain of what we do not see
 Faith is being sure of what we hope for
 And anyone is welcome to believe
 Anyone is welcome to believe
 Anyone is welcome

Earth to God

Earth to God, come in, God
I know You're there hearing our prayers, wherever You are
We need You now to send Your love down
Take away the pain in Your holy name
We ask this now

We need Your light, we need Your love
To heal the world You made
And save us now in our darkest hour
With Your amazing grace
Earth to God

We're holding on but not for long
Can You pull us all close to the Holy Ghost
And keep us strong?

We need Your light, we need Your love
To heal the world You made
And save us now in our darkest hour
With Your amazing grace
Earth to God

Earth to God
Earth to God
Earth to God
Earth to God, come in, God
Earth to God, come in, God
Earth to God (earth to God), come in, God (come in, God)
Earth to God (earth to God), come in, God (come in, God)

We need Your light, we need Your love
To heal the world You made
And save us now in our darkest hour
With Your amazing grace
Earth to God, come in, God
Earth to God, come in, God

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

John Rich

STEWARDSHIP: April 25 – Easter 4

John 10:14 – “I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me.” What does it mean to know the Lord? It starts with being known by the Lord. He claims us as His own and calls us by name. Then, once we are His, we learn to know Him. In knowing Him, we learn to imitate Him. That is how the Christian life of good works and generosity grows from the Lord's grace.

SERVING SERVICE TODAY:

ELDER Mark Amer
HEAD USHER Bruce Benson

SUNDAY READINGS

The readings for Sunday, May 2, 2021 are:

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 150 (antiphon v. 6)
1 John 4:1-11 (12-21)
John 15:1-8

Kneel/Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS

292

Let us run before our Lord's throne of grace and confess our sins to Him who is faithful and just and promises to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness

We Confess

**I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins.
I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most.
My Lord's name I have not honored as I should;
my worship and prayers have faltered.
I have not let His love have its way with me,
and so my love for others has failed.
There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help.
My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin.**

I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I want to do better.

ABSOLUTION

203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P 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.

C Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come 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.

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 4:1–12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

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

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away
To a land where joy shall never end
I'll fly away

O, I'll fly away, O glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die, hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away

O, I'll fly away, O glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die, hallelujah, bye and bye
I'll fly away

When I die, hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away

Instrumental

Acknowledgments

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Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, and I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light

Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home

When my way grows unclear
Precious Lord, linger near
When my life is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand so I won't fall

Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home

When the darkness appears
And the night is drawing near
And the day is almost gone
At the river I'll stand
So guide my feet and hold my hand

Take my hand, (take my hand) precious Lord
And lead me home

I'll Fly Away

Instrumental

O, some glad morning when this life is over
I'll fly away
To a home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away

O, I'll fly away, O glory
I'll fly away in the morning
When I die, hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away

Instrumental

Randy Travis

PSALM

Psalm 23; antiphon: v. 6

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures.**

He leads me beside still waters.

³He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

⁴**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 Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You 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 forever.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:16–24

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 Him, and He in them. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Reba McEntire

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

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

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

THE DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P 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.**

SANCTUS

161

G Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

G 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My I body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

SERMON TEXT: John 10:11-18

SERMON THEME: Laying It Down

ROOM FOR SERVICE NOTES:

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That the Good Shepherd of Israel, who has sought out His sheep and gathered us with them into one flock, would keep us always in His fold and guard us from every wolf and snare, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the Church and flock of God, that as new life was breathed into the world through the resurrection of Christ, so now by His Holy Spirit new life would be breathed into her also; and that, freed by His Gospel, we may always confess the name of Jesus Christ — the only name given among men by which we must be saved, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For an increase in the love of Christian brothers one to another, especially within our own homes, that we may daily show our confidence in God by deed and truth, laying down our lives as Christ first did for us, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the gift of good government, that as the Paschal Lamb has wrought peace between man and God, so He would grant peace and good days also to our citizens and between the nations of the world; and that we and all our neighbors may lead quiet lives in godly contentment, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** In thanksgiving for our risen Christ, the firstfruits from the dead, who has secured forgiveness for our troubled consciences, that He would also bless with temporal health those who suffer [*especially* _____]; and that He would grant us aid not only in this moment, but even more so true, immortal health in the world to come, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the holy communion today, that our Good Shepherd would calm all fears in this valley of the shadow of death through the holy table here prepared in the presence of our enemies; that He would give us repentance and an increase of faith; and that in every tribulation or besetting sin, He would lead us to find comfort and strength in the overflowing mercy given us in this Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** Lord God, out of Your fatherly goodness You have remembered us poor, miserable sinners and given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd — not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that even as this Shepherd knows us and helps in every affliction, we also may know Him, trust Him, seek help and comfort in Him, heartily obey His voice and obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

Stand

PREFACE

LSB 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: