



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
March 31, 2024
Easter Sunday

Prelude Susan Berg, Organist

Announcements

Call to Worship "Sing, Rejoice, the Lord is Risen"
Words by Charlotte Lee, Music by Douglas E. Wagner
Easter Choir with The Good Shepherd Chimes

Processional Hymn "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (Hymn 365)
Easter Choir and Congregation (vv. 1-2,4)

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross.

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.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

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.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

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 the water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

P: We pray together ...

C: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:34-43

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness^[a] is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the

people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The Resurrection of Christ

15 Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news^[a] that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴ and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.^[b] ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8

The Resurrection of Jesus

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the

tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.^[a]

Sermon

"Connections, Not Collections"

Sermon Hymn

"Thine Is The Glory"

Easter Choir and Congregation

Prayers of the People

On this blessed Easter Sunday, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Father God, O Lord, what a morning! Hallelujah! Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed! All of our lessons for today point to the utter confusion of the disciples who came to the tomb. Having just gone through those terrible days of Jesus' arrest, torture and crucifixion, His followers came one by one to check the grave. Fear, dismay and unbelief surrounded them as they witnessed the stone rolled away and only grave clothes lying where Jesus lay. They fled back to their homes in fear to hide from the authorities. **Lord in your mercy...**

They shared their first impressions of this unbelievable scene, wondering if the Romans had further destroyed their dream of a reigning Messiah by hiding his body even from them. Was it all a bad dream; did this Son of God really exist? The writer of Acts summarized what had happened, *"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; ...he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him; we are witnesses to all that he did."* But what had happened to Him now? **Lord in your mercy...**

Lord, we pray for our nation, state and city; our president, governor, mayor and the leaders of the world. It was Mary to whom Jesus spoke. She was the first one privileged to see Him in the garden, and his message to her was clear. He said, *"Go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."* Those words of witness to the resurrected Lord were spread by those who saw him. And as the prophet Isaiah had proclaimed hundreds of years before, *"Everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."* He came for everyone, everywhere. **Lord in your mercy...**

Remember this congregation, its pastor and people, as we share the love of Jesus. Touch those who have asked for prayer with healing, comfort and resurrection victory. We name those among us who have asked for prayer. And for what else do the people of God pray or praise? **Lord in your mercy...**

Now two thousand years later, we proclaim with Isaiah, *"This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."* In the mighty name of our Risen Lord, we pray. Alleluia! **Amen**
CAROLYN T. LINN

Special Music "Sing A Grateful Alleluia" by Joseph M. Martin
Easter Choir

Scripture Reading: Mark 16:1-8

*The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends
and love never dies. —Kate McGahan*

Perhaps you've heard the story of a little boy who was not exactly happy about going to church on Easter Sunday morning. His new shoes were too tight, his tie pinched his neck, and the weather was just too beautiful to be cooped up inside.

As he sulked in the back seat, his parents heard him mutter: "I don't know why we have to go to church on Easter, anyway; they keep telling the same old story, and it always comes out the same in the end."

Yes, it always comes out the same in the end, but it's not the end, but a beginning. And it is because of this glorious new beginning, we can be assured that everything's going to be okay.

In her children's book, *The Summer of the Great Grandmother*, Madeleine L'Engle tells of being with her grandchildren at bedtime for reading and song. Her grandchild Lena turned to her and asked, "Is everything all right?"

She said, "Yes, of course, everything is all right."

Lena asked again: "Gram, is everything really all right? I mean really?"

L'Engle says she "looked at that little child in her white nightgown and realized that she was asking the cosmic question, the question that is out beyond the safety of this home full of light and love and warmth."

Every Christmas, we come to the manger child and ask the same question: "Is everything really all right?"

Every Easter, we come to the tomb and ask that same question: "Is everything really all right?" Yes, everything is going to be fine, just fine.

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Thank you, O God, for your resurrection power in raising Christ Jesus from the darkness of the tomb, and for showing the world that now and forevermore everything is going to be all right! Amen.



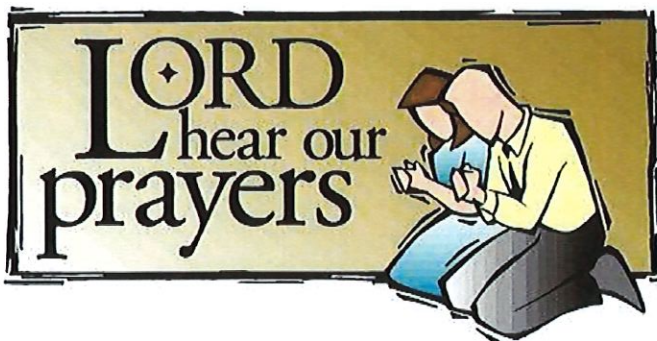
Prayer Concerns

Members in Need of Prayer:

Bill Slusser
Betty Montgomery
Kathy Kuester
Jennifer Neer
Diane Fake
Sheila Boehringer
JoAnn Huebner
Dee Wright
Jim, Jimmy Sanborn & Stacy
Lairson on the loss of Stacy's
father, Ken.
Yvonne Smith
Mona White
Neil and Verna Walden
Robert Harris
Jackie Miller
Mary Schmidt
Liz Smith
Bill Biggs
Arlene Robbins
Mary Norris & Family
Connie Alvarado
Irene Pierini
Jocelyn Miller
Kirsten Linder
Jim Thompson

Family and Friends:

Baby Owen (Fake)
Claire and family upon the death
of Claire's husband, Dale Baumbach
Claire (Vonny)
Janet Sharp (Fake)
David Torres has passed away prayers
for his family and friends.
Julie Gonzales has passed away prayer
for her family and friends.
Debbie (Sullivan Family Friend)
Owen (Fake)
Josue & Maria Zamora (Visitor)
Jim & Judi (Werfelmann)
Anthony Collichio (Norris)
Mickey Cecil (Norris)
Jeanne Grant (Anderson)
Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)
Monica & Kyle Sedra (Werfelmann)
Jacob, Abbe & Family (Werfelmann)
Kevin & Collee (Pastor)
Brad, Sam, & Luke Kossow
Karl & Pauline Ritterbush (Fake)
Art & Children (Anderson)
Debbie West's Daughter, Christine
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)
Bob Knous (Anderson)
Melissa (Sandy T.)
Joy Kensinger (Miller)
Jenna Vance (Kossow)
Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)
Jim D. (Norris)
Jade Dixon (Julie)
Pam (Smith)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Sandy Robbins (Robbins)
JJ Werfelmann (Julie)
Emily & Sawyer Bogart (Anderson)
Roger Robbins (Robbins)
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)
Rosemary (Vonny)
Nathan Robbins (Robbins)



The Lord's Prayer

"The Lord's Prayer" by Albert Hay Malotte
Paul Bolm, Solo

The 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,
for ever and ever.
Amen.
Matthew 6:9-13

Blessing

Communion Hymn

There Is A Redeemer"
Easter Choir and Congregation (vv. 1-3)

Choral Benediction

"Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah"
Easter Choir, Directed by Paul Bolm
Congregation Join at the Choir Loft

Postlude

Susan Berg, Organist

Sending

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Postlude

Susan Berg, Piano

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Deuteronomy 1-3
- Monday:** Deuteronomy 4-6
- Tuesday:** Deuteronomy 7-9
- Wednesday:** Deut. 10-12
- Thursday:** Deut. 13-16
- Friday:** Deuteronomy 17-19
- Saturday:** Deut. 20-22

MISSING LETTER!

Directions: Find the letter that's in the first word, but missing from the second word in CAPS in each set below. Write it on the line. Then, reading from the top down, find the word the letters spell and write it on the line below. Clue: This word describes how we should respond to God's Word.

HIDDEN WORDS

Directions: Here are 10 words that can be rearranged to form another word. We've done the first one for you.

1. DECAL (laced)
2. WRONG
3. LIVED
4. LEMON
5. BURNT
6. THORN
7. LANCE
8. WASTE
9. MARCH
10. LEAST

In BROAD not DRAB _____

In BOOST not SOOT _____

In STEAM not MAST _____

In DRINK not RINK _____

In DAIRY not YARD _____

In EARTH not HART _____

In NEVER not EVER _____

In CROWD not WORD _____

In HEARD not HARD _____

Answers to Hidden Words (spelled backwards):
 2. nworG, 3. lived,
 4. noleM, 5. tnurb,
 6. ltron, 7. naeLc,
 8. taews, 9. mrahc,
 10. laets







Easter Lilies
In Memory or in Honor
of a Loved One!



We wish to donate Easter Lilies in memory of all laid to rest in the Columbarium.

The Memorial Garden

We wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of our grandson Alex and our children & grandchildren.

Gordon and Diane Fake

We wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of Susan Brisendine and in honor of her new life

Neil and Verna Walden

We wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of Agnes Sullivan.

Carol and Francis Sullivan

We wish to donate Easter Lilies in memory of Lilly Villalobos, Sandy Clark, Herb Sellers and Gail Tompkins.

Villalobos Family

I wish to donate Easter Lilies in honor of Kurt Niemi.

Pr. Ted Niemi

We wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of Louis & Eloise Copp and Gene & Phyllis Hofman

Alan & Brenda Hofmann

We wish to donate an Easter Lily in honor of our Risen Lord.

Steve and Janet McQuillan

I wish to donate Easter Lilies in memory of Paul Werfelmann and in honor Julie Werfelmann.

Wilder, Maxwell, Jordan, Lacey, Jude, Travis, Jacob, Abbe, Jen, Steve, JJ, Camille, and Amelia

We wish to donate an Easter Lily to the glory of God.

Jim & Ruth Thompson

I wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of Bob & Jimmy Gerster.

Pam Gerster

I wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of my beautiful wife, Karen.

Mike Kubar

I wish to donate an Easter Lily in honor of Jane Clemente Wurzbarger who passed away during Lent and her son and granddaughter..

Dee Wright

I wish to donate an Easter Lily in memory of Francis (Frank) Wright.

Dee Wright

I wish to donate a lily in thanks be to God for our victory in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Carolyn T. Linn

EASTER


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services Moving Back to Sanctuary!

Starting on March 31st, Easter Sunday, we will move services back to the Sanctuary. If you are wondering - **NO the HVAC is NOT fixed**. However, the weather is much nicer now and the sanctuary should be warm enough. Just remember the order of the day is to dress in layers! It might still be chilly at the start of service but warm up during. The plan is to stay in the sanctuary until the weather gets too warm and drives us back to air conditioning.



Follow Us Now on Instagram

GSLC is now on Instagram and has been on Facebook  so don't forget to follow us to see what is happening. Please get on Instagram and hit LIKE or the heart on our GSLC postings. This is how our postings come at the start of the feed for those following us as individuals. We need to be proactive to spread the word so we can grow.



It's Girl Scout Cookie Season!

Girl Scout Cookies are available. **The last day to order is April 5!**

You may go to

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/cookies/how-to-buy-cookies.html>

or email Sheri Eggebraaten at massagesbysheri@aol.com or if

you prefer, you may call Sheri at 559-903-1851 to place your order. They even deliver your cookies! The cost is \$6.00 a box. Here are the cookies for 2024: Adventurefuls, Caramel Chocolate Chip, Samoas, Do-si-dos, Girl Scout S'mores, Lemonade, LemonUps, Tagalongs, Thin Mints, Toast-Yay!, Trefoils.



Pantry Needs Restocking



We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables (Corn, Green Beans), canned fruit (fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple), canned chili beans, egg noodles, Cream of mushroom or chicken soup, Mayo, canned tuna, chicken or beef, ramen noodles, Mac N Cheese, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter and grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the office M - F, from 9AM - 1PM.

Bring a Friend to Worship

There are business cards paper clipped in stacks of 5 to use to invite people to worship service. Hand them out in your neighborhood or at your local stores. You can ask an usher for the cards if you can't find them.



Kingsmen/Kings Kids Begins April 24 @ 6:30PPM

The first KingsMen and Kings Kids after Easter will take place on April 24th at 6:30 pm in Jacobson Hall. Pizza will be provided.

Thank you. William Hayes



OWLS' April 22 @ 1PM, Blast & Brew Restaurant

The OWLS' next destination will be Blast & Brew Restaurant on April 22, Monday at ONE PM to prey upon a no-host luncheon. The Hooties may silently glide in but you can bet there will be songs of laughter once we are perched. BBR is on the east side of Palm. 1 block south of Herndon. Turn IN on PALMDON. Parking in back.



Upcoming Community Concerts



On April 5 The Philip Lorenz International Keyboard Concert Series presents international keyboard artist Joyce Yang in a concert featuring works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Mussorgsky. Winner of the silver medal at the 2005 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Joyce Yang has performed with many of the most prestigious symphony orchestras in this country and throughout the world. The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall on the campus of California State University, Fresno. Advance tickets are available online through ticketsource.us.

Fresno's celebrated women's chorale, *Soli Deo Gloria*, directed by Dr. Julie Carter, presents "Celebrating Our Stories," a concert at 7:30 p.m. (pre-concert notes at 7:00 p.m.) on Friday, April 19, at University Presbyterian Church, 1776 E. Roberts, Fresno 93710. The concert will present music chosen to reflect the languages, hardships, and joys from the varied family heritages of chorale members, some of whom will also share their stories during the concert. The Luminosa women's choir from Clovis High School, directed by Tami Spurgeon, will also perform. Tickets are \$25 at the door (\$12 for students). Advance tickets may be purchased for \$20 from Cheryl Montgomery, who is a member of this outstanding ensemble, or online at sdg.choir.com.

Fresno Community Chorus' *Master Chorale* on Sunday, April 28, at 2:30 p.m. presents Jocelyn Hagen's "The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci and Elaine Hagenberg's "Illuminare" featuring a unique and immersive audio-visual performance. The concert will be held at Shaghoian Concert Hall at the Clovis Unified School District Performing Arts Center, 2770 East International Ave., Fresno 93730. Tickets will be available at the door for \$25. Cheryl Montgomery and John Montgomery are members of this acclaimed Chorale.

