

ORDER OF WORSHIP
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH – May 8th, 2022
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/ GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
APRIL-JULY WORSHIP 10AM

Now The Feast & Celebration

An Alternative Eucharistic Setting by Marty Haugen

PRELUDE Shirley Bergman

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG: ELW 780 SHEPHERD ME, OH GOD

Refrain

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.

1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. Refrain

2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name. Refrain

3 Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. Refrain

4 You have set me a banquet of love
in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. Refrain

5 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. Refrain

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Stand

Presider: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised

to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Presider: Most merciful God,

Congregation: **Have mercy on us.**

We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved on another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen

Presider: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgive you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

Stand

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

Congregation: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, lord have mercy.

P: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, lord have mercy.

P: For your people here who have come to give you praise for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, lord have mercy.

P: Help, save and defend us, O God.

C: Amen.

NOW THE FEAST

Now the feast and celebration,

All of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom:
Praise and glory for evermore!

1) Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain
Whose blood has freed and united us
To be one great people of God.
Now the feast and celebration,
All of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom:
Praise and glory for evermore!

2) Power and riches, wisdom and might
All honor and glory to Christ forever.

Now the feast and celebration,
All of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom:
Praise and glory for evermore!

3) For God has come to dwell with us,
To make us people of God;
To make all things new.

Now the feast and celebration,
All of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom:
Praise and glory for evermore!

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

○ God of peace, **you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

A Reading from Acts:

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity.³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay."³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 23

¹The LORD my shepherd;

I shall not in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?”¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

The Gospel of John:

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was

winter,²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me;²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.³⁰ The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 789 SAVIOR LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.

- 2 We are yours; in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.

- 3 You have promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.

- 4 Early let us seek your favor,
early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

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

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unflinching trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation especially Dennis Bushkofsky and Jeanne Thompson . Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding (*as did Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today*). Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

**Please stand as you are able.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Assistant: It is our duty and delight...we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy are you

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest,

Hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine in the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION BLESSING

Presider: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Silence for reflection.

May God bless us and keep us,
May God's face shine on us and be gracious.
May God, look on us with favor and give us peace.
Amen

SENDING HYMN: ELW 778 THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD

**1 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.
he leadeth me, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**2 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;
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

3 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;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4 my table thou hast richly spread
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5 goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in god's house forevermore
my dwelling-place shall be;
and in god's house forevermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE by Shirley Bergman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday worship services will be at **10:00am April-July.**

Congratulations to Landon Bergman and Logan Krivanek, who recently completed communion class and will be receiving their first communion today!

Plant Sale: The Independence Garden Club will have a plant sale on Saturday, May 14th 8-11 a.m, at the Falcon Civic Center, 1305 5th Avenue NE, Independence. If you have plants to contribute to the event, contact Shirley Bergman. Proceeds contribute to scholarships.

Synod Assembly: June 10-11, Friday and Saturday, NE Iowa Synod meets at Wartburg College with the theme "Better Together." ALC delegates are Tom Hoey and Shirley Bergman.

Midweek Boost: We enjoyed a fun pasta buffet, songs, story, and Resurrection Buns in April. Please consider hosting the next Midweek Boost, our alternative worship, on Wednesday, May 25.

Youth Group Mission Trip to Milwaukee June 6-9. The group will provide service to two specific missions: Tricklebee Cafe, a pay-as-you-can cafe, and the Urban Ecology Center, whose goal is to bring nature into urban areas. We will stay at the Urban Gathering Center housed inside Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church. In addition to the service work, the group will spend a little time exploring Milwaukee and having some fun at the lake & the zoo!

VBS Meeting Sunday, May 22, 4 PM at ALC for all interested volunteers. VBS is Aug 14-17 with the theme "Food Truck Party."

Jesup Ministerial Summer Food Program: Every summer, churches in Jesup work together to provide food to families in our community. ALC is collecting instant oatmeal to contribute to this— boxes of instant oatmeal may be placed in the yellow grocery cart in the church entryway. Churches take turns packing the food that will be distributed. ALC and Jubilee will be packing food at 4pm at the St A's gym on July 6 and July 20. Come one or both times. See Mary Adams if you have any questions.

Support Ukrainian Refugees: To support Lutheran Disaster Response through the congregation, indicate "Eastern Europe Crisis" on your donation, or give online at <https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-responseelca.org>.

Donations: ALC member **Stephanie Winkelpleck, diagnosed with** Acute Myeloid Leukemia, thanks you for your generous giving. To help, please designate your donation. **Caring Bridge** link: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/stephaniewittwinkelpleck>.

Prayer Shawl meets Tuesdays, 10 AM - noon. Enjoy fellowship while knitting and crocheting. New members welcome. The shawls and blankets are shared with those who are ill, grieving, and in need of comfort.

Military members: Jordan and Justin are deployed to an undisclosed location

in Southwest Asia for several months. Jeryn Loyd is in the Army Reserves and is a student at Iowa State. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We'd like to remember them in our prayers.

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Pastor Kristen Rod

Music: Shirley Bergman

Usher: Bergman family
Nuehring family

Reader: Christy Phillips

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday May 8th:

10am Worship and communion

Monday May 9th:

6:30pm Council Meeting

Tuesday May 10th:

10am -12pm Prayer Shawl

Sunday May 15th:

10am Worship and communion

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance **5/1/22**: 35

Current **5/5/22**: \$13,841.75

Offering: **05/01/22**

Current: \$3,145

Benevolence: \$197

Improvement: \$165

Lutheran Disaster

Response: \$50

NS Benevolence: \$35

Youth Gatherings: \$100

Jubilee: \$3,674.08