

THE LITURGY OF WORD & SACRAMENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, April 26, 2026 10:00AM

REGULAR PRINT = PRESIDING MINISTER OR ASSISTING MINISTER

BOLD PRINT = CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES

✠ = AT VARIOUS POINTS THROUGHOUT THE SERVICE, THE SIGN OF THE CROSS MAY BE
MADE BY ALL IN REMEMBRANCE OF THEIR BAPTISM

*The red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP service book and hymnal is used for the
liturgy.*

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

“In Heavenly Love Abiding”

*1 In heav'nly love abiding, no change my heart shall fear;
and safe is such confiding, for nothing changes here.
The storm may roar without me, my heart may low be laid,
but God is round about me, and can I be dismayed?*

*2 Wherever He may guide me, no want shall turn me back;
my Shepherd is beside me, and nothing can I lack.
His wisdom ever waketh; His sight is never dim.
He knows the way He taketh, and I will walk with Him.*

*3 Green pastures are before me which yet I have not seen.
Bright skies will soon be o'er me, where the dark clouds have been.
My life I cannot measure; the path of life is free;
My Savior has my treasure, and He will walk with me.*

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(We Stand)

*Words to be spoken or sung by the assembly are indicated in **bold type**.*

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the
presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Loving God,
**we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection
but are caught in the worries of the world.**
**We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life
but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious.**
Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News.
**Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain
than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ.**
**Call us back to Your ways, O God,
to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace.**
In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Christ is Risen! The stone is rolled away, the tomb found empty.
Mary calls out, "I have seen the Lord!"
We have seen Christ, too, in every helping hand, in every heartfelt gift,
in every choice to restore life in this world.
We are called to this new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation.
You are forgiven; accept your forgiveness and know that God loves you
and desires great joy for your life. Walk forward on this journey of faith,
knowing your brothers and sisters are with you.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

The Old Rugged Cross



1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross,
2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross, so de - spised by the world,
3. In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,
4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true,



The em - blem of suf - fring and shame;
Has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;
A won - drous beau - ty I see;
Its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear.



And I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove
For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died
Then He'll call me some - day to my home far a - way,



For a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.



So I'll cher - ish the old rug-ged cross 'Til my tro - phies at last I lay down;



I will cling to the old rug-ged cross, And ex - change it some-day for a crown.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

II Corinthians 13: 13

And also with you.

LITANY OF WELCOME

God has shown us what is good, and what then is required of us?

**To act justly; to love mercy;
and to walk humbly with our God.**

Micah 6: 8

Jesus says, "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me,
and anyone who welcomes me
welcomes the One who sent me."

Matthew 10: 40

The Spirit says, "Come."

**Let each one who hears the Spirit say, "Come,"
for all are welcome here.**

Revelation 22: 17

In this service, let us draw near to our Reconciling Redeemer,
who knows our hearts and is able to mend our souls,
to strengthen and sustain us,
to reconcile our broken relationships and heal our wounds.

Let us worship God now

**With words that proclaim God's inclusive love,
With works that bring forth God's powerful justice,
And with worship that rejoices in God's wondrous presence,
Now and always,
Amen!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Majesty

Jack Hayford
Em

Maj-es-ty! Wor-ship His maj-es-ty! Un-to Je-sus be all glo-ry,
 hon-or, and praise! Maj-es-ty, king-dom, au - thor-i-ty,
 flow from His throne un - to - His own; His an - them raise!
 So ex - alt, lift up on high the name of Je - sus!
 Mag-ni - fy, come, glo - ri - fy Christ Je - sus the King!
 Maj - es - ty! Wor-ship His maj - es - ty!
 Je - sus who died, now glo - ri - fied, King of all kings!

The PRAYER OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and psalm.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

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A reading from Acts.

⁴² [The baptized] 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

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

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND READING: First Peter 2:19-25

A reading from First Peter.

¹⁹ 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gospel Acclamation: "Hallelujah!" from Messiah (abridged)

G. F. Handel

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

For the Lord God om - ni - - po - tent reign - eth! And Christ shall reign for - ev - er and ev - er.

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to John.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹ “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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

His Eye Is On the Sparrow

Civillia Martin, 1902

Charles Gabriel, 1905



1. Why should I feel dis - cour - aged? Why should the shad - ows come?
 2. "Let not your heart be trou - bled," His ten - der word I hear;
 3. When - ev - er I am tempt - ed, When - ev - er clouds a - rise,



Why should my heart be lone - ly And long for heav'n and home,
 And rest - ing on His good - ness, I lose my doubt and fear.
 When songs give place to sigh - ing, When hope with - in me dies,



When Je - sus is my por - tion? My con - stant Friend is He:
 Though by the path He lead - eth But one step I may see,
 I draw the clos - er to Him; From care He sets me free:



His eye is on the spar - row, And I know He watch - es me.



His eye is on the spar - row, And I know He watch - es me.



I sing be - cause I'm hap - py; I sing be - cause I'm free,



For His eye is on the spar - row, And I know he watch - es me.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The service then continues with the prayers of intercession.

Prayers of the Church and Response

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system has the lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an-swer me." The second system has the lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come, and lis-ten to me." The piano accompaniment features chords such as Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, G/B, C, Am, B, Em/G, Am7, B, and Em.

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far. Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God,

O Lord, hear my prayer...

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God,

O Lord, hear my prayer...

Command your angels concerning all who are sick, especially those we remember silently in our hearts and with voice upon our lips (pause) David Cossey (*stepfather of Ben Bullock*); Maria Gallego (*mother of Pastor Steven*); Tiffanie Reeves; Joe Black (*father of Lynn Black*); Bill Black (*brother of Lynn Black*); Sharon Baldwin; Tracy Hamiter; Connie Pool; Emmy Reeves; Bobbie Prosser; Sarah Trani; Jeff Harrell; James Deckle; Sharon May (*wife of Peggy Thompson*). God, in your mercy,

O Lord, hear my prayer...

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

The assembly remains standing for sharing the Peace.

PEACE

ELW pg. 106

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you!

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,
"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

The assembly is seated.

The OFFERING & OFFERTORY

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Offertory Anthem

"Hush! Somebody's Calling My Name"

Choir

Hush! Somebody's calling my name... O my Lord, what shall I do?

Sounds like Jesus... O my Lord, what shall I do?

Soon, death come creeping in my room... O my Lord, what shall I do?

Hush! Somebody's calling my name... O my Lord, what shall I do?

DOXOLOGY

Praise God for Love We All May Share

Hymns of the Spirit, 1937

Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Praise God for love we all may share. Praise God for beau-ty

The first system of music features a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes, with a fermata over the final note of the first phrase. The bass line provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

ev - 'ry - where. Praise God for hope of good to be.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes a fermata over the final note of the second phrase. The bass line continues with a steady accompaniment.

Praise God for truth that makes us free. A - men.

The third system concludes the hymn. The melody ends with a fermata over the final note. The bass line provides a final accompaniment.

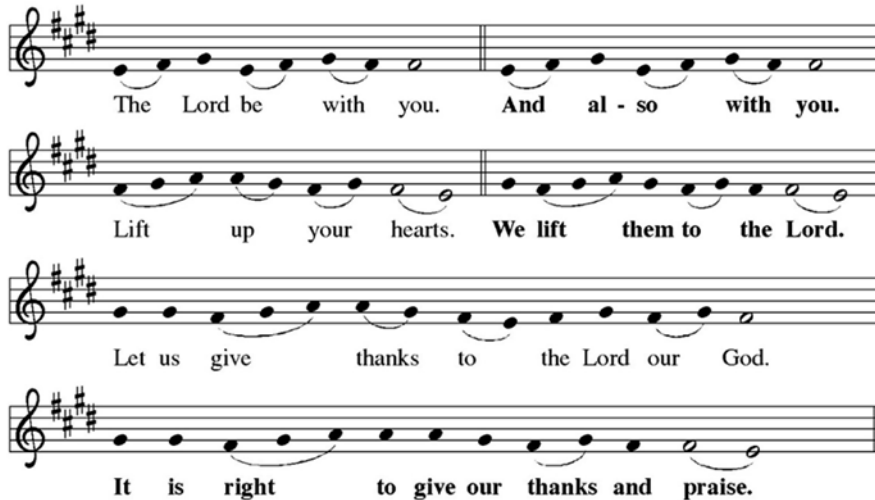
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

PREFACE and SANCTUS

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**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.**

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE BELOVED

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR WORSHIP IS THIS SHARED MEAL

ALL ARE WELCOME to join us as members of God's family in Christ, as we share in this powerful gift of God's love and grace for the whole human family. We gather around the altar, kneeling or standing, wherever there is a place. The presiding minister offers wheaten wafers but can provide a gluten free wafer by request.

The assisting minister offers individual cups of wine (red) or grape juice (white) for you to choose. The church also affirms our Lord's full presence in, with, and under each element alone. If you prefer to commune in your pew with a prepackaged communion set, please alert an usher.

COMMUNION SONG

Let Us Break Bread Together



- 1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
- 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
- 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

COMMUNION SONG

This Is My Body

traditional

Edward Bonnemere

This is my bod - y giv-en up for you, — This is my
blood poured out for you. — This is my bod - y giv-en
up for you, — This is my blood poured out for you.
Bod-y of Christ. A - men. — Blood of Christ. A - men. —
Bod-y of Christ. A - men. — Blood of Christ. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus, Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;
Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.

The musical score is written on two systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is a simple, four-note phrase: G4, A4, Bb4, G4. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

The assembly stands and the presiding minister says a table blessing.

THE TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen!**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.. **Amen.**

COMMISSION and BENECTION

We shall celebrate Easter! Alleluia!

We shall bring love to those who are sad

And share joy with those who are happy

We will live our lives to the glory of God

We will live in Easter joy and Easter hope

And bring new life to those we meet. Alleluia!

May the blessing of God the Creator be upon this place,

The blessing of Christ our Redeemer be upon us,

The blessing of the Spirit, hallowed and healing, be on our lives,

The blessing of the Triune God be on all who seek an encounter with the loving and divine. **Amen.**

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, 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, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 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, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Sunday Bible Study – 9:15 AM

Join Pastor Steven each Sunday at 9:15 AM as we explore trees throughout Scripture and their connection to humanity, including reflection on the Tree of Life.

May 2 at 2:00 PM

Celebration of Life Service for Sue

We will gather to honor and celebrate Sue's life. Following the service, light refreshments will be served as we share memories and fellowship together.

If you are able to bring snacks or fruit, please email: pastor@reformationcae.org.

May 9 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Church Work Day

Volunteers are needed to assist with projects inside the church and outdoor yard work. Please bring tools and gloves if you have them. Your help is greatly appreciated as we care for our church home.

Mother's Day Music Invitation - BELLS

Join us as we prepare a special musical presentation for **Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10**. We will have a rehearsal on **Saturday, May 9 at 7:00 PM**, lasting about one hour. Anyone and everyone is welcome to come and enjoy playing. Beginners are always warmly welcome—no experience is necessary. Come be a part of this joyful celebration!

Graduation Recognition – Pentecost Sunday (May 24)

We are excited to celebrate our graduates on **Pentecost Sunday, May 24**, a day of transitions and new beginnings. If you or a family member are graduating this year, please let us know so we may recognize this special milestone. Contact Pastor Steven!

Welcome Sunday – May 31

Join us on **May 31** for Welcome Sunday as we receive new members into the life of the church. If you are interested in joining, please contact Pastor Steven for more information.

REFORMATION LUTHERAN IS AN INCLUSIVE, LGBTQIA+ AFFIRMING congregation



that believes Christ calls us to serve others with joy. Safe Space Dinners, a ministry for homeless LGBTQIA+ youth, including people of color. The ministry is simple. On the second and fourth Thursday of each month, these youth (14-23 years old) are offered a safe space and time to gather for a time to rest and recharge, a home-cooked meal, a haircut, and a backpack of items they will find helpful in their day-to-day life. There are always a number of games to play, including video games. Sometimes we have entertainment from the community. There is no preaching, no conversion therapy attempts; only support and comfort. This is a ministry of giving – nothing more.