

Sending

BLESSING:

P Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always. **C** **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: LBW #501 - *He Leadeth Me*

1 He leadeth me: oh, blessed thought! Oh, words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

2 Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me. **Refrain**

3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me. **Refrain**

4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vict'ry's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.
Refrain

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918

DISMISSAL **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The Worship is ended—The Service begins!

After the service, please join us for Coffee Time in the Fellowship Hall.

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Holy Communion 12

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mission statement: "We celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ by living and sharing His Word and caring for God's creation."



Pastor: Mary Anne Kingsborough
Pastor Emeritus: Thomas W. Rundell

Ministers:
All Members of the Congregation

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

9:30am INDOOR/Outdoor Service of Word and Sacrament

*Welcome to Concordia Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Columbia, Pennsylvania
Welcome, worshipers!*

OUTDOOR

•TUNE TO 105.5 FM in car or portable radio.

If using auxiliary, start your car engine often to avoid draining the battery.

•To make this a safe and enjoyable service for everyone, please follow the following guidelines:

The **bulletin and communion elements** will be available in the Communion Station as you park. Please leave elements sealed until the Words of Institution.

When asked to consume them, please peel back the very top to consume the wafer, and then carefully pull back the covering over the juice. ***Parents should help children. You may dispose of the containers.

Offerings may be placed in the Offering Box.

INDOOR Offering—Passing of the plate

At both services:

Prayer Requests - Please tell an usher or place in the Prayer Box.

Donations for the **Food Bank** will also be accepted.

Preparation for Worship

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

INTRODUCTION The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION

(Outside - Open Communion Elements)

P The Body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** / The Blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**

[In - Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the usher. As you pass to the front, pick up a cup from the tray. Today we will receive the sacrament as you come before the altar to kneel, if able. Children may come forward for a blessing. After communing, continue to the side aisle to return to your seat.]

COMMUNION HYMN: #778 - The Lord's My Shepherd

*When all have communed and returned to their seats,
please stand as indicated by the pastor.)*

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

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us Pray:

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. C **Amen.**

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, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER


PLord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

COur 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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **C Amen.**

(Please be seated)



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.

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Thanksgiving for Baptism *(Please stand)*

*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, 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.

C Amen.
Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Gathering

Gathering Hymn: #502 - The King of Love My Shepherd Is

REETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P 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.**

This Is the Feast

Refrain
Assisting minister

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

All

1 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.

Refrain

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

2 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.

Final refrain

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.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C Amen.

(Please be seated.)

The Word

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

O God most mighty,
O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation,
hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

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.

OFFERING *Musical Selection*

OFFERTORY: *(Please stand as the gifts are brought forward)*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us Pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Seasonal Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

Word of God! Word of Life!

C Thanks Be To God!

PSALM: Psalm 23

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- ²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**
- ³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall 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, and my cup is running 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 forever.**

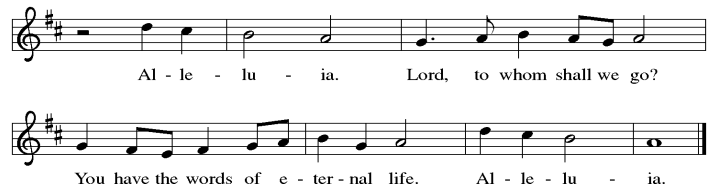
SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks Be To God!

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)



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The Holy Gospel according to John, the Tenth Chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to 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 in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord. C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

(Silence for reflection and prayer)

(Please stand after the Sermon.)

HYMN OF THE DAY: #789 - Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us

Apostles’ Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the virgin Mary, He 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. He will come again 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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Each petition concludes with: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

The Meal

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. C **And also with you.**

Please be seated.