

# ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

[Stpeterlutheranchurch.net](http://Stpeterlutheranchurch.net)

13221 W. Todd School Rd.

Glasford, Illinois 61533

309-389-5342

Pastor Raymond Barclay



Sunday, April 26, 2026  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Holy Communion  
Welcome Bishop Busboom!

**PRELUDE: ORGAN / CLAVINOVA**  
**[\*] REQUESTS YOUR RISING IF COMFORTABLE**  
**GREETINGS**



**\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

**(The ‘sign of the Cross’ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism)**

**\*ENTRANCE HYMN *Have No Fear, Little Flock* (LBW 476)**

## Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle  
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle  
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -  
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to  
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in  
bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -  
God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!  
all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

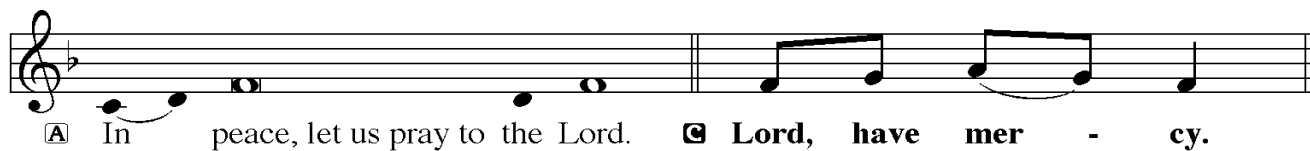
Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4  
Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930  
Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

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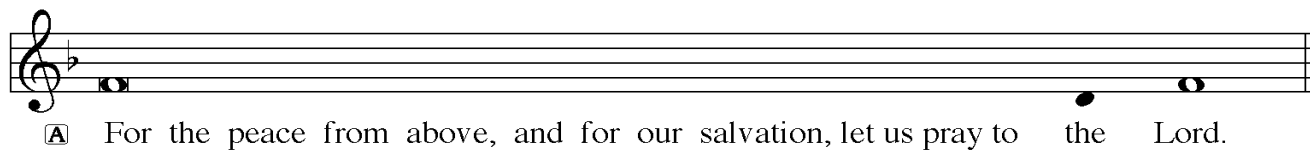
**\*GREETING (LBW p. 57)**

**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.**

**\*KYRIE (LBW p. 57)**



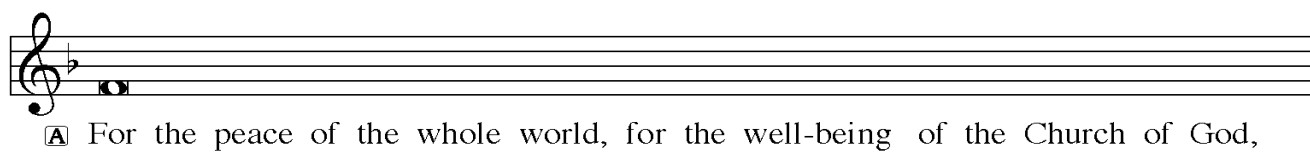
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



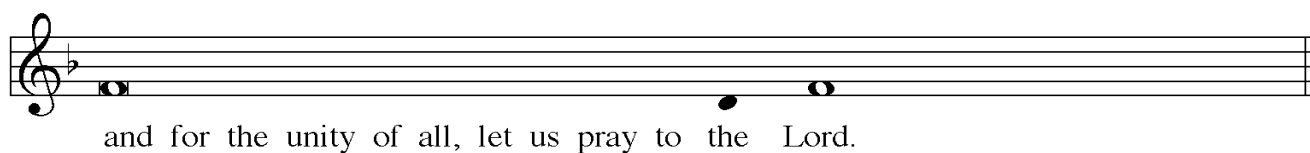
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



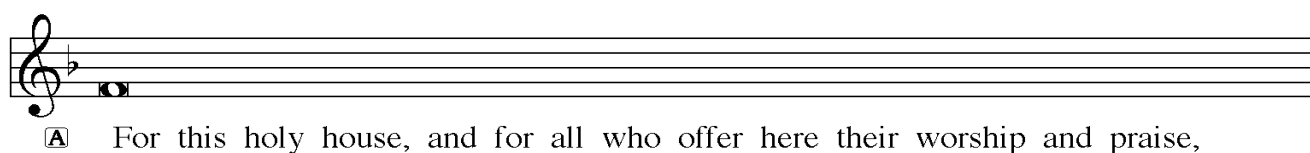
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



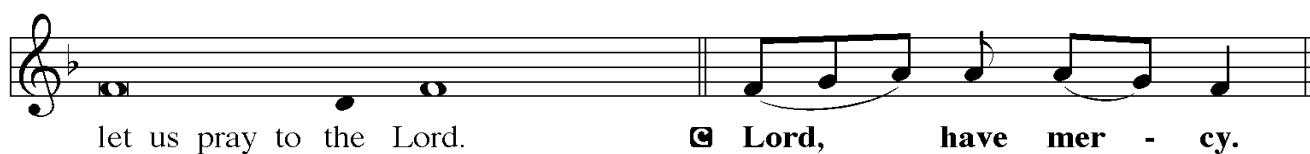
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



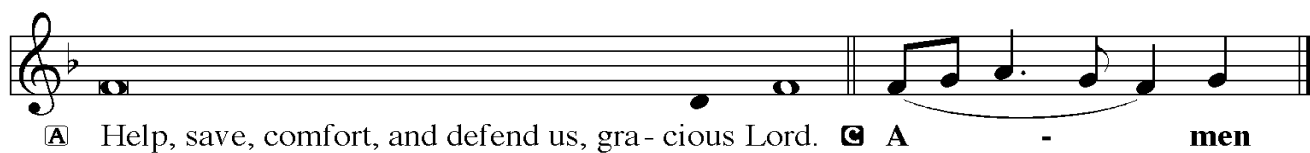
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

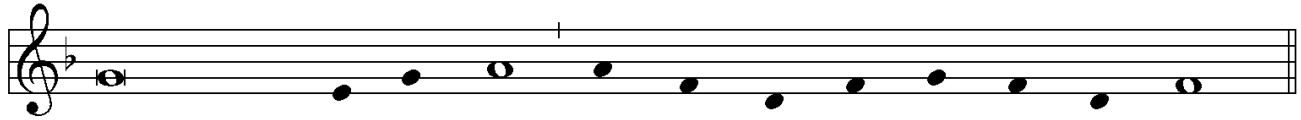


let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW p. 58)**



**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 62)**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. . . .

God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep. Send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with knowledge and understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

**LECTOR: LYO**

**LECTIONARY YEAR A**

**FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:42-47**

The First Lesson is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Acts.

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> 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, <sup>47</sup> 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.

Here ends the reading.

## PSALM: Psalm 23

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

<sup>1</sup> The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **He makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> He re- | vives my soul

and guides me along right pathways | for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **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.**

<sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

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

## SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 2:19-25

The Second Lesson is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Peter.

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> 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.

<sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Here ends the reading.

**\*VERSE (LBW p. 62)**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*GOSPEL: John 10:1-10**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup> “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. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

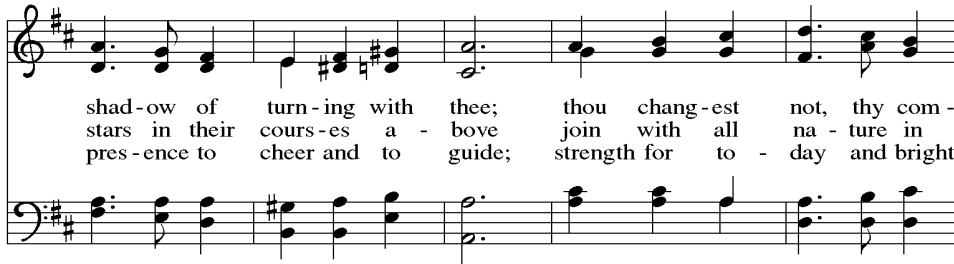
**SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (WOV 771)

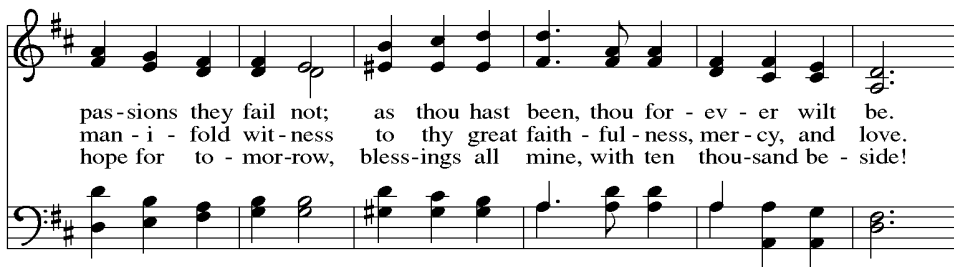
## Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no  
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

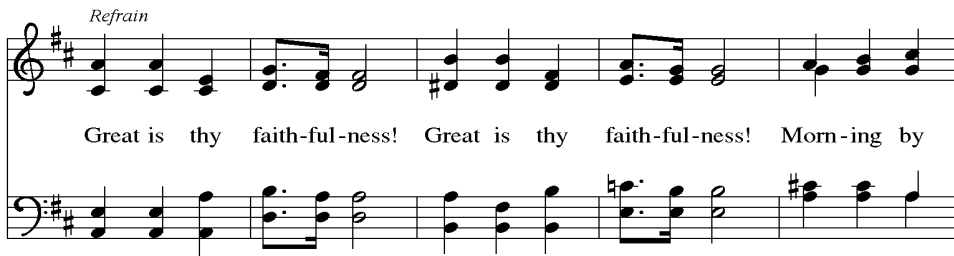


shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-  
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in  
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.  
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.  
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960  
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957  
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## **\*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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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 PRAYERS**

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

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. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

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,

**receive our 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. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured (*especially*). Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

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,

**receive our prayer.**

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. Merciful God,

**receive our 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.**



**A TIME SET ASIDE FOR SILENT PRAYER**

**\*PEACE**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us share God's peace with one another.

**\*OFFERING (LBW p. 66)**

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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P Blessed are you,

**C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**\*DIALOGUE (LBW p. 68)**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

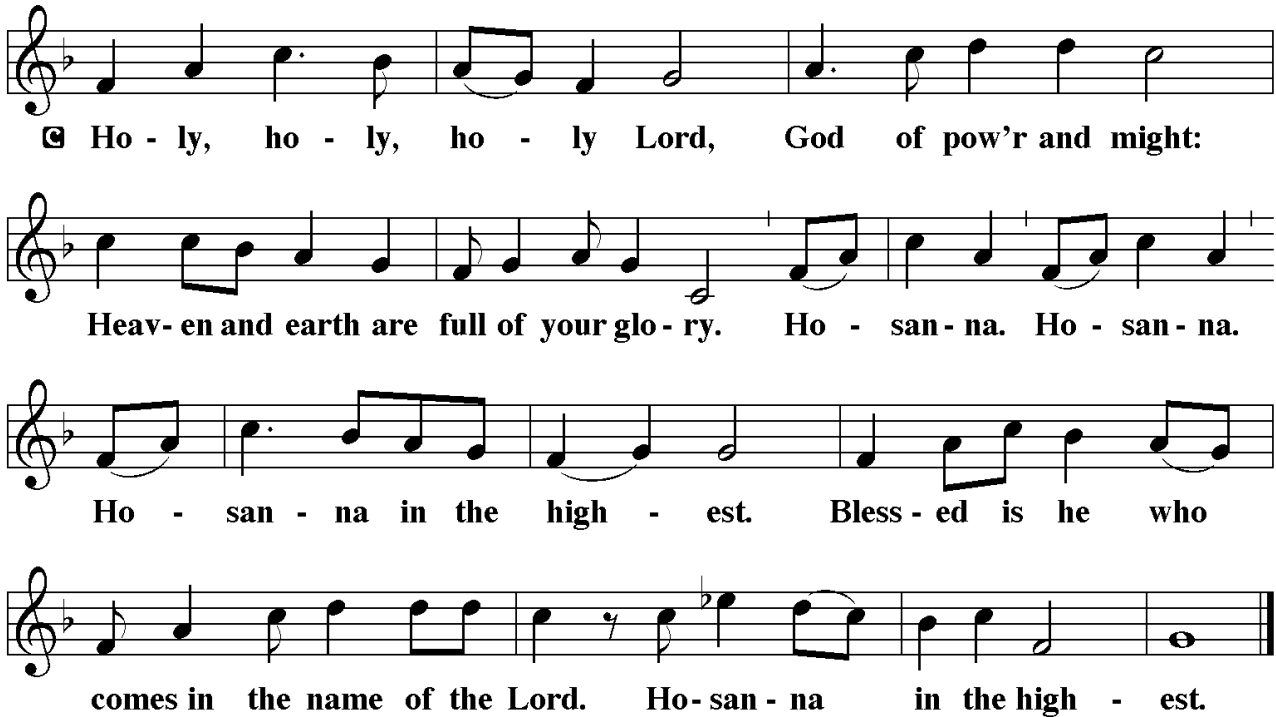
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**\*PREFACE (LBW p. 68)**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

**\*SANCTUS (LBW p. 69)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
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 (LBW p. 69)**

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;  
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.

## COMMUNION HYMN

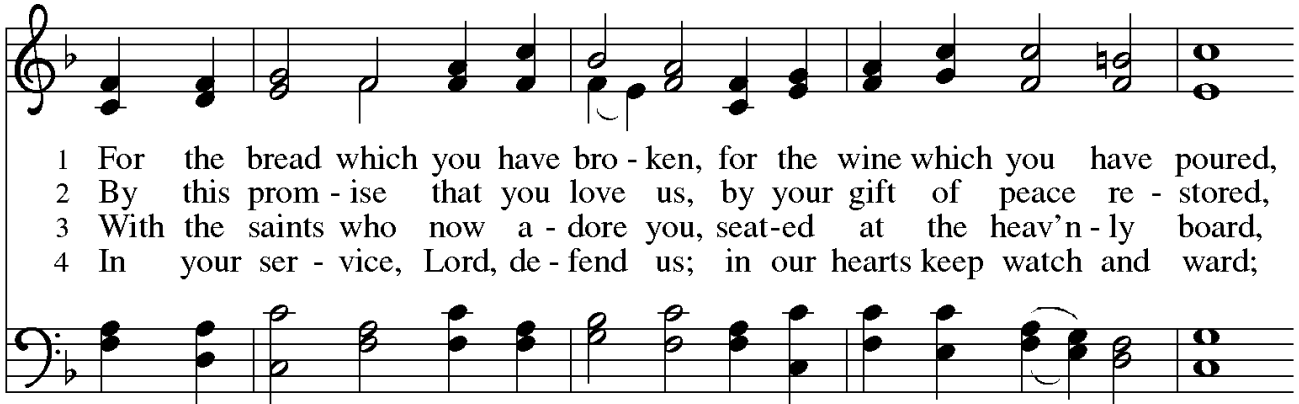
☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

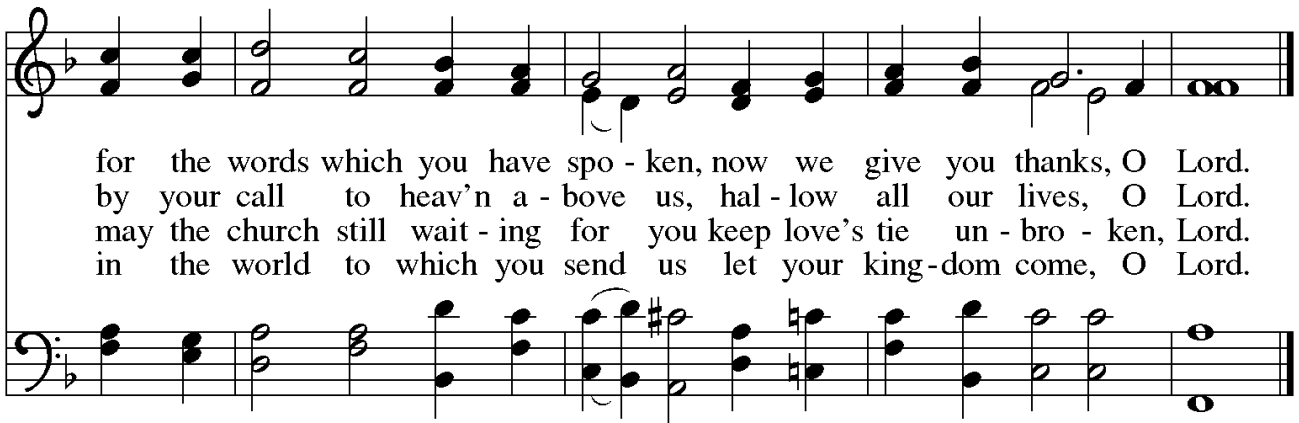
P The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
C Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* (LBW 200)

For the Bread Which You Have Broken



1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,  
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,  
3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,  
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895

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COMMUNION HYMN *He Leadeth Me* (LBW 501)

He Leadeth Me

1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!  
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow - ers bloom,  
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;  
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,

What - e'er I do, wher - e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.  
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.  
con - tent, what - ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.

*Refrain*

He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.

His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

## \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

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

C Amen



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice 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

P Let us pray.

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

**P** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**~ THANK YOU ~**

**Music:** Linda Garmon  
**Reader:** LYO  
**Greeter:** LYO  
**Com. Assts:** Bobbie Dean  
Colleen Juraco  
Trish Deppermann

**\*THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS\***

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for coming!

**~ Strength & Healing Concerns~**

**\*PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS\***

Pam Rabe	Judy Livingston	Pat Janssen	Bill Juraco
Phyllis Fischer	Mary Lou Nannen	Judy Wyss	Virginia Mahan
Richard Sathoff	Carl Satterlee	Dave Kroepel	Linda Meyer
Grant Blaza	Doug Rabe	Alice Lopez	Marsha Shafer
Bobby Creamer	Becky Pfahl	Brenda Hyneman	Rita Scott
Karen Randle	Mason Deppermann	Travis Riekema	Julie Scott

**And All Soldiers Serving Our Country**



**~ ST. PETER HAPPENINGS ~**

**Sun. April 26<sup>th</sup> – Communion Sunday**

**WELCA Pound Sale and General Meeting @ 3pm**

**Thur. April 30<sup>th</sup> – Bible Study @ Methodist UMC @ 7pm**

**Sat. May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Basement Reserved – Fischer Bridal Shower**

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**April 26, 2026**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Our Good Shepherd**

The images in today's texts provide us with much food for thought and action. Psalm 23 tells of a shepherd who leads us to green pastures and refreshing waters, walks alongside us as we face challenging times, takes us to a table already set, and anoints us with oil to mark each of us as chosen. We are heard, seen, known, valued, and loved, and remain in the Shepherd's presence for all time.

Jesus' words in the gospel reading add to the image of a loving and caring shepherd. The shepherd calls each sheep by name, while the sheep follow because they recognize that voice. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows us well and calls each of us by name. Jesus also serves as the gate for the sheep, guarding and protecting us in the sheepfold, while also providing access to pastureland. This protection and access give us the space to be who we are, with no need to play games or pretend to be someone we are not. And when it comes right down to it, the Good Shepherd comes to give us abundant life—new life in relationship with God, others, and all creation.

The reading from Acts 2 provides an image of abundant life among the early Christians, a life with an extravagance of worship, fellowship, prayer, generosity, service to others, and thankfulness.

How does the image of the Good Shepherd sit with you? How do you picture the relationship between you and Jesus—with shepherd and sheep imagery, or something else? Where and how do you recognize the Good Shepherd's voice? Do you know someone who has abundant life in Christ—a life of faith, joy, and love? What would such a life look like for you, and for your faith community?

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