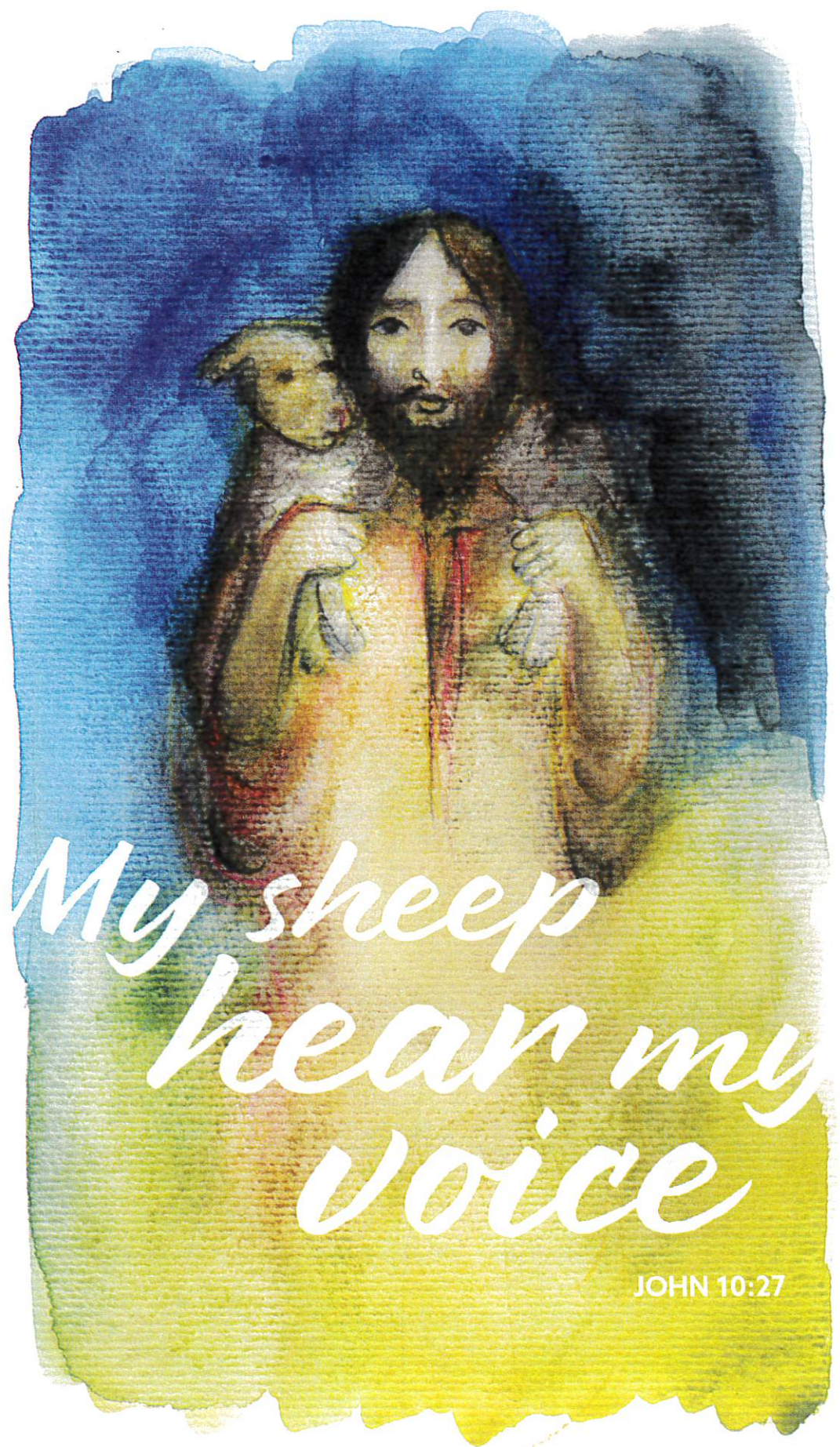






Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 10, 2025 ~ 5:00 pm

Sunday, May 11, 2025 ~ 9:00 am

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRELUDE

"To Live On"

Jubilation

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Round the Table"

vv. 1 & 2

Larry Olson
Hans Peterson

♩ = 86

C F C Am G

Come to-gether 'round the ta - ble. Come and taste the won - der,

C F C Am F G C

a healing touch and a deep connec-tion from the liv-ing cen-ter of it all.

Last time Fine F C Dm7 C/E

Seek-ing mean-ing on the run you try and save the day.
 Bring a friend or en - e - my or one you hold or blame.
 Hear cre - a - tion groan for life. Will hate and hun-ger cease?

But all is read - y will you come? Love in - vites the way.
 With each oth - er we are one, here in Je - sus' name.
 In the roar of vi - o - lence the world cries for peace.

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THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✙ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG "Shepherd of My Soul"

D $\flat$ A $\flat$ /D $\flat$ E $\flat$ m7 G $\flat$ /A $\flat$ A $\flat$ D $\flat$
 Shep-herd of— my soul,— I give You full— con-trol,— Wher-

B $\flat$ m7 E $\flat$ m7 G $\flat$ /A $\flat$ A $\flat$
 ev - er You— may lead— I will fol - low,

D $\flat$ A $\flat$ /D $\flat$ E $\flat$ m7 G $\flat$ /A $\flat$ A $\circ$ 7 B $\flat$ m7
 I have made— the choice— to lis - ten for— Your voice,— Wher-

G $\flat$ D $\flat$ /F E $\flat$ m7 G $\flat$ /A $\flat$ A $\flat$ 7 1. D $\flat$ B $\flat$ m7 G $\flat$ /A $\flat$
 ev - er You— may lead— I will go.

2. 3. Last time: Fine D $\flat$ A $\flat$ m9 D $\flat$ 7 G $\flat$ maj7 A $\flat$ /G $\flat$
 go. Be it in a qui - et pas - ture— or

by a gen - tle stream, — The Shep - herd of — my soul —

— is by — my side, — Should I

face a might - y moun - tain — or a

val - ley dark — and deep — The Shep - herd of — my soul —

— will be my guide. —

D.C. al Fine

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GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O 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

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.

The word of the Lord.
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: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

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.”

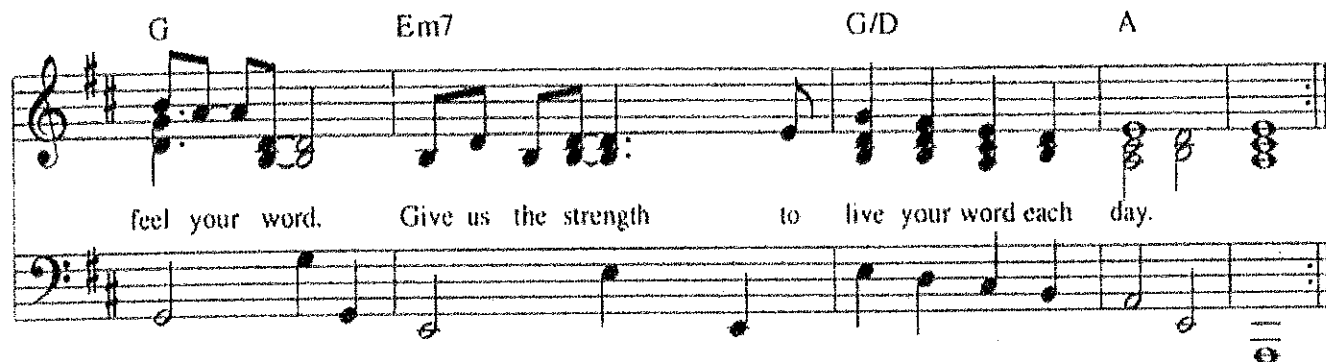
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Help Us O Lord”

The musical notation is written on two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps) and common time (C). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 100. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with chords indicated above it: D, Dmaj7, and D7. The lyrics are written below the staves: "Help us O Lord to hear your word. O-pen our hearts to". The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with whole and half notes.

(Continued on next page)



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GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,
²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So 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." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

ANTHEM

"Bring Us Home"

Jubilation

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Each prayer petition will conclude, "Lord, in your mercy,"

The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

"Help Us Oh Lord"

vv. 1 & 3

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first system contains the first verse of the song. The second system contains the third verse, with chord markings (Am, C, D) placed above the staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Help us, oh Lord, to do what is right and wise.
Teach us to live your king - dom come here on earth.
of - fer in joy what you first to us gave:

Am C D
Help us to see our bro - thers' needs that are in dis - guise.
O - pen our lives to treat each per - son with e - qual worth.
Our - selves, our time, the ver - y things that our hands have made.

Em B7

Help us, oh Lord, to feel the
Re - mind us we're fam - i - ly; we're
Re - ceive them all now, this is our

C D Em B (last time end on Em)

pain bound prayer in by bap - tis - mal Je - sus' eyes. birth. name. We

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OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen.

PRAYER OF 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.

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 holy name.

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION SONG

"Lamb of God"

$\text{♩} = 100$ $E\flat$ (D) (guitar: capo 1) $B\flat m/G$ (A m/F#) $A\flat$ (G)

Lamb of God,
Bread of Life,
Prince of Peace,
Lamb of God,

3

(Continued on next page)

$E\flat/G$ ($D/F\sharp$) $A\flat\text{Maj}7$ ($G\text{Maj}7$) $Gm7$ ($F\sharp m7$)
 you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us.
 world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

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DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Those who are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you.

The ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. There are baskets at the end of the front pews where you can deposit your cups as you return to your seat. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

COMMUNION ANTHEMS "Baptized and Set Free"
 "Are You Washed in the Blood"

Jubilation

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Still Waters"



1. Trem-b'ling on this ledge I'm stand - ing on, — please hear my call. —
 2. I left that place of peace and found — this storm — all on my own. —

I need to be se - cure in who — You are, —
 I need to hear Your voice to lead — me back —

please break my fall. — I
 where I be - long. — I

missed Your will — and fol - lowed mine. — So
 need Your will, — I don't need mine, — and

(Continued on next page)

now I'm ask - ing, — one more time. Lead me to the
 now I'm ask - ing — one more time.

still — wa - ters, —

lead me to the still —

wa - ters. — Lead me to the place of ser - en - i - ty and

grace by still wa - ters. —

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DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service
Ushers	Garry Mueller
Reader	Neal Becker
Communion Assistant	Rita Smith
Counters	Rita Smith & Kay Watson

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Carol Marten
Reader	Neal Becker
Communion Assistant	Linda Szemkus
Counters	Carol Marten

Choir Director	Susan Becker
Organist	Teri Wittkowski and Susan Becker
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker
Online Streaming Crew	Lucas Golinghorst, Scott LaPlante, & Kevin Zidarich



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All Your Answers Questioned

Some years ago, a class from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago had T-shirts made with the slogan “LSTC: The place to get all your answers questioned.” What does it mean to advocate questioning at a seminary? Shouldn’t the church train leaders to provide answers? It is a common assumption that we achieve right faith by coming to a correct interpretation of divine things. Indeed, many people of faith are ready and willing to provide that correct interpretation. But faith is more than a set of propositions. It is a relationship of trust with the living Lord.

For his part, Jesus tends to resist easy answers. “How long will you keep us in suspense?” his interrogators ask in today’s gospel reading from John. “If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly” (10:24). But Jesus’ reply is hardly straightforward: “I have told you, and you do not believe, . . . because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me” (10:25-27).

We may crave clarity, but faith is not always clear-cut. It is filled with subtlety, ambiguity, tension. Even as God desires abundant life for us, God also calls us to lay down our lives for each other. The gospel encompasses both suffering and hope, death and new life. The Son of Man comes not to be served but to serve, to shepherd.

These truths are hard to “tell plainly.” That is not to say we should not seek understanding in the life of faith. But faith also means having our answers questioned, allowing God to renew our minds for the sake of our relationship with Christ who claims us for himself. After all, the gift and challenge of discipleship is not to come to indisputable conclusions about God, but to follow our Shepherd on the way.

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest
Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am
Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 10 & 11, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheraneldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



The flowers on the altar this weekend are given by the La Plante Family in celebration of Madelyn's 16th baptism birthday.

If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheraneldridge.com



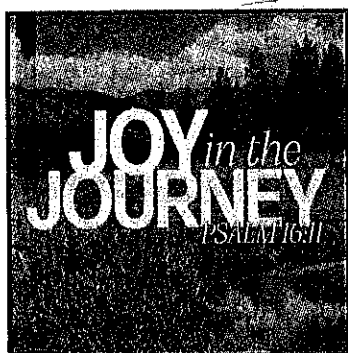
Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Ann Kuehl	Brianne Tallyn	Karen Nelson
Kathy Stoltz	Kim Pierce	Marilyn
Steve Mixdorf	Barb Conklen	Kelly
Henry Storjohann	Meyer Mixdorf	James
Jim Schneider	Cheryl Torey	Debby
Gary Oerman	Anderson Sears	Lenora

The Women of Faith are looking for donations of perennial plants, such as hostas, lilies, irises and more, as well as 6" pots or larger, for their annual plant sale during the Eldridge City Wide Garage Sales on **Saturday, May 17**. Everyone is also welcome to join us with any items you would like to sell. You may contact Joni Schneider (285-5829) with any questions.



Congratulations to all of our graduates—High School, Trade School, Associates, Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral candidates! Blessings to each of you as you begin this next chapter in your lives. We will celebrate our 2025 High School graduates during worship on **Sunday, May 18, at 9:00 am**. A cupcake reception will follow worship.



Join us as we welcome a special presentation from Jim Schneider, *Embracing Joy Though Life's Trails: Jim's Journey of Faith and Fulfillment*. When Jim was diagnosed with state 4 esophageal cancer in January 2024, he turned inward - and upward - to find strength, clarity, and peace. What he discovered was a deeper joy rooted not in circumstances, but in perspective, faith and gratitude. Now, he's called to share that message with others.

Learn how to make meaningful shifts, embrace spiritual practices, and live each day with presence, gratitude, and God-given intention.

Join us on **Sunday, May 18, from 10:15 am -11:15 am** in the Adult Sunday School Room for this special event. This session is appropriate for High School age and older.



Be Our Guest: We are inviting you to our next Be Our Guest on **Sunday, May 18 at 3 pm**. Dr. Kit Evans-Ford from Argrow's House is our Spring guest speaker. We will gather and show interest in learning from others. The gathering is open to all community members. We ask that you share in the togetherness, as a community learning about hobbies, adventures, and helpers who offer programs and services in our area and maybe some musical groups. We welcome your ideas and hearing about talents you would be willing to share with others.



During the month of May we are collecting donations of Cheese Sticks and Gogurt for Feed Our Children. Please make sure the expiration date is June 2025 or later, and **place them in the basement refrigerator**.

Thank you!



CHURCHES UNITED MEAL Service Opportunity

Churches United is a partnership of Quad City area churches that provides services for needy people, including meals. Our church has volunteered to serve the **Tuesday, May 20 meal at 5:30 pm**, at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. The Worship and Music committee has planned the menu and welcomes help from the congregation. There is a signup sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for buns, cheese, beans, cookies, bananas and water. Please help us feed our neighbors in need. Thank you for your help!

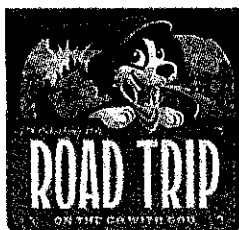
~Worship and Music Committee.

Final
FRIDAY!



Join in the fun of celebrating the end to the school year and the beginning of a fun filled summer. All kids are welcome to join us on **Friday, May 30, 2025, 1:15 pm - 3:30 pm**, for games, crafts, snacks and fun on the front lawn of Faith.

Volunteers are needed for donations of time and a few other items. A sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board. Please contact Carrie Keppy at ctkeppy@netins.net or 285-4484 with questions or to help.



Faith Lutheran Church VBS invites Travelers ages Pre-K to 5th Grade to join us on our *Road Trip! On the Go With God* to explore how God is with us at all times. **Join us Sunday, June 22—Thursday, June 26th, from 6-8 p.m. at the Faith.**

To join the exciting and action packed Road Trip please register on our website at <http://www.faithlutheranelldridge.com>. Or obtain a registration form at the church. Volunteers are also needed! Please contact Cindy Zabel (563) 210-4169.

Please join us for our Annual Parking Lot Picnic on **Sunday, June 29, 2025, at 10:30 am**. Ham, lemonade, water and table service will be provided by the Fellowship Team. Please bring a favorite side dish and/or dessert to share. A variety of yard games for all ages will be available! Of course there will be plenty of time for fellowship! Please sign up on the bulletin board.



May 3 & 4: 5:00 pm: 64, 9:00 am: 72, Online: 56 Total: 192

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Saturday, May 10	5:00 pm	Jubilation Worship In Sanctuary & Online
Sunday, May 11	Mother's Day	
	9:00 am	Jubilation Worship In Sanctuary
	10:15 am	Fellowship
Monday, May 12	Office Closed	
	6:00 pm	Lions Club Exec. Meeting
Tuesday, May 13	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Food Pantry
Wednesday, May 14	10:00 am	Grand Haven Worship
	7:00 pm	High School Youth
Thursday, May 15	Office Hours 9:00 am—Noon	
	6:30 pm	Council Meeting
Friday, May 16	Office Hours 9:00 am—Noon	
	9:30 am	Food Pantry
Saturday, May 17	SEIA Synod Assembly at Grand View University	
	8:00 am	Women of Faith Plant Sale
	5:00 pm	Worship In Sanctuary (no communion) & Online
Sunday, May 18	Senior Recognition Sunday	
	9:00 am	Worship In Sanctuary
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:15 am	Special Presentation by Jim Schneider
	12:00 pm	Girl Scouts
	3:00 pm	Be Our Guest
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts



Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather are available for Pastoral Care, but we need your help to know when and where that is needed. Please contact us at the church office at (563) 285-4501. **For after-hour emergencies**, please contact Pastor Carrie at (641) 275-1326 or Pastor Heather at (563) 639-9606.