



# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 29, 2023~ 5:00 pm Sunday, April 30, 2023 ~ 9:00 am

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

#### **PRELUDE**

# WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

# THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.** 

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation. Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

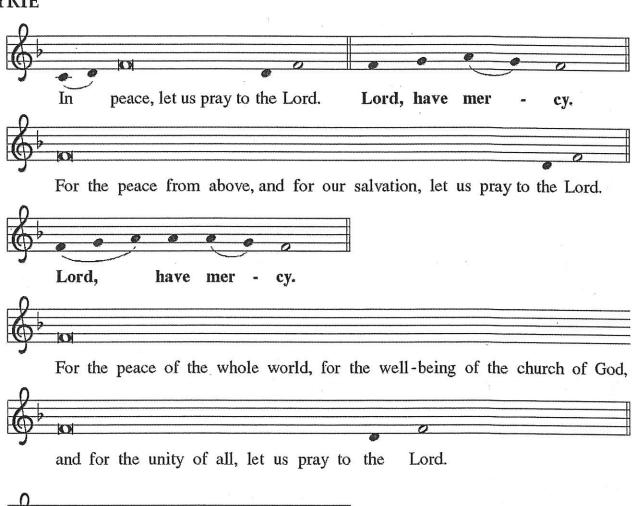
#### **GREETING**

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

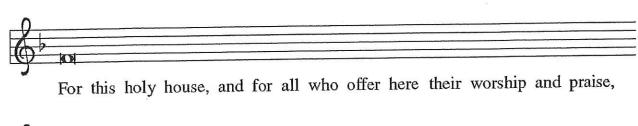
And also with you.

Lord,

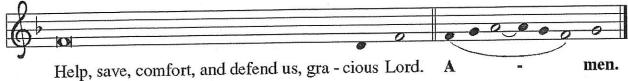
#### **KYRIE**



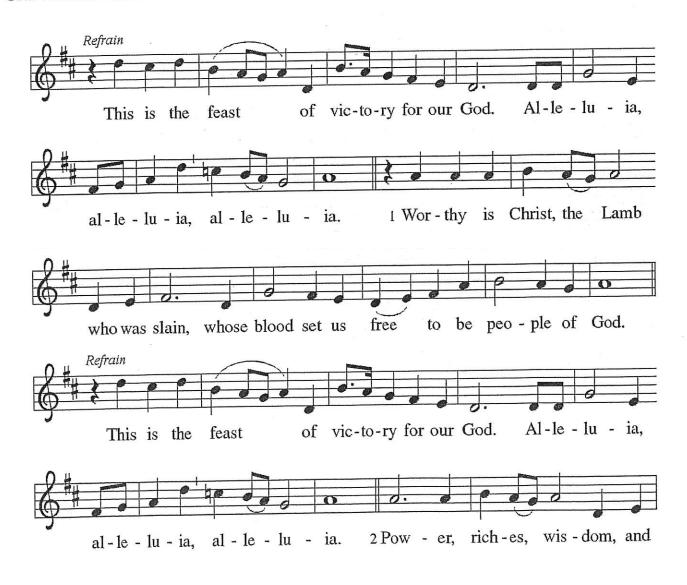
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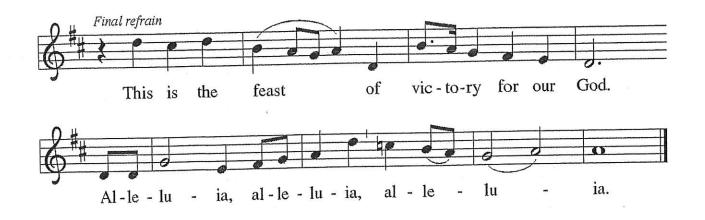




# CANTICLE OF PRAISE







#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

A reading from Acts.

<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 by 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. 46Day 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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your 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 prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>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 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from First Peter.

<sup>19</sup>It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure 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 right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <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, free from 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 10:1-18

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.

11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

12 The hired hand, who is not the sheepherd 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.

13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, is just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

16 I 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.

17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

18 No 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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

HYMN OF THE DAY "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

**ELW # 789** 

CREED (5:00)

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.

**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM** (9:00)

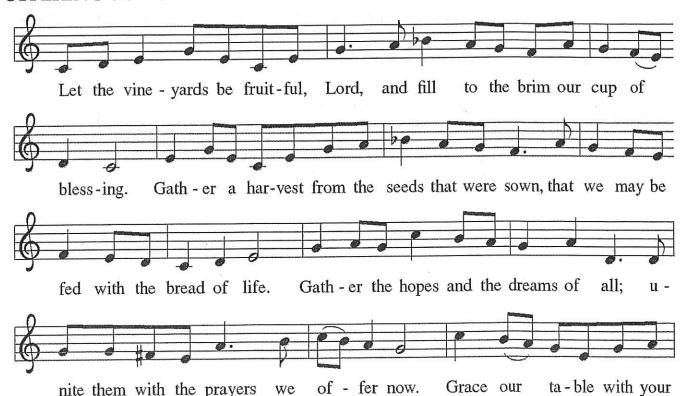
ELW Page 234

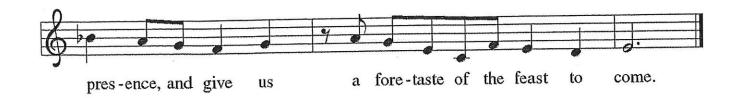
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SHARING OF THE PEACE

**OFFERING** 

#### **OFFERING SONG**





#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

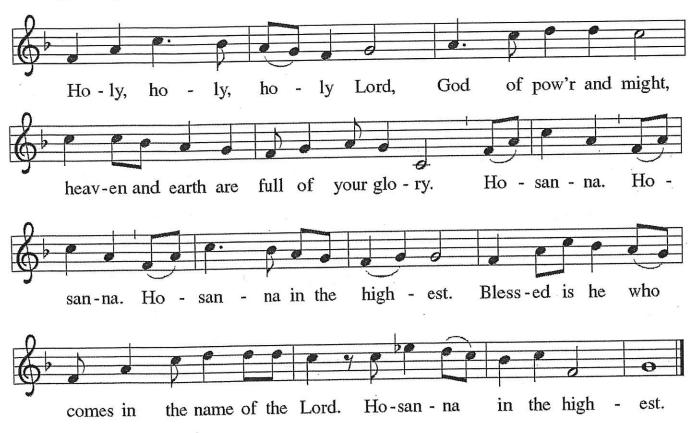
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

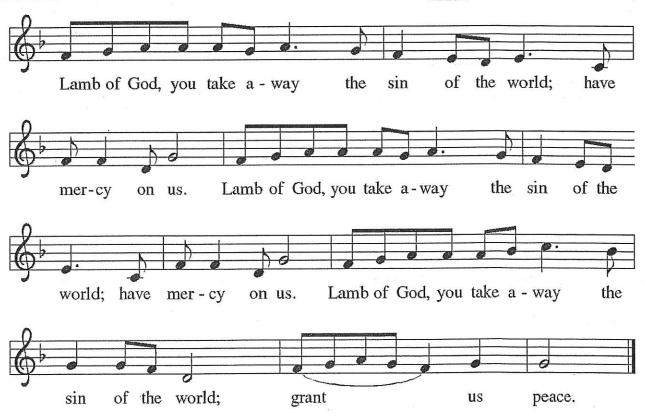
#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### THE 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. The ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward to receive a blessing. There are baskets at the end of the front pews where you can deposit your cups as your return to your seat by the side aisle. Those who are worshiping 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 SONG**

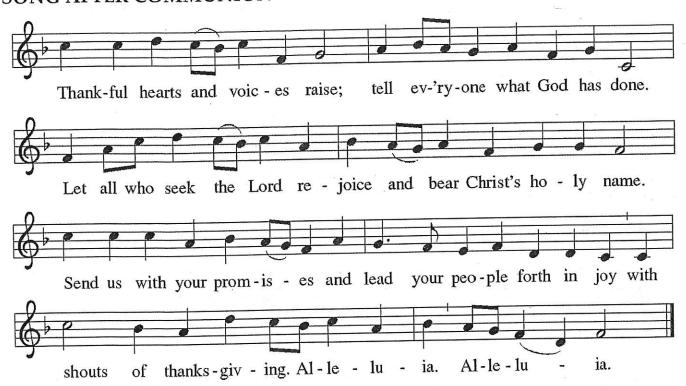


## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### **BLESSING**

**SENDING SONG** 

"Have No Fear, Little Flock"

**ELW #764** 

#### **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

### **POSTLUDE**

### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service	
Ushers	Dan & Karen O'Flahrity	
Reader	Joan Hennigan	
Communion Assistant	Karen O'Flahrity	
Counters	Curt & Carolyn Hulsen	

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service	
Ushers	Dave Griffin & Carol Roe	
Reader	Jim Schneider	
Communion Assistants	Donna Gruenhagen, Abby La Plante, & Linda Szemkus	
Counters	Dave & Betty Griffin	
Choir Director	Susan Becker	
Organist	Teri Wittkowski & Susan Becker	
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker	

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# Tables Spread for Life Abundant

ometimes a table is spread in a generous fashion but still feels impersonal, like the buffet at a big conference. You can fill your plate as many times as you want, but that doesn't change the fact that you're wearing a printed name tag because no one in the room actually knows your name.

And sometimes a table spread seems meager because it's the end of the month or you didn't have time to make it to the store, but you're with friends who feel like family, so no one is worried about how simple the meal is.

Today we have the best of both worlds. We have abundance to the point of extravagance, and we have a God who knew our names even before we were born. We have a table heaped with grace upon grace and our heads anointed with oil, and we have a God whose voice we recognize as soon as we hear our names spoken aloud. All our beloveds have been invited, and every last one of us has a name card in front of our plates, handwritten in our favorite color, no doubt. Today we're reminded that even when the world feels like a wreck, God shows up with abundance, inviting us by name.

Where have you noticed this lately? Where have you noticed goodness and mercy following you around? Where have you noticed evidence that God wants you to experience life? In the feisty weeds poking up through the cracks in the sidewalks? In the hope of the students who are so close to summer break they can taste it? In the bright sunshine breaking through the clouds not thirty seconds after the thunder stops? In the youngest members of your worshiping community, skipping forward with their hands outstretched for bread and blessing?

It's there, this evidence of God's life abundant. Go looking for it. Go looking to remind someone else. It's way too good to miss.

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Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A. Tracks 1 and 2

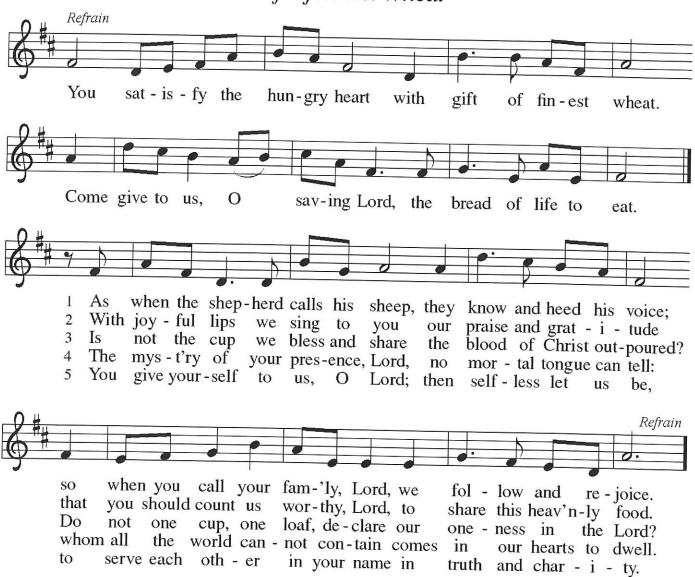
#### God Is Here!



# Savior, like A Shepherd Lead Us



# You Satisfy the Hungry Heart Gift of Finest Wheat

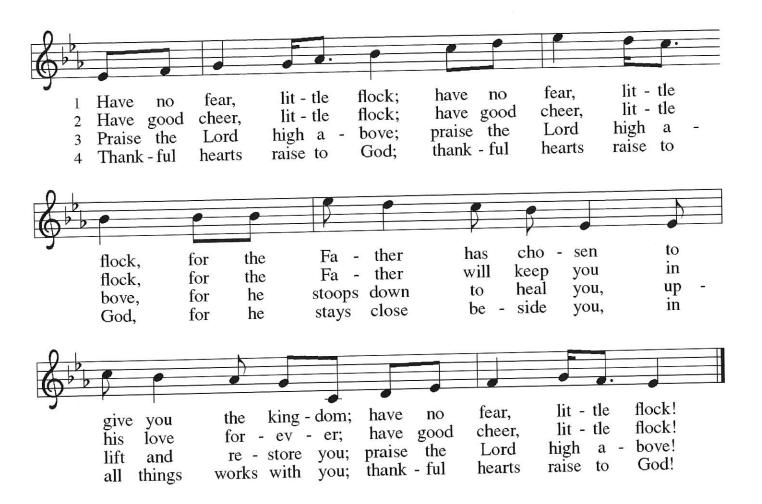


Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997

Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-1996

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# Have No Fear, Little Flock



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. Used with permission of OneLicense.net A-731185.

## FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante

**Pastor Heather Geest** 

Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am

Telephone: (563) 285-450l Email: faitheldridge@netins.net

GRACE - GIFTED

FAITH - LIFTED

CALLED TO SHARE SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST



The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 29 & 30, 2023

**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.

Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.				
Ron McFate H.O. Nelson Sally Puls Jensen Spencer Ann Kuehl Carol Judge Carolyn Scheibe Madison Russo Janet Bowman	Kathy Stoltz Steve Mixdorf Duane Miller Roger Lewis Ed Stoltz Jerry Schwien Judy Knoer Jan Kluever Melissa Alden	Sue Vogel Andrew Arp Kim Pierce Jeanette Myers Bill Lind Lincoln Regnier Ed Precht Hugh Lickiss Sharon Baker	Glen Kelly Vaughn Mary Lou	



# **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

On Sunday, April 30, at the 9:00 worship service, thirteen of our youth will be celebrating their Confirmation as they affirm their baptism in worship.

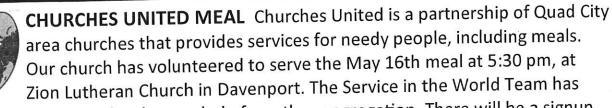
Those who will be confirmed are Kendall Behm, Lauren Behm, Kamilah Eller, Maddie Eller, Griffin Frank, Mackenzie Gabrielson, Grady Kirst, Madelyn La Plante, Collin Lewis, Katelyn Peck, Cooper Schoenthaler, Everett Schroeder, and Nick Schryver.

There are tables set up on the east side of Fellowship Hall with the names of the confirmands where you can leave cards and other well wishes for these youth. There also will be a cupcake reception for the whole congregation following worship to honor the confirmands.

Please join us as we celebrate this milestone with these youth!



Our Special Easter offering is designated for Lutheran Disaster Response for "U.S. tornadoes." 100% of our gifts will be used toward helping people in U.S. communities impacted by tornadoes.



planned the menu and welcomes help from the congregation. There will be a signup posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for menu items and serving the meal. Please help us feed our neighbors in need.



The Women of Faith are looking for donations of perennial plants, especially hostas, for the Eldridge City Wide Garage Sales on May 20 from 8:00am to 2:00pm. If you need pots for splitting plants or have any extra 9" pots, please call Joni Schneider (285-5829). You can also sell your household items in the church parking lot on May 20. Come join the fun.



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 2023 High School graduates during worship on Sunday, May 21, at 9:00 am. A cupcake reception will follow worship.

**Note:** Seniors, please send your plans for next year as well as a picture (between wallet and 5"x7") for the Senior Recognition Board by **Wednesday**, **May 17**. You can mail them, drop them off in the office between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm Tuesday through Friday, or email them to faitheldridge@netins.net.



Faith Lutheran Church invites all children ages 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party! Using Matthew 6:11; "Give

us this day our daily bread", children are invited to pray as Jesus teaches. These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God - and our daily needs are met by God.

The fun begins **Sunday, June 25**<sup>th</sup> and continues through **Thursday, June 29**<sup>th</sup>, **from 6-8 p.m.** at the church, 500 W. LeClaire Rd., Eldridge. Registration will begin in May on the church website at www.faithlutheraneldridge.com.

## Summer Camp at Lutheran Lakeside

Registration continues for Lutheran Lakeside Camp this summer. We are planning to attend camp **July 16-21**. There is Junior Camp for those who have completed grades 3-5 and Confirmation Camp for the



those who have completed grades 3-5 and Confirmation Camp for those who have completed grades 6-8. Adults are invited to join us for the adult mission trip to do work around the camp that week as well. If you have any questions about camp, please contact Pastor Carrie (pastorcarrie@csteldridge.com or call or text 641-275-1326), and she will be happy to answer them!



5pm: 39, 9am: 96, Online: 38, Total: 173



# **THIS WEEK AT FAITH**

Saturday, April 29	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, April 30	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:15 am	Worship with Confirmation Fellowship Hour/Cupcake Reception Sunday School (Final Day for Children's Sunday School)
Monday, May 1	Office Closed 6:00 pm	Lions Club
Tuesday, May 2	1:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study Food Pantry VFW Jubilation
Wednesday, May 3	5:15 pm 7:00 pm	Resounding Joy High School Youth
Thursday, May 4	6:30 pm	Team Night
Friday, May 5	9:30 am	Food Pantry
Saturday, May 6	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, May 7	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:15 am	Worship Fellowship Hour Adult Book Study

