Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

Fourth Sunday of Easter – "Good Shepherd Sunday"

April 25, 2021

Prelude ***"How Great is Our God"***

Pastor's Greeting

(Congregation stands)

Entrance Hymn **"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"** ***LSB 711***

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✝ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✝

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

EXHORTATION

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

A moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

ABSOLUTION *John 20:19-23*

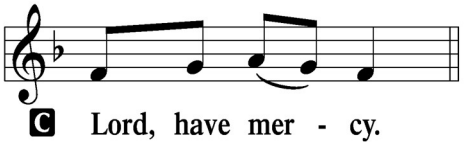
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

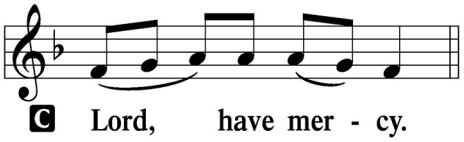
(Congregation remains standing)

KYRIE *LSB 152* *Matthew 17:15*

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

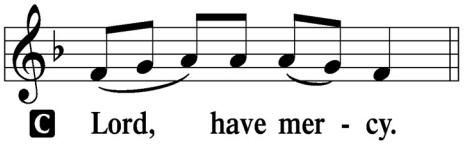


A: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



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.

A: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"THIS IS THE FEAST"* *LSB 155* *Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray*: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Congregation sits)

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

R: The Frist Reading is from the Book of Acts 4:1–12

R: As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them

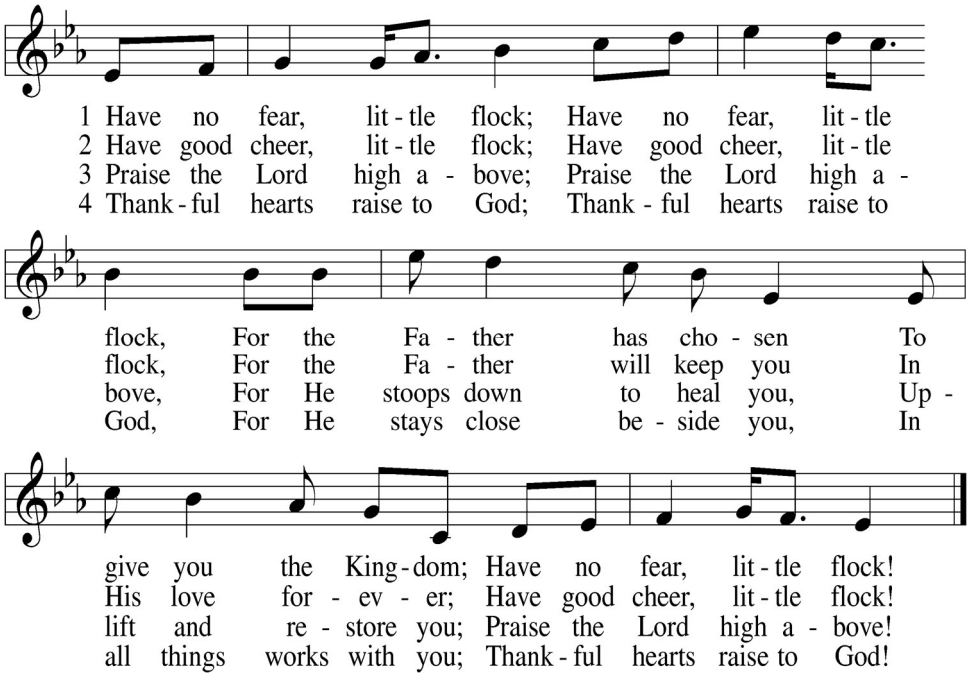
in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY "HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK" *LSB 735*



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THE GRADUAL *Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

P: Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor.

C: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under his feet.

THE PSALM *Psalm 23*

R: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

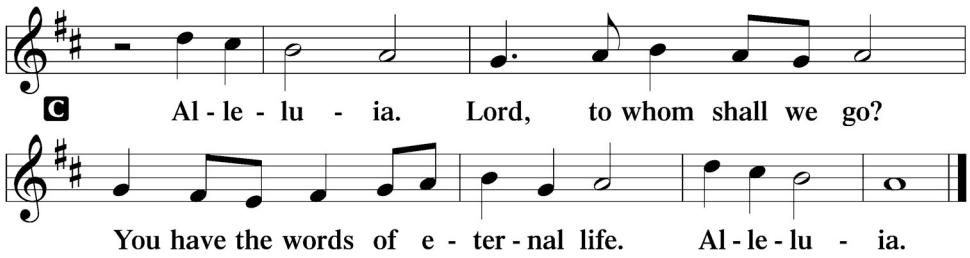
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

(Congregation stands)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 173* *John 6:68*



THE HOLY GOSPEL

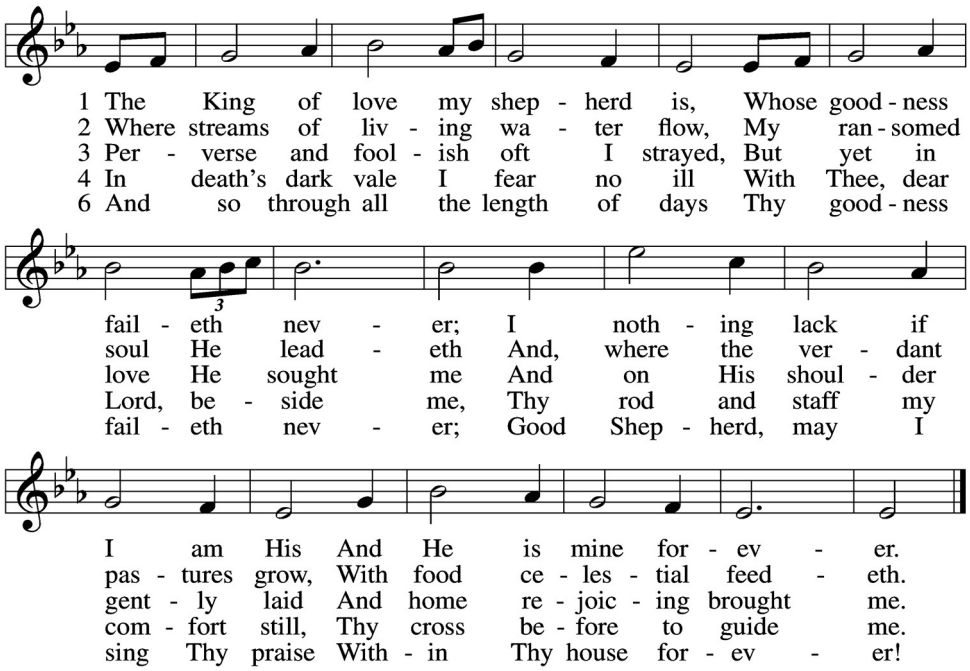
P: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John 10:11-18

P: [Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(Congregation sits)

SERMON HYMN "THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS" *LSB 709, STS.1-4,6*



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SERMON

(Congregation stands)

THE NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Good Shepherd who by Your death and resurrection have led Your sheep and gathered them into Your flock. Keep us always in Your fold, and guard us from every wolf and snare. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, Your Son has called us to love our brothers. Turn us in love toward the neighbors closest to us, especially within our own homes, that we may daily show our confidence in God by deed and truth, laying down our lives as Christ first did for us. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P Eternal Lord, through the Paschal Lamb You have made peace between man and God. By Your gift of good government, grant peace and good days also to our citizens and between the nations of the world, that we and all our neighbors may lead quiet lives in godly contentment. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, by the firstfruits of Christ's life from the dead, You secured peace for our troubled consciences. Bless us with temporal health and well-being, especially those who suffer among us for whom we pray: Tony Spano, and those we name in our hearts _____. Grant them aid in this moment and, even more so, true, immortal health in the world to come. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, our Shepherd, You calm all fears in this valley of the shadow of death, and You prepare the holy table of Your Son's testament in the presence of our enemies. Grant us repentant and faithful hearts. In every tribulation or besetting sin, lead us to find comfort and strength in Your overflowing mercy given us here in this Sacrament. *Lord, in Your mercy*,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, out of Your fatherly goodness You have remembered us poor, miserable sinners and given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd — not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that even as this Shepherd knows us and helps in every affliction, we also may know Him, trust Him, seek help and comfort in Him, heartily obey His voice and obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

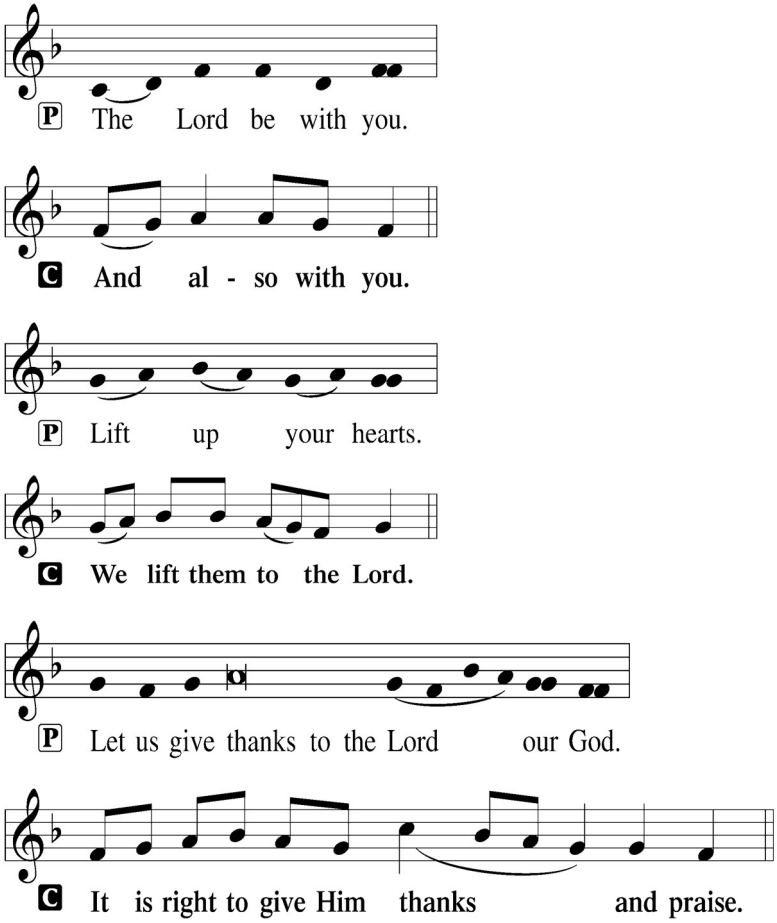
(Congregation sits)

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ***"ONLY BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB"***

✝ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✝

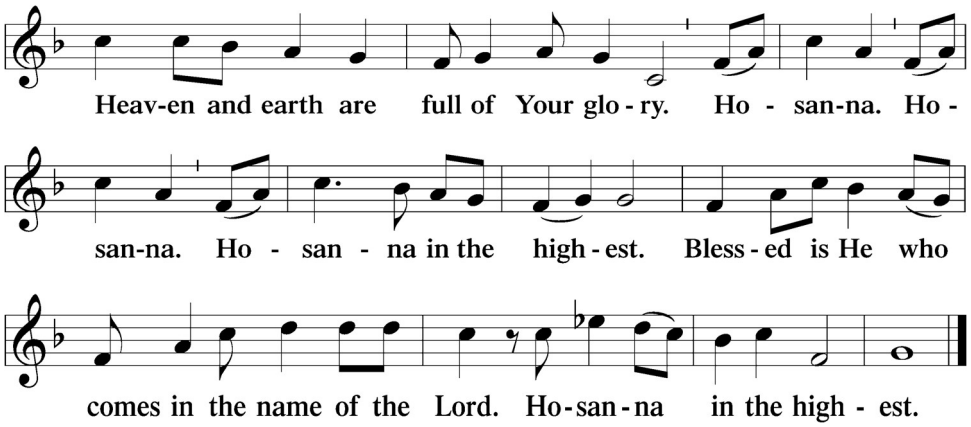
(Congregation stands)

PROPER PREFACE *LSB 160*



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *LSB 161*



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **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.**

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

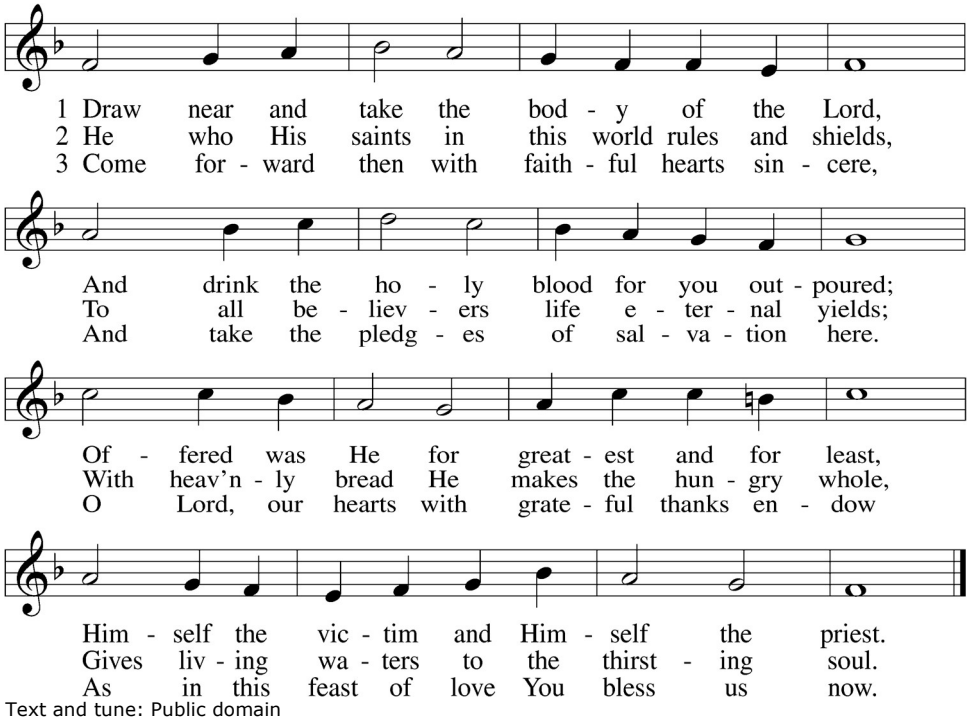
C: And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD) *LSB 198*

(Congregation sits)

DISTRIBUTION *(Please see our Communion policy on the last page)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "DRAW NEAR AND TAKE THE BODY OF THE LORD *LSB 637*



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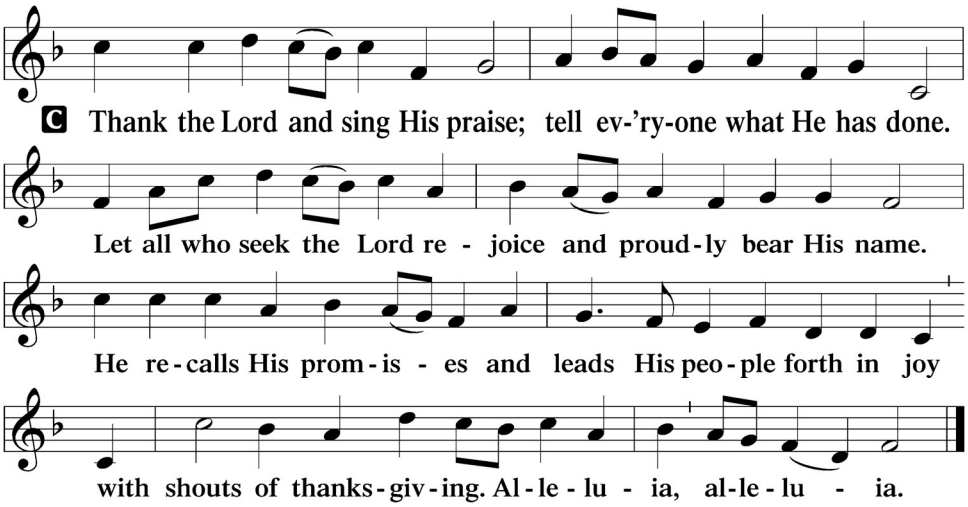
(Congregation stands)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *THANK THE LORD* *LSB 164*



THANKSGIVING

P: O give thank unto the Lord for He is good.

C: and His mercy endures forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: *Let us pray*. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION *LSB 218*

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN "GRACIOUS GOD, YOU SEND GREAT BLESSINGS" ***LSB 782***

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POSTLUDE ***"BLESSED BE YOUR NAME"***

Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

3501 E Chandler Blvd; Phoenix, AZ 85048

480-759-4047

www.FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Serving at Family of Christ

Pastor

Reverend Fred H. Gerlach

Pastor@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Cell: 609-751-2546

Music Director

Inessa Leip

Music@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Church Office Administrator

Admin@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Prayer Requests

Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:

familyofchristaz@gmail.com

This Week at Family of Christ

4/25 – 5/1

Sunday

9:30AM Sunday Divine Worship
11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Thursday

5:30PM **No** Confirmation Class this week

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Next Sunday

9:30AM Sunday Divine Worship
11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

PLEASE NOTE: *Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols and procedures.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

Our Communion Policy

As a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Family of Christ celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words and approach the altar with repentant hearts. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith, which is confessed at this altar. For those who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we request that you refrain from receiving the sacrament. If you desire to receive the Sacrament, please speak first with the Pastor.

For further study, please see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.