

The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

Take full advantage of the prayer resource we send you each week. Do it with someone else as much as possible. Give the daily Psalms and readings a good workout.

Bulletin Deadline

Please send all information for the Sunday Bulletin and the Weekly Newsletter to Pastor Tim (stmaximos@aol.com). There is no guarantee that information sent after Wednesday will make it in Sunday's bulletin. **Thank you.**

Check out our Web Site (www.giftofgracelc.org)

For more information about Gift of Grace Lutheran Church check our website. Pastor Tim is also available for calls and pastoral visits.

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GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2020

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg, STS

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

Prelude	
Announcements	
Centering Song..... “He Is Lord”	see next page
Brief Order for Confession.....	Page 77
Gathering Hymn..... “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”	No. 128
Pastoral Greeting/Kyrie.....	Page 78
Hymn of Praise..... “Worthy Is Christ”	Page 81
Prayer of the Day	Page 82
First Lesson	Acts 2:42-47
Psalmody..... Psalm 23.....	Page 272
Second Lesson.....	1 Peter 2:19-25
Alleluia Verse	Page 83
Holy Gospel	John 10:1-10
The Message	Shepherded In the Flock
Hymn of the Day..... “The Lord’s My Shepherd”	No. 451
Nicene Creed.....	Page 84
The Prayers	(Printed in Bulletin)..... Page 85
The Peace.....	Page 86
Offering	
Offertory..... “Let the Vineyards be Fruitful Lord”	Page 86
Offertory Prayer	Page 87
The Great Thanksgiving.....	Page 88
Holy, Holy, Holy.....	Page 89
Lord’s Prayer..... (Traditional).....	Page 91
Distribution	
Lamb of God	Page 92
Communion Hymn..... “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”	No. 456
Post Comm. Canticle..... “Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise”	Page 92
Post Comm. Prayer.....	Page 94
Benediction	Page 95
Sending Hymn..... “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”.....	No. 481

*WOV - With One Voice (Blue Hymnal)

Announcements

Sunday, 5/3 The Fourth of Easter

8:00am Choir Practice. *Not Gathering at this time*
9:00am Divine Service *Not Gathering at this time*
10:45am Adult Class *Not Gathering at this time*

Tuesday, 5/5

1:00pm Prayer Gathering *Not Gathering at this time*

Wednesday, 5/6

6:30pm Confirmation Class and Adult Class *Not Gathering at this time*

Friday, 5/8

6:30am Men’s Breakfast Bible Study *Not Gathering at this time*

Sunday, 5/10 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00am Choir Practice-*Not Gathering at this time*
9:00am Divine Service-*Not Gathering at this time*
10:45am Adult Class-*Not Gathering at this time*

Welcome to Guests and Visitors!

We are so glad you joined us for worship this morning! If you are not familiar with Lutheran Worship it may help to know that page numbers in the bulletin’s order of worship are found at the bottom of the page in the hymnal, while hymn numbers are found at the top.

Concerning Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive the Lord’s Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Anyone else wishing to receive a blessing may also come forward during this time. Simply cross your arms over your chest (heart) as the Pastor and Servers come near you and the Pastor will pronounce a blessing over you.

Phone If You Would Like to Receive Holy Communion

Pastor Tim is receiving up to six persons at a time to receive Holy Communion. Please call ahead on the Pastor’s Cell phone to set up a time to meet at the church for Holy Communion. We have cleared the nave and set up eight metal chairs, well spaced. With extra precautions we have minimized the threat of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Recording Services on Saturday

Pastor Tim and Leslie are welcoming four additional persons who would like to come in on Saturdays to record the Divine Service to be posted and ready to listen to on Sundays. Holy Communion is also administered to during this time. Please phone Pastor Tim if you would like to take a turn in helping us this valuable outreach to the rest of the congregation.

Today's Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister Naomi Rislow
 Reader Hannah Scholze
 Crucifer Alex Uy
 Acolyte Stella Roll
 Ushers Jon Uy
 Counters Tom Rislow/Jarrold Roll
 Communion Assistant Heather Roll
 Accompanist Leslie Duesenberg
 Fellowship tba

May 10, 2020 Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister Leslie Duesenberg
 Reader Cole Warner
 Crucifer Kylee Kernan
 Acolyte Calvin Swaney
 Ushers Jeremy Schoonover
 Counters Cheryl Ruud/Mary Bartos
 Communion Assistant Jessica Schoonover
 Accompanist Tom Rislow
 Fellowship tba

He is Lord; He is Lord;
 He is risen from the dead and He is Lord!
 Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord.

First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

Following their response to Peter's Sermon those who were baptized devoted themselves to the common life that attends to disciples of Jesus Christ living in community together.

The First Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of Acts...

⁴²And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 23 (page 225)

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

When disciples follow Christ like sheep follow the shepherd, the path will often involve suffering. Christ himself endured such suffering. And Christ has promised to watch over us guide us through such times.

The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of 1st Peter...

¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

April Attendance And Giving

	<u>Attend</u>	<u>Gen Giving</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Plus/Minus</u>	<u>Building</u>
Apr 03.....0	\$2,305.00	\$2,046.00	\$259.00	\$210.00	
Apr 10.....0	\$3,140.00	\$2,046.00	\$1,094.00	\$600.00	
Apr 17.....0	\$2,515.00	\$2,046.00	\$469.00	\$85.00	
Apr 24.....0	\$1,380.00	\$2,046.00	(\$666.00)	\$80.00	
Running Total.....	\$9,340.00	\$8,184.00	\$1,156.00	\$975.00	
YTD Total.....	\$31,860.55	\$34,782.00	(\$2,921.45)	\$11,600.81	
				\$97,588.26	

Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10

Christ alone is able to rescue us from a sure demise and lead us to blessedness and abundance of life as we abide with him forever.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Prayers of the Faithful

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

A brief silence

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd. Defend the Church from peril, provide for its needs, and lead it in paths of righteousness. Through its ministry, lead many to hear your voice and follow you. We ask this especially for the Anglican Communion of Churches. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the Faithful Shepherd for your people who are set upon by wolves and persecutors. Protect, guide, and bless them. Give them such grace under pressure that their enemies' hearts may repent of evil deeds. We especially pray for Didi Panzo and the recovery of his sight. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You call your sheep by name. Bless the work of theologians and seminary professors. Help them to identify and train faithful “holy shepherds,” called by you to help tend your beloved flock. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the Good Shepherd of this congregation. Lead us with your Word. Prepare our table with your Body and Blood. Teach us to do your will with glad and faithful hearts. And use us to lead many into your safe keeping. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the Gate of your sheep. Protect the people of every nation from false shepherds; from rulers who care nothing for their welfare; and from all the threatening dangers of this world. Bring peace in places of violence; rich pasture in places of poverty; and true righteousness in places of injustice. We especially pray for our President, Donald Trump and our Governor, Tony Evers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the Rod and Staff of all who stand in harm's way on behalf of others. Guide, protect, and strengthen them. Prosper all their works that make for peace, safety and justice; shelter and strengthen their loved ones; and bring them home safely and soon. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are Shepherd who leads us through dark valleys shadowed by suffering. Be the strong Guide and sure comfort of all who call upon you. We especially pray for Birger Eklov, Cynthia Granger, Carol Halderson, Janet Sisul, Doris Stanke, Marge Wangen, Phil Webber, and those we now name before you... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Moment of silence for individual petitions and intercessions

Lord Jesus, you prepare a table for us in the presence of our last enemy, death itself. Thank you for leading home all who listened to your voice in their earthly life. Be our Good Shepherd, too. Teach us to hear your voice, nourish us at your Table, and defend us from our great Enemy. Fix our eyes upon your Cross, and lead us through the valley of death's dread shadows. Bring us into your Father's house, where with all whom you claim as your dear flock, we shall receive the abundant life which you share with your Father and the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, Merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**