

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

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3rd Sunday of Easter – April 14, 2024

Prelude: “The King Of Love My Shepherd Is”

traditional Gaelic-arr. Jeanne Cotter

Take the time to center heart and mind on God's presence in worship.

Call to Worship

Christ is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed!**

Jesus is Alive! **He is Alive in Me!**

Confession and Forgiveness

James 5:16 states: “Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so you may be healed.” Let us now confess our sins in the presence of one another and our God.

(In Unison) Gracious God, hear our confession. We have failed to love one another and those in our community as you would have us love. Mixed with our joy in you, we like the disciples, are often filled with disbelief, doubts and fears. When there are those who are hungry, we neglect to feed them and offer care. Forgive us, inspire us, nourish us with the food of your word. Wipe away our doubts and fears. Come into our lives that we may serve you, each other, and all people. Amen

(Silent Confession)

Ephesians 1:7 states: “In him (meaning Jesus) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.” As a servant of Jesus the Christ, and by his authority, it is my pleasure to share with you that God has heard your confessions and has forgiven you all of your sins, in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit! Amen!

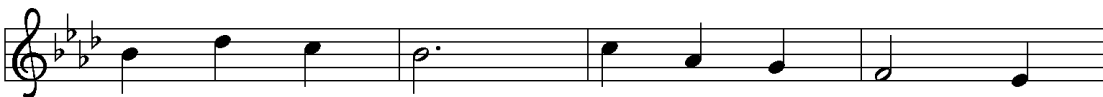
Opening Hymn: "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!" Hymn 377



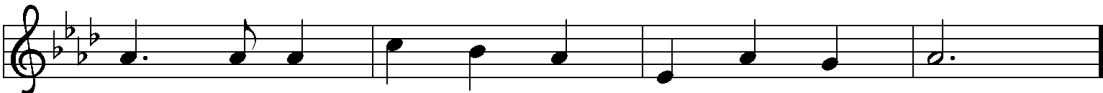
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

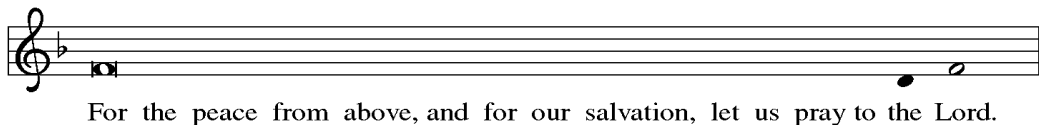
Greeting

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

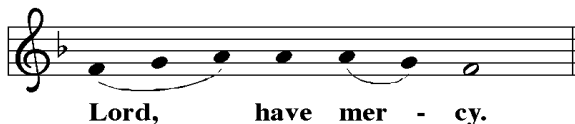
Kyrie



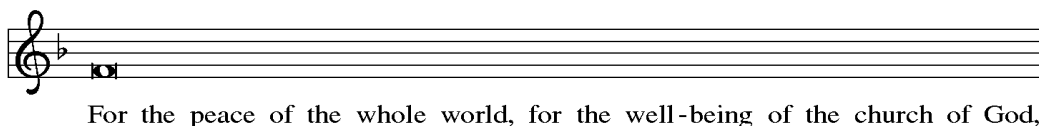
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



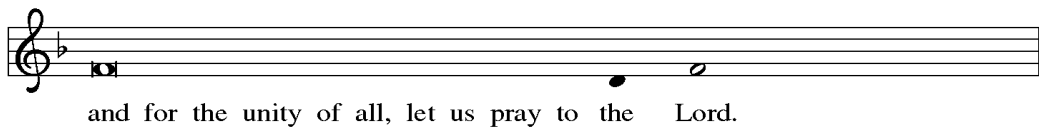
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



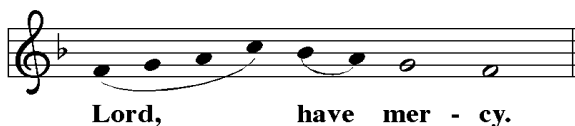
Lord, have mer - cy.



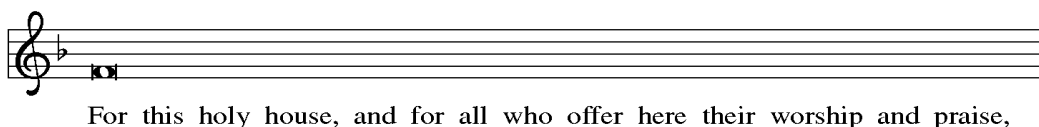
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



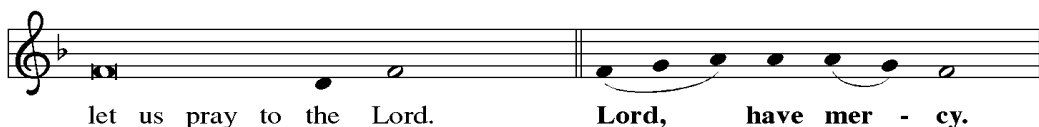
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



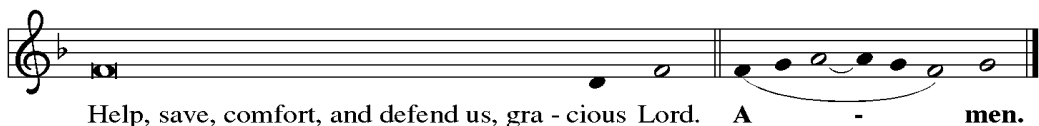
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

Hymn of Praise,

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?”¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; the Lord will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

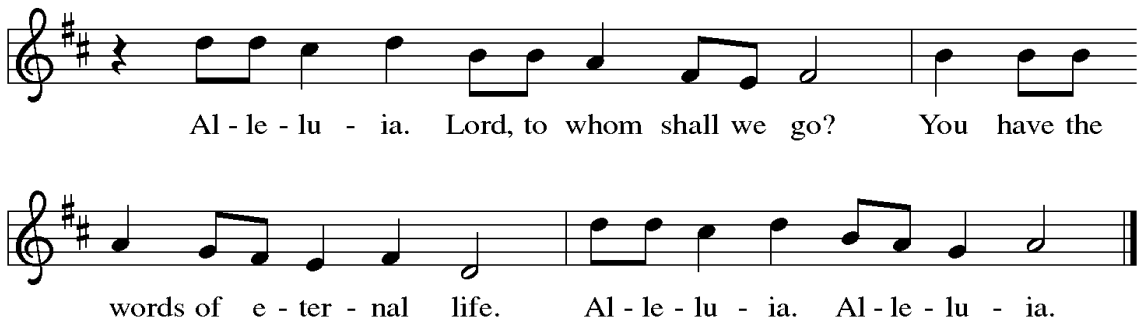
⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation



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: Luke 24:36b-48

The holy gospel according to Luke Chapter 24. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled

fish,⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.”

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

Mercedes Roesch—**Sermon: “Jesus is Alive! Jesus is Real! Jesus is Worth Sharing”**

Hymn of the Day: "As We Gather at Your Table" Hymn 522



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Intercessory Prayers

Each petition ends: God of grace—Response is **“hear our prayer.”**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory “Easter Carol” arr by Patti Drennan

Offering Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

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.**

Preface

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 name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”



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.

Eucharistic Prayer

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. With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ, and his promise to be with us always as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Communion Hymn: "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether", Hymn 470



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Post Communion Prayer

Shepherding God, **you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

Benediction

Ministry Highlights

Mercedes Biography

Dillon & Mercedes Roesch live in a small town east of Limon, Colorado, called Arriba, where they have two dogs, a three-legged cat, and a lawn that always needs watering. Both Dillon and Mercedes are multi-generation agriculturalists and ranchers. As a part time, online graduate student, Mercedes will be finishing her Master of Divinity at Luther Seminary in May of 2024, and Dillon will be finishing his Master of Agriculture in Integrated Resource Management from Colorado State University in December of 2024. A graduate of CSU, Mercedes works full time for an agriculture nonprofit called Agriculture Future of America, where she handles industry company partnerships. A graduate of Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Dillon is an agronomist for Flagler Aerial Spraying, where he works directly with farmers to get their crops what they need. They enjoy spending time outdoors together, helping with cattle on the family ranch, or drinking coffee, eating delicious food, and playing cards with family and friends.

Sending Hymn: "This Joyful Eastertide", vs. 1 & 3, Hymn 391



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and

3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has

riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.

pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Dismissal

Postlude "March" by Jeremiah Clarke

Worship Servants

	Today	April 21
Accompanist:	Julie Varilek	Julie Varilek
Director:	Ann Knipping	Ann Knipping
Lector:	Mirriam Deffenbaugh	
Ushers:	Randy Huber & Mike Wold	Jan & Larry Kilgore
Teller:	Ralie Deffenbaugh	Ralie Deffenbaugh
Altar Care:	Tara McConnell	Tara McConnell
Comm. Asst.:	Sandy & Rich Stolte	Paula Stensvaag
AV Engineer:	Steve Peter	Bruce Adams
Flower Sponsor:	Ann Knipping	Linda Schlitt
Flower Arranger:	Paula Stensvaag	Paula Stensvaag

This week's flowers are in memory of Rea Ritzen

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, April 14	9am Sunday Worship 10:15am Why Church in the Library
Monday, April 15	3pm Community Bible Study
Wed., April 17	8am Sacred Space (online) 4pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 18	1pm Quilters
Saturday, April 20	2pm Peak to Peak Concert

Our Worship is Recorded Contact Bruce Brackman if you have concerns.

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