

# Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

***Preaching and presiding this day: Pastor Todd Bertani***

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***Pastoral Care: Pastor Todd Bertani, 707-688-6411***

Mission Statement:

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church is a community of faith grounded in love for God and love for our neighbors.



**April 20, 2025**

*Easter*

**Julie Varilek, Accompanist**

**Dr. Deb Bialeschki, Trumpet Player**

**Prelude: "Jesus Saves" arr. by Nathan Arnold; "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" & "Rejoice! Jesus Reigns!" arr. by Larry Shackley  
piano duets by Julie Varilek and Ann Knipping**

## **Welcome, Friends in Christ,**

*To assist in worship, this bulletin includes all portions of our service; prayers, readings, hymns, congregational responses in **bold**, as well as upcoming events.*

*We also provide activity bags for children. You may request these from an usher.*

*Whether you are first time visitors or long time friends returning to share in worship with us, we are grateful for your presence today.*

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## **Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani**

### **Call to Worship: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" by Stan Pethel**

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*

### **Call to Worship:**

Christ is Risen!

**Alleluia, He is Risen Indeed!**

The Stone has been Rolled Away.

**Tell Everyone What God has done.**

**Christ is Risen! Alleluia!**



## Opening Hymn: "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Hymn 365

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4  
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

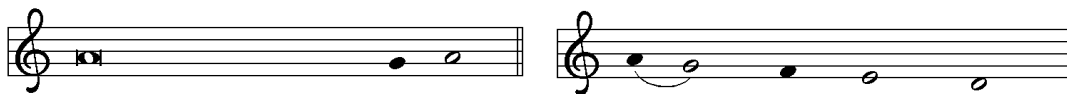
## Greeting

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.**

*(Please be seated)*


## Kyrie




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




For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



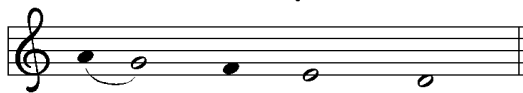
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



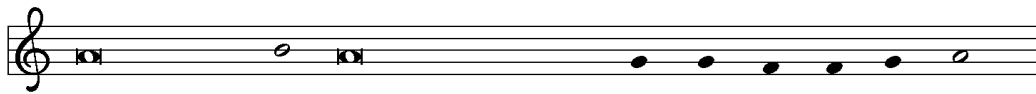
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



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



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

## Hymn of Praise: "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing" Hymn 389



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Prayer of the Day

**God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through 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 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;  
God’s mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> **Let Israel now declare,  
“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:  
“The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

<sup>20</sup> “This is the gate of the Lord;  
here the righteous may enter.”

<sup>21</sup> **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> **By the Lord has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.



## **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

<sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; <sup>22</sup> for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God

the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*

## 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.

## Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

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

<sup>1</sup> On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup> Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered <sup>9</sup> his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter



got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani**

**Sermon Hymn: "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" Hymn 364**



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.

Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.

For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,

e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: Tanzanian traditional

Swahili text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress; English text © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Nicene 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.**

## **Intercessory Prayer**

Each petition ends: "God of grace"  
Response is "**hear our prayer.**"

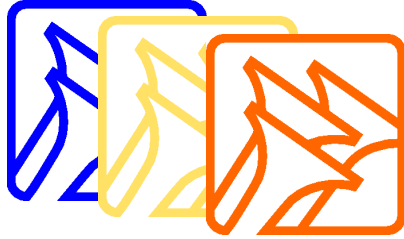
## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**Choir Anthem: "Crown Him Lord This Easter Day!"** *Don Besig, Nancy Price*  
*Dr. Deb Bialeschki, Trumpet Player*

## Receiving of Gifts

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*



## Offering Prayer

**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

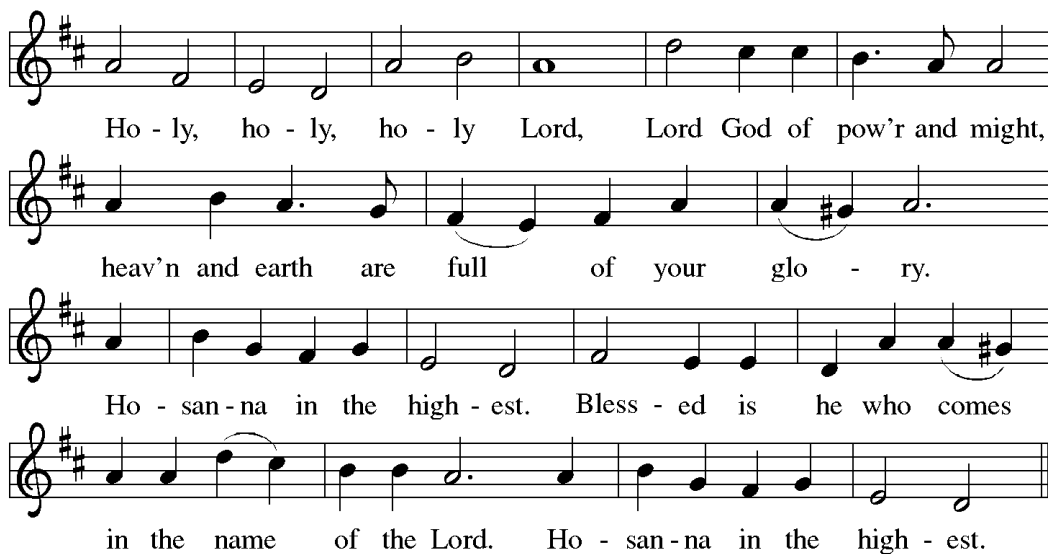
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

### Thanksgiving at the Table

O God most mighty,  
O God most merciful,  
O God our rock and our salvation,

hear us as we praise,  
call us to your table,  
grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,  
you formed order and beauty.  
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,  
you sent them a child;  
When the Israelites were enslaved,  
you led them to freedom.  
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,  
and the psalmists cried out for healing,  
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.  
He was born among the poor,  
he lived under oppression,  
he wept over the city.  
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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 his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**  
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**  
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.  
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.  
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.  
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.  
Grant us such life,  
the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,  
life in you, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

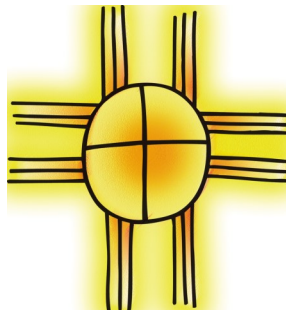
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from  
the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory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

## Invitation to Communion

*We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice.  
We are **all** guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*(Please be seated)*



## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.





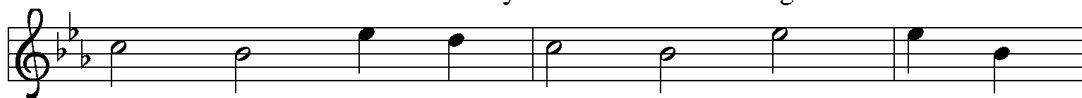
## Communion Hymn: “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” Hymn 367



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: “Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has



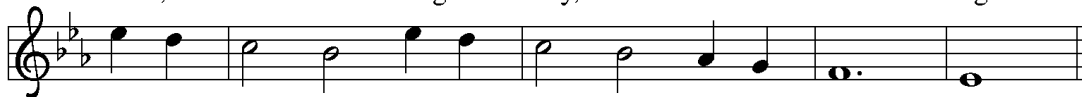
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!” Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!” Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
 strife. “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
 say: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Post Communion Blessing

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

## Post Communion Prayer

**Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.**

**Amen.**

## Ministry Highlights

### *Easter Brunch*

Join us in the fellowship hall for a terrific Easter Brunch. All are invited!

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*

## 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 Hymn: "Thine is the Glory" Hymn 376

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*  
 where thy bod - y lay.  
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939  
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

## 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!**

**Postlude: "Hallelujah!"** *from Messiah arr. by Larry Shackley*  
*Piano duet by Julie Varilek and Ann Knipping*



# Join us for Easter Brunch following Easter Service





# Easter Plant Dedications

## Donated By

## In honor/memory of

Jim & Paula Stensvaag

In honor of children and grandchildren

Roxy Hause

In honor of the Hause family

Carolyn Jarmin

In honor of parents and grandparents

Jane Gardner

In honor of Romaine

Kris & Bruce Adams

In memory of our parents

Jean & Larry Anderson

In memory of our parents

Linda & Lee Schlitt

In memory of our parents and grandparents



# Easter Plant Dedications

**Donated By**

**In honor/memory of**

Jet & Todd Bertani

Dick Bertani, may he rest in peace

Rich & Sandy Stolte

In honor of the Risen Lord

Sallie Brackman

In memory of Bruce

Kris & Tom O'Neil

In memory of parents

Ralie & Miriam Deffenbaugh

In memory of  
Reverend Charles Miller

Ralie & Miriam Deffenbaugh

In honor of our families

Keith Riedesel

In memory of my wife Margaret

## ***Thank you for serving!***

|                                | <b><i>April 20</i></b>                      | <b><i>April 27</i></b>                 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <b><i>Accompanist:</i></b>     | Julie Varilek                               | Ann Knipping                           |
| <b><i>Choir Director:</i></b>  | Ann Knipping                                | Ann Knipping                           |
| <b><i>Greeter:</i></b>         | Ed Acela                                    | _____ OPEN                             |
| <b><i>Lector:</i></b>          | Linda Schlitt                               | _____ OPEN                             |
| <b><i>Ushers:</i></b>          | Heidi Schweikart<br>Josh Young              | Mike Wold<br>Randy Huber               |
| <b><i>Tellers:</i></b>         | Ralie Deffenbaugh<br>Josh Young             | _____ OPEN<br>_____ OPEN               |
| <b><i>Altar Care:</i></b>      | Tara McConnell                              | _____ OPEN                             |
| <b><i>Communion Asst:</i></b>  | Paula Stensvaag<br>Roxy Hause<br>_____ OPEN | _____ OPEN<br>_____ OPEN<br>_____ OPEN |
| <b><i>AV Engineer:</i></b>     | Bruce Adams                                 | Steve Peter                            |
| <b><i>Fellowship Host:</i></b> | Easter Brunch                               | _____ OPEN                             |
| <b><i>Flower Sponsor:</i></b>  | Sponsored Plants                            | Leann Arnold                           |
| <b><i>Flower Arranger:</i></b> | Paula Stensvaag                             | Paula Stensvaag                        |

## ***Calendar***

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b><i>Monday, April 21</i></b>    | 1:00 p.m.—PEO HF in Sanctuary  |
| <b><i>Wednesday, April 23</i></b> | 8:00 a.m.—Sacred Space<br>4:00 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal                                  |
| <b><i>Thursday, April 24</i></b>  | 1:00 p.m.—Quilters<br>2:00 p.m.—Backflow testing<br>3:00 p.m.—Peak to Peak Rehearsal |
| <b><i>Saturday April 26</i></b>   | All Day—Talamantes Event   |