The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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The sheep follow him because they know his voice.

John 10:4, NRSV



Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025
10:45 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's
grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby. If you are interested in joining our family of faith, please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The "Children's Ministry" table and basket in the lobby contains a variety of items for children's use during worship.

Stop by to borrow a book, pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive. Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Sheep May Safely Graze

Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Please rise in body or spirit.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of \pm the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

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.**



Prayer of the Day

We pray.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43 Translation: NRSV-UE

A Reading from Acts.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay."

So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from Revelation.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

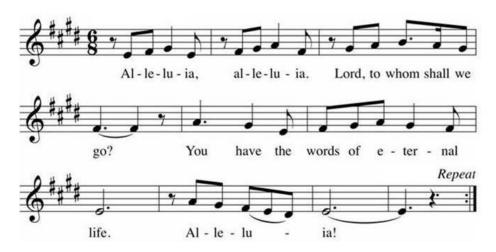
Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.



Gospel: John 10:22-30 Translation: NRSV-UE

The holy gospel according to John the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Rev. Christopher deForest, Bishop

Hymn of the Day

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789



- 1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us;
- 2 We are yours; in love be friend us,
- 3 You have prom-ised to re ceive us,
- 4 Ear ly let us seek your fa vor,

much we need your ten - der care. be the guard-ian of our way;

poor and sin - ful though we be;

ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior,

for our use your fold pre-pare. seek us when we go a - stray. grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free. with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed you have bought us; we are Je-sus. bless-ed Je - sus. yours. Bless-ed bless-ed chil - dren when we Je-sus. Je - sus, hear us pray. Bless-ed Je-sus. bless-ed Je - sus. ear - lv let us turn to you. Bless-ed Je-sus. bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus,

Bless-ed

Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil-dren when we pray. Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you. Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.

are yours.

you have bought us; we

10

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

The assembly is seated.

Service of Installation for Deacon Reylene Starego

Presentation

Having been authorized by the church to install Deacon Reylene Starego, our coworker in the gospel, as Director of Music, I now ask for certification of this call.

A representative of the calling body addresses the presiding minister.

After prayerful deliberation, we, of The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, have called Deacon Reylene Starego to serve as a minister of word and service in the position of Director of Music. I present Deacon Reylene and this letter certifying the call.

Address and Questions

The presiding minister addresses the minister of word and service.

Our Lord, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. You come among us as one called and set apart for the ministry of word and service, a gift from God to inspire us to love and service to Christ.

A reading from First Peter: Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

The presiding minister addresses questions to the minister of word and service.

Deacon Reylene, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Trusting in God's care, will you witness to Jesus Christ in word and deed, pray for God's people, seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Amen

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, will you receive Deacon Reylene into this ministry as one called and sent to serve all people in Christ's name?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for Deacon Reylene? Will you help and honor Deacon Reylene in carrying out this ministry? In all things, will you strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

The presiding minister addresses the minister of word and service.

Deacon Reylene, the ministry of Director of Music is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The minister of word and service may kneel.

Prayer

We pray.

Gracious God, as you have called workers to varied tasks in the world and in your church, so you have called Deacon Reylene to this ministry. Grant to your servant joy and a spirit of bold trust, that this work may stir up each of us to a life of fruitful service; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

O God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship: Strengthen and bless your servant Reylene, who, through your gift of music, seeks to enliven our praises and proclaim your word with power. Through this ministry give us new awareness of your beauty and grace, and join our voices with all the choirs of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Blessing

The newly installed deacon may kneel as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen

Please rise in body or spirit.

The presiding minister may address the assembly with these or similar words.

People of God, I present to you Deacon Reylene, your Director of Music. Let us welcome Reylene in the name of Christ.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

Prayers of Intercession

Introduction to prayer:

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition: Shepherding God, receive our prayer.

Pastor's final prayer:

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen

Peace

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying, "Peace be with you."

The assembly is seated.

MFAI

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Musical Offering, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Musical Offering

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Spirit Voices arr. Thompson

Offering Prayer

We pray.
Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen

Please rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

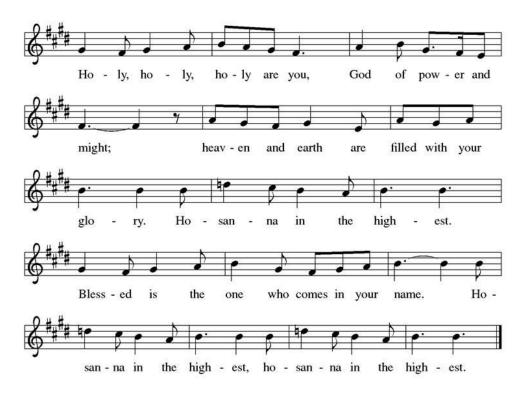
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

The assembly is seated.

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.







- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib er at-ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in car nate: Christ, who suf fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight. praise the One who drove out de-mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword. Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn-ing sand; Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace. from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land. Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

God, the Source of glory, God, the Word of life, God, the Spirit of truth \pm bless you all, now and forever. **Amen**

Sending Song Please see next page.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Sending Music Concertino Young



Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;

venmo

- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

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Elizabeth Moessner

Reader

Julie Timmcke

Communion Assistants

Terri Hinderliter Glenn Hinderliter

Greeter

Renee Wetherhold

<u>Usher</u>

Tom Eichelberger

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