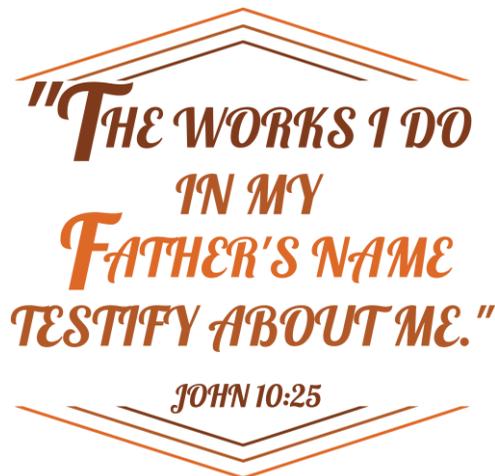


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025
8:30 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 or 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

This Is Amazing Grace
Spirit of Praise

Wickham, Riddle, & Farro

Welcome and Announcements

Please rise in body or spirit.

Easter Greeting and Gathering Dialog

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Lord is our shepherd.
We have all that we need.
God heals us in peace,
even through difficult journeys.
Surely God's goodness is enough,
all the days of our lives.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Come, let us worship God!

Gathering Song

Praise the King

Voss, Bryce, Farren & Smith

There's a reason why the curse of sin is broken.
There's a reason why the darkness runs from light.
There's a reason why we stand here now forgiven.
Jesus is alive.

**There's a reason why we are not overtaken.
There's a reason why we sing on through the night.
There's a reason why our hope remains eternal.
Jesus is alive.**

**Praise the King! He is risen. Praise the King! He's alive.
Praise the King, death's defeated. Hallelujah! He's alive. Hallelujah! He's alive.**

**There's a reason why our hearts can be courageous.
There's a reason why the dead are made alive.
There's a reason why we share His resurrection.
Jesus is alive.**

**Praise the King! He is risen. Praise the King! He's alive.
Praise the King, death's defeated. Hallelujah! He's alive. Hallelujah! He's alive.**

**The grave could not ignore it when all of heaven's roaring.
Hell where is your victory? Death where is your sting?
The world could not ignore it when all the saints are roaring
Hell where is your victory? Death where is your sting?**

**Praise the King! He is risen. Praise the King! He's alive.
Praise the King, death's defeated. Hallelujah! He's alive. Hallelujah! He's alive.**

Hallelujah He's alive! Hallelujah He's alive! Hallelujah He's alive!

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

We pray.
**Tender Lord of green pastures, come and lie down with us,
for we yearn to rest in you. Send your Holy Spirit to grant us peace.
Soothe us with the stillness of your waters, for our souls need restoration
and relief. Pour out your grace, that we might dwell with you
our whole lives long. Amen**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

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

Please rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel John 10:22-30

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Lord is our shepherd.

We have all that we need.

The Good News from John, the 10th chapter.

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.”

God leads us in peace,
even through difficult journeys.
 Surely God’s goodness is enough,
all the days of our lives.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Christopher deForest, Bishop

Please rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

Shepherd Me, O God

ELW 780

Refrain
 All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
 death in - to life. life.

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5 *to stanza 4*

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
 2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
 3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
 lead me by path-ways of high - teous-ness and truth, my
 fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
 spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
 rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
 All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

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

Prayers of the People

Invitation 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 closing 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.

Peace

The peace of the Lord 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.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Song, 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.



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
 2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
 3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
 When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Offering Prayer

We pray.

Generous God, we dedicate these gifts and offerings into your service.

May our generosity flow abundantly into a world in need of your transforming love and grace. In your loving name we pray.

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.

Gentle God, into that place where there was no time,
you crafted day and night, bathing green pastures in their light.
Into that dark valley called chaos, you flung the sparkling stars,
you pooled still waters for nourishment, you prepared a feast for your children.
We chose to journey down the wrong paths, sin and death tagging along behind us,
pointing out where temptation built a home for us.
You sent prophets to call to us, hoping we would hear your voice in them,
but we preferred the presence of your enemies.
So, you sent the good shepherd, Jesus, to us to call us back to you.

So, with the multitude no one can count, with those of every nation and language,
we lift our voices to you in glad praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God, who is seated on the throne.
All creation praises you forever and ever.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the Lamb who is our shepherd.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Sustaining God, as you lead your sheep to green pastures
and guide them beside still waters,
so you have led us to this table where in bread and wine you restore our soul.
Send down your Holy Spirit and restore your church
through the abundance of this sacred meal.
As we remember the story of your Son's life laid down for us,
bless this bread and cup and make them be for us the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Lead us, God in Community, Holy in One,
as we pray as Jesus has 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 the table

Christ Jesus yearns to be your host at this table today.
Here you are welcomed with open arms.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion

Communion Song

Nothing Can Trouble
Sing 4 times

ACS 1033

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te.
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

na - da te es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

Communion Song

This Is Amazing Grace

**Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.**

**Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder,
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.**

**This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.**

**Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.**

**This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.**

**Who rules the nations with truth and justice,
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.**

**This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.**

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Worthy, worthy, worthy.**

**This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me,
All that You've done for me.**

Please 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

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 Song

Praise

Lake et al.

**(SHOUT & CLAP) Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

**(SING) I'll praise in the valley, praise on the mountain.
I'll praise when I'm sure, praise when I'm doubting.
I'll praise when outnumbered, praise when surrounded.
'Cause praise is the water my enemies drown in.**

**As long as I'm breathing I've got a reason to
Praise the Lord oh my soul! Praise the Lord oh my soul!**

**I'll praise when I feel it and I'll praise when I don't.
I'll praise 'cause I know You're still in control.
'Cause my praise is a weapon. It's more than a sound.
My praise is the shout that brings Jericho down**

**As long as I'm breathing I've got a reason to
Praise the Lord oh my soul! Praise the Lord oh my soul!**

**I won't be quiet. My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
Praise the Lord oh my soul**

**I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign, praise 'cause You reign,
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave.
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful, praise 'cause You're true
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You.
I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign, praise 'cause You reign,
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave.
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful, praise 'cause You're true
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You.**

**Praise the Lord oh my soul! Praise the Lord oh my soul!
Praise the Lord oh my soul! Praise the Lord oh my soul!**

**I won't be quiet. My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
I won't be quiet. My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
I won't be quiet. My God is alive.
How could I keep it inside?
Praise the Lord oh my soul!**

**(SHOUT & CLAP) Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

Dismissal

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives.
For wherever we go, we will find that God has gone ahead of us,
preparing the way for us to pass in peace.
Thanks be to God.

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



venmo

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

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Diane Evans

Reader

Melanie Werley

Communion Assistants

Angie Niland, Fran Derhammer

Greeter

Nancy Yablonski

Usher

Michael Yablonski

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Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

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