GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ... We Are God's People and the Sheep of God's Pasture ... Psalm 100:3

LARGE PRINT EDITION



May 18, 2025 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

ALL ARE WELCOME AT GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH. God makes no exceptions. In the spirit of Jesus Christ, we offer trust and respect to all, including those who may experience alienation, distrust, or rejection. We rely on the healing, unconditional love of God to shape our community in the name of the Good Shepherd.

In keeping with our welcome, Good Shepherd is a Reconciling in Christ partner congregation, affirming our welcome to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, and our commitment to anti-racism work so that all may participate fully in the life of our congregation. We are an AMMPARO Welcoming Congregation - Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities.

The Good Shepherd buildings are Carbon Neutral/Net Zero Energy use.

Welcome guests! There is more information for you on the back of the bulletin.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Evangelical Lutheran Worship – **ELW (red book)** All Creation Sings – **ACS (purple book)** Page numbers (P.) in front of the red hymnal, (#) in back of ELW/ACS congregational responses in **bold;** rise in body or spirit when indicated by *

GATHERING

PRAYER BELL – PRELUDE: Nimrod – Edward Elgar

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM:

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.

Holy God,

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, Waters that open the hearts of believers And give 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.**

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 377 Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! (verses 1, 3, & 5)



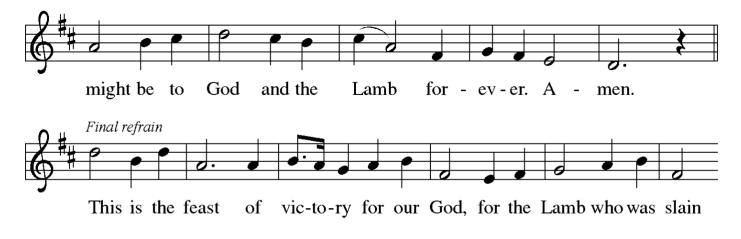
Text: Herbert E. Bookang, b. 1926 Natse: David Admison, 1922–1987 Text 0: 1995 Aughent Erner, 1922–1987 Natsio O. 1996 Garangenery Wordig 1, admin. Augsburg Fortness. Dupfication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*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**.

HYMN OF PRAISE:







*PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray... Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

PSALM: Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to | us and bless us; may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
² Let your way be known | upon earth, your saving health a- | mong all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise | you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.
⁴ Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth.
⁵ Let the peoples | praise you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.
⁶ The earth has brought | forth its increase; God, our own | God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God | give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

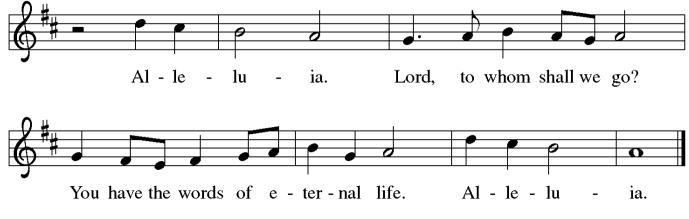
¹⁰And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**



GOSPEL READING: John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

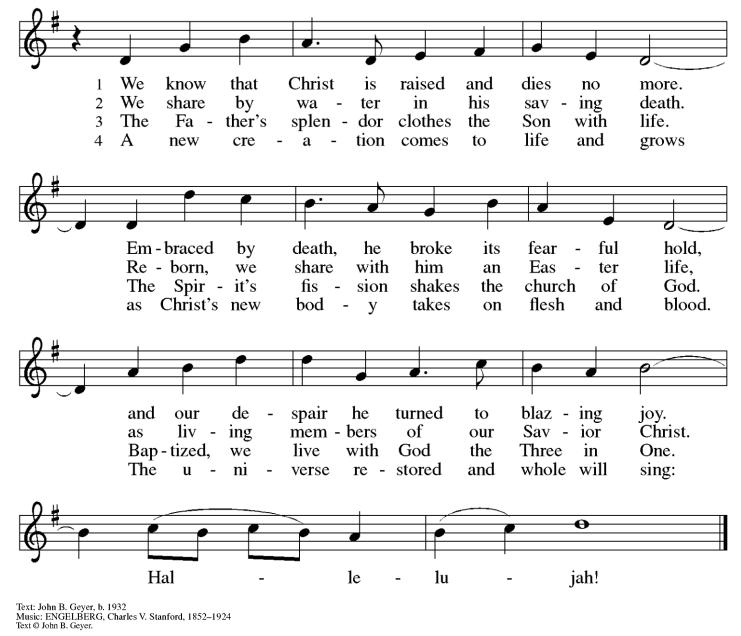
²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 449 We Know That Christ Is Raised



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*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Response is: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

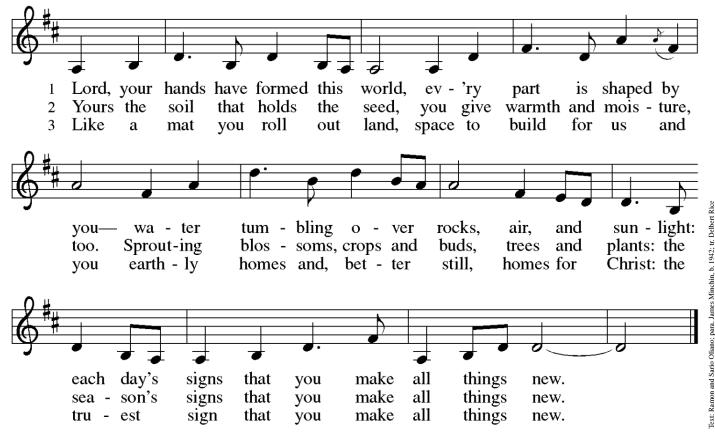
*PEACE OF CHRIST: The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

We share peace by waving to those worshipping online or through the public access channel and then with those in the sanctuary.

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC: Gavotte – J.S Bach (Keegan Joyce, piano)

OFFERTORY SONG: ELW 554 Lord, Your Hands Have Formed (verses 1 & 2)



*OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray... Amen.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION – THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE:**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe...

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 the sun and moon and stars, We praise you, O God, Blessed and holy Trinity, Now and forever.

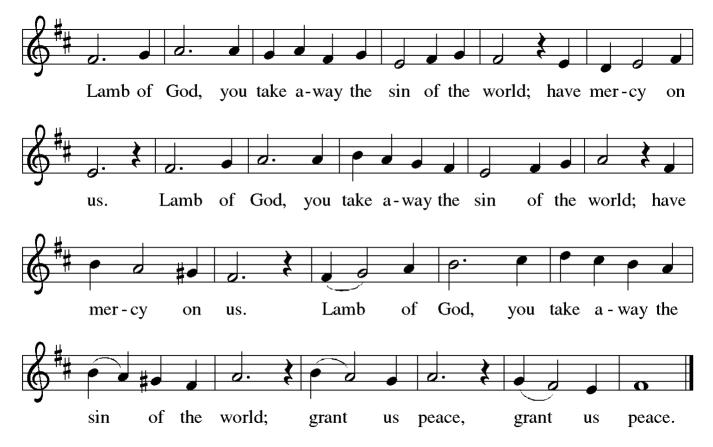
Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are welcome at Christ's table.

- Because it is a season of rejoicing, we will not kneel during the Sundays of Easter. This morning we'll be communing by standing around the altar.
- Ushers will direct up you the altar area where you'll be offered gluten and dairy free bread.
- Egg-free wheat wafers are also available.
- You may choose either the red wine or white grape juice.
- There is a tray there to put your empty glasses.
- If you prefer only a blessing, indicate by placing your hands over your heart.
- Communion is served in the pews for those who wish to remain seated.
- For those not worshiping in this space with us, Christ is present wherever you are.
- All are welcome no exceptions! This is Jesus' table and it is set for all.

COMMUNION SONG:



COMMUNION HYMNS: ELW 423 Shall We Gather at the River



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry ELW 593 Drawn to the Light



Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: LA CROSSE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker.

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ELW 838 Beautiful Savior



Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHONSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. **TABLE BLESSING** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace forever. **Amen.**

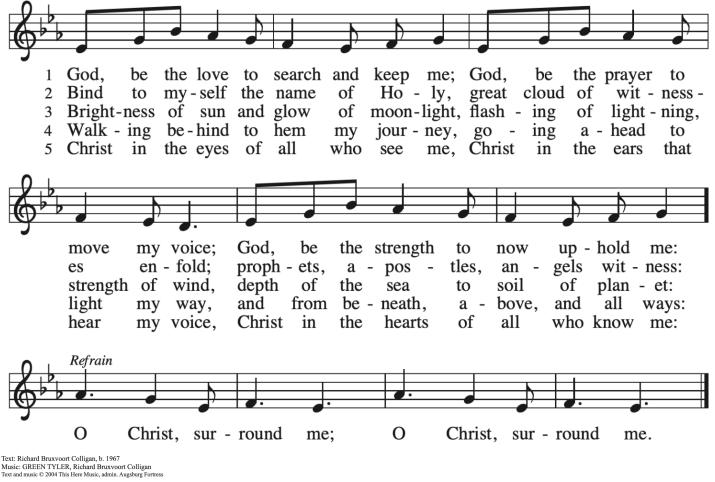
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

SENDING SONG: ACS 1084 God, Be the One to Search and Keep Me



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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!

PRAYER BELL – POSTLUDE: The Nonpareil – Scott Joplin

The postlude sends us out for service in the world. Feel free to use this time in any way that helps to send you out!

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TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY: PREACHING AND

PRESIDING: Pastor Susan Friedrich; ORGANIST & PIANIST: Brooke Joyce; CANTOR: Karin Martin-Hiner; ASSISTING MINISTER: Stephanie Hoff; LECTOR/READER: Brad Hanson; USHERS: Cheuang Kavan, Steve Hopkins; AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN: Aidan Nalean-Carlson; FELLOWSHIP: Marie Freerking, Sue Blom, Sarah Olson, Bev Nelson, Jutta Anderson

HAPPY SUMMER! During Fellowship Hour, there will be a basket of outdoor activities, including bubbles, chalk, frisbees, and more, placed on the back patio for kids of all ages to enjoy during these summer months! Please let Gabby know if anything is broken or needs to be replaced!

INAGURAL CONCERT BY QUARTET WINNESHIEK: All are invited to a free concert by Quartet Winneshiek, a new Decorah area string quartet that includes instrumentalists Jonathan Winter and Nicole Cody, violins; Angela Kratchmer, viola; and Craig Hultgren, cello. **Today, Sunday, May 25th, at 3:00pm, here in the Good Shepherd Sanctuary.**

ST. GRUBBY'S DAY: Sunday, June 1st, **following worship!** This year, join the Facilities and Grounds committee as we spruce up Good Shepherd to impress our new pastor! The committee will provide direction to volunteers to "spring clean" the church building and grounds. **Sign-up sheets** are available on the table in the gathering space. Please sign up for either a particular task or a "put me in, coach!" position! **A pizza lunch will be provided** for all workers in the Fellowship Hall.

DLC AND FLC JOINT VBS: Decorah Lutheran and First Lutheran have teamed up once again to host VBS! This year's VBS will be held **May 27-30**

from 8:30-12, with a special kickoff event on May 26 from 6:15-7:15 at Decorah Lutheran Church. It is \$20 for the first child, and \$10 for each additional child in the family. It is open to children ages $4 - 5^{\text{th}}$ grade! Posters have been hung around the building with information. Scan the QR code here in the bulletin or on the



posters to register. Stay tuned for information regarding Good Shepherd's VBS later this summer!

GOOD SHEPHERD VBS! Good Shepherd is kicking off a summer of VBS! This summer, we will be gathering on the **last Wednesday of every month** for an evening of fellowship and faith formation! We will begin with a simple meal, move into a time of games, crafts, and activities, and end with a fire and music (and maybe even some s'mores!) **Please plan to join us for our first evening on June 25**th! The exact time is TBD. **SUMMER MUSIC AT GOOD SHEPHERD:** Music Director Brooke Joyce invites everyone to sing or play with a Pick-Up Choir, Band, or Handbells this summer! All are welcome! There are also opportunities for solos or small ensembles. If you are interested, contact Brooke at <u>wbjoyce3@gmail.com</u>, and watch for dates for the summer pick-up ensembles.

Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Praying for others is a cherished ministry that everyone can participate in at any time. There are no time constraints to our care for others as we offer their needs up to God. People on the prayer list are welcome to remain there for as long as is needed.

Those with health concerns:

- Lise Kildegaard
- Bob Wilson
- Mickey Slind
- Scott Barnes
- Jon Wendling
- Elizabeth Hermeier
- James Barth
- Ginny Olson
- Haisleigh children's hospital, Iowa City

- Wanda Rueber
- LaVerne Ramsey
- Scott Ulring
- Phillip Swanson
- Harland Nelson
- Dennis Martin, Marv & Mickey Slind's brother-in-law
- Ingrid Callaghan
- Carrie Solberg
- Jutta Anderson

Those in a time of crisis:

• Mike Sammons, our staff custodian, and his family (Rachael Munn and daughters Althea and Eleanor), in the wake of a house fire

Those who grieve:

- Pete and Kari Espinosa and their families, upon the deaths of Pete's sister on Sunday, March 23rd and Kari's nephew on Tuesday, March 18th.
- Glendalu Wuest and family, upon the death of her husband Dick Wuest on Monday, March 3rd.

Those serving the needs of others:

- Martha Monson Lowe
- Maryn Olson, Director of Lutheran Disaster Response
- Pastor Kathryn Thompson as she serves higher education students through LuMin in La Crosse

To have a prayer request added to or removed from the Prayer List, please email Tristan at office@goodshepherddecorah.org or call (563) 382-3963.

Good Shepherd Worship Schedule

Today, Sunday, May 25th: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Susan Friedrich

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Orange Flock

Sunday, June 1st: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Susan Friedrich

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Yellow Flock

Sunday, June 8th: Pentecost Sunday

Worship at 9:30 AM; Sanctuary; with Holy Communion Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Susan Friedrich

Fellowship Time: 10:45 AM; Fellowship Hall; treats provided by the Yellow Flock

WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS and especially to Luther College Students! It is

a joy to worship with you. You are welcome to enjoy really great coffee, juice, treats, and conversation down the hall after worship – follow the crowd. Sit anywhere!

ALL ARE WELCOME TO SHARE IN HOLY COMMUNION. It is Christ's table and Christ is the host. Instructions are included in the communion section of the Order of Worship.

THE PRESENCE, ENERGY, AND NOISE OF CHILDREN ARE MOST WELCOME HERE! The sound of a child in worship is the sound of a new Christian being formed. This congregation is glad to share in this work. We welcome and encourage kids to move and play. A nursery with toys and activity bags is available. Mothers are welcome to nurse anywhere that works.

RACIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT: This Statement was approved at the annual meeting of the congregation on February 6th, 2022. It was developed through the work of the Racial Justice Team which held listening sessions with the congregation. Find the full statement at **goodshepherddecorah.org/Racial-Justice-Statement** or by scanning the code.



GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF:

Pastor Susan Friedrich (563) 422-7882 pastorsusan@goodshepherddecorah.org Brooke Joyce; Music Director Tristan Occhipinti; Office & Building Manager Gabby Bizal; Ministry and Communications Coordinator and Youth Director Mike Sammons; Custodian



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