

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

We hope you feel welcome here.

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice, racial equity, and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

We hope you can participate fully in worship. Everything needed to participate in today's worship is found in this bulletin. The hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) located under the seat in front of you. Worshipers are invited to stand as you are able at the places marked * and to respond when indicated with bold type. We gently remind you to silence all electronic devices. Our youngest worshipers and their parents may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags are available in the narthex and children's bulletins are available from an usher.

Assisted hearing devices and complete-service, large-print bulletins are available from an usher. The blue chairs with arms are reserved for people with mobility limitations. Ushers can remove chairs to place a wheelchair.

We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.

At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.

Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce. Gifts placed in the offering plate by the worship doors contribute to this mission.

We hope you know we pray for you.

We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service. Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors; prayer requests made before the service begins will be included in the Prayers of the People.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

P: We praise you for your salvation through water,

C: for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

P: Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

C: Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

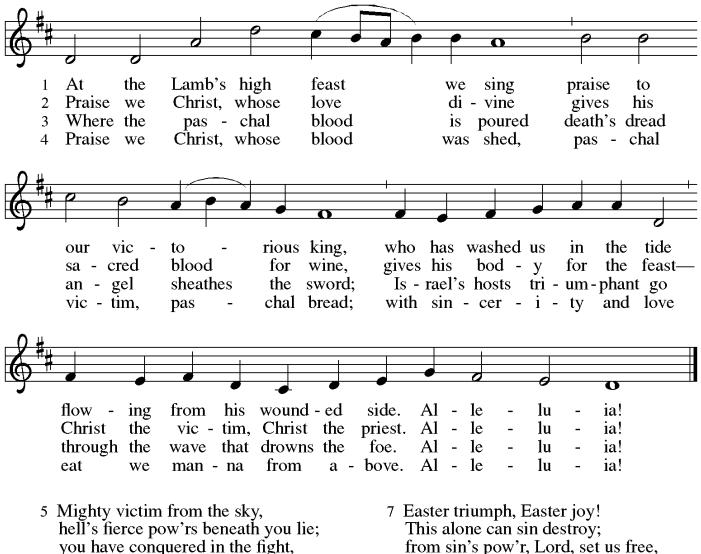
P: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*ENTRANCE HYMN

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



- you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall; you have opened paradise, and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!
- newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!
- 8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!

*GREETING

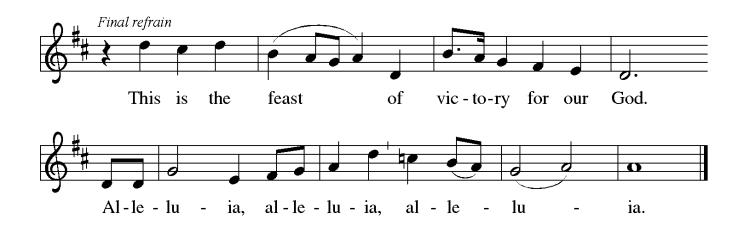
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE







*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST READING

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name

Acts 4:5-12

did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone.'

"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23



The LORD [|] is my shepherd;

I shall not ^I be in want.

The LORD makes me lie down [|] in green pastures

and leads me be- | side still waters.

You restore my ^I soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways ^I for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall [|] fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they [|] comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence I of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is I running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days [|] of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the [|] LORD forever.

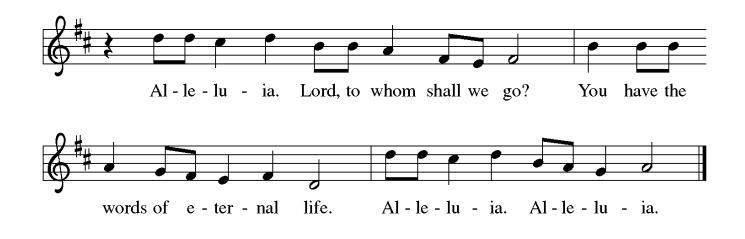
SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-24 We know love by this, that Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and God knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey the commandments and do what pleases God.

And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and love one another, just as Jesus has commanded us. All who obey God's commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit that has been given us.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

- P: The Gospel of Our Lord!
- C: Praise to you, O Christ.

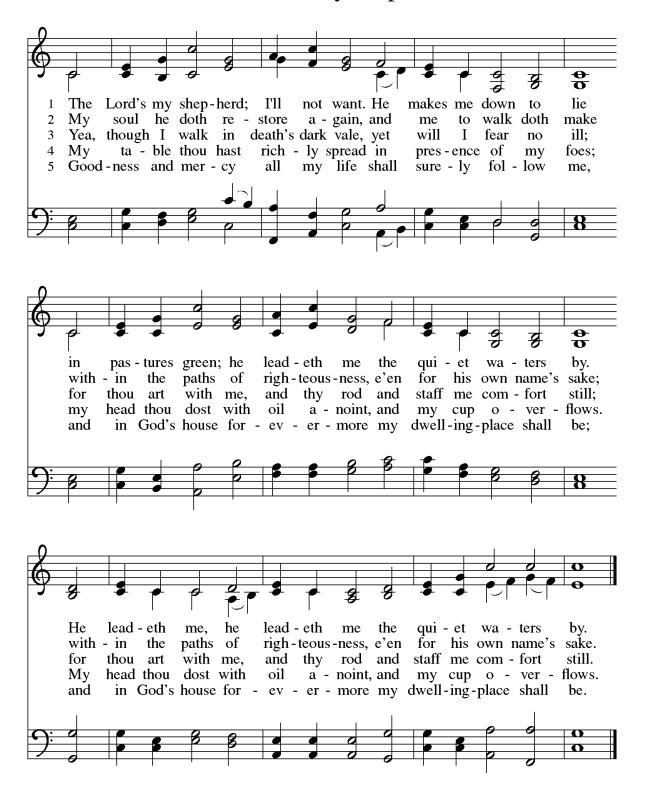
SERMON

Pr. Adrianne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

The Lord's My Shepherd

The Lord's My Shepherd



Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895–1984 Arr. © Oxford University Press.

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PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

APOSTLES' CREED

- A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C: 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.*

ne 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.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

P: Siblings in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

New Members: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

WELCOME

P: Let us welcome siblings in Christ to this community of faith.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

A: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. In times of uncertainty, draw us to you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Nurturing God, as the weather warms and we find more time to spend outside, help us to celebrate and care for your creation. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources and give aid to those who are caught in the middle of international conflicts. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable especially Elif, Paula, Doug, Yvonne, Barbara, Steve, Brenda, Jim, Ted, Bob, Kent, Mark, Bill, Don and Marilyn, and Harry. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. May our worship and ministry together draw us back to you and to each other. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith including Anselm of Canterbury and all who labored to help generations understand the good news of the gospel. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own lives. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service.

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the baptismal font, or you can give on our website, stlconline.org. St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. 8:30 a.m. only CHORAL ANTHEM The King of Love My Shepherd Is Mack Wilberg

11 a.m. only ORGAN OFFERTORY

Matthew Benkert

*OFFERTORY HYMN Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom

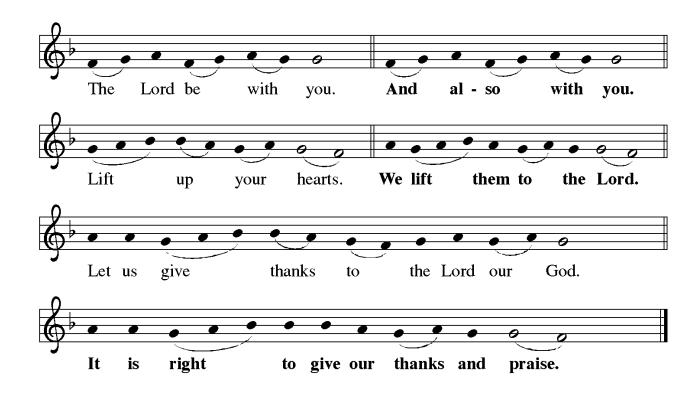


*OFFERTORY PRAYER

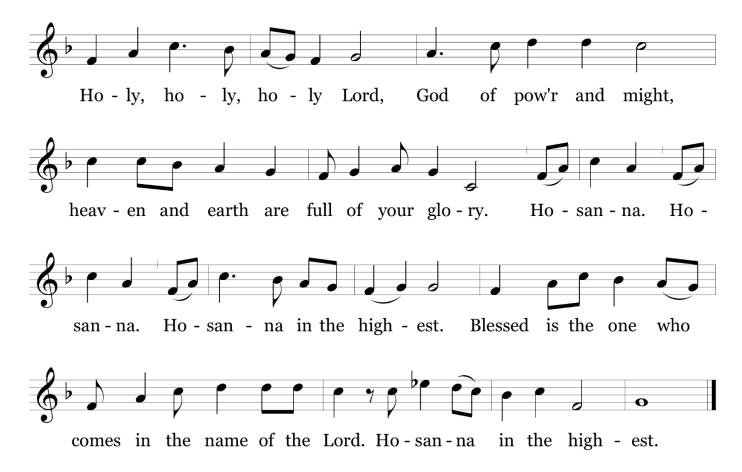
A: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

+ MEAL +

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



P: 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:



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. You prepare before us a table of goodness and mercy.

P: You are the Author of life and calls us to witness to your Good News. You are the Great Physician and all healing comes from you. You are the stone, rejected by the builders, which has become the cornerstone. You are the name by which we are saved. Your welcome extends beyond any borders we might establish.

P: 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.

P: 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. P: Joined into one body, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With the crowds and believers, pour out your Spirit on us. With the early church, let your great grace rest upon us. With Justus and Matthias, call us to be your witnesses. With Philip, catch us up in your Spirit. With the Ethiopian eunuch, send us on our way rejoicing.

P: With holy ones of all times and places, With the dew upon the mountains, In the pastures of plenty and the valleys of despair, Alongside the still waters and the roaring sea, With the floods that clap their hands And the hills that sing together for you, As trees planted by the watercourses, we praise you blessed and holy Trinity, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Spanish is provided on the next page.

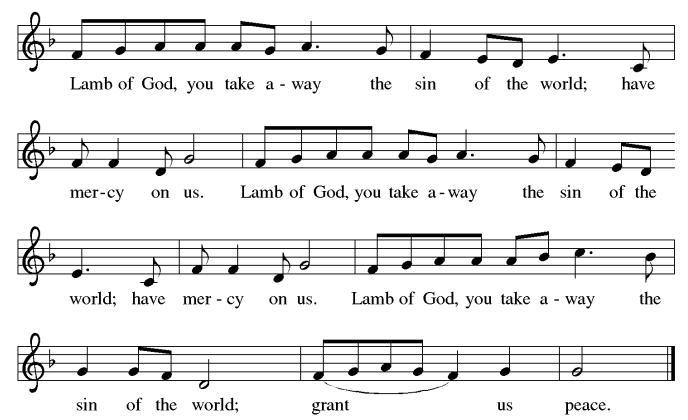
C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on Earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino.
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

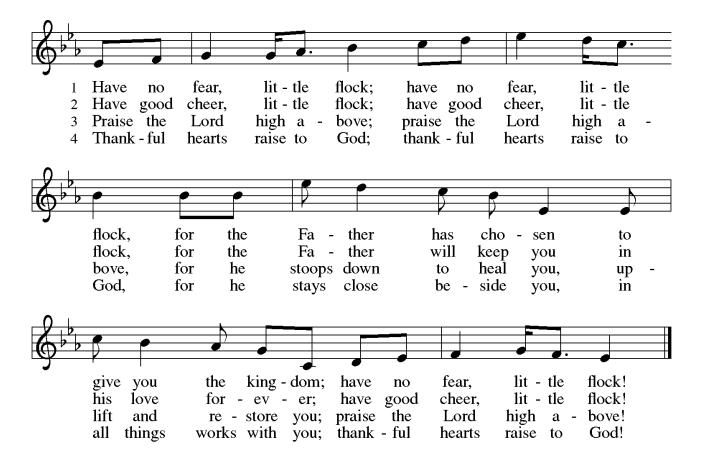
We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of an usher, and receive bread or gluten-free wafer and wine in a common chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION HYMNS Have No Fear, Little Flock You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

Have No Fear, Little Flock



Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2–4 Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd You, Lord, both Lamb and Shep herd. are -1 2 Clothed in the light up on moun tain, -3 You, who walk each day be side us, Je sus! 4 Wor - thy is our earth ly 0 You, Lord, prince and slave. are both stripped might the cross, of up on sit pow -God's side. in er at Wor thy mic Christ! is our cos _ You, peace - mak and sword bring er er shin - ing in e ter nal glo _ ry, You, who preach that's a way nar row, de Wor - thy your feat and vic t'ry; 0 of way the you took and gave. beg - gared by a sol dier's toss, have а love that reach es wide. _ wor - thy still strife. your peace and A You, the ev - er - last ing in stant; you, the ing ev - er - last in stant; --You, the ev - er - last ing in stant; _ You, the ev - er - last _ ing in stant; Ο whom both and crave. you, we scorn gift you, who are both and cost. guide. who pil grim you, are our who death and life. you, are our

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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*EUCHARISTIC BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your bold love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

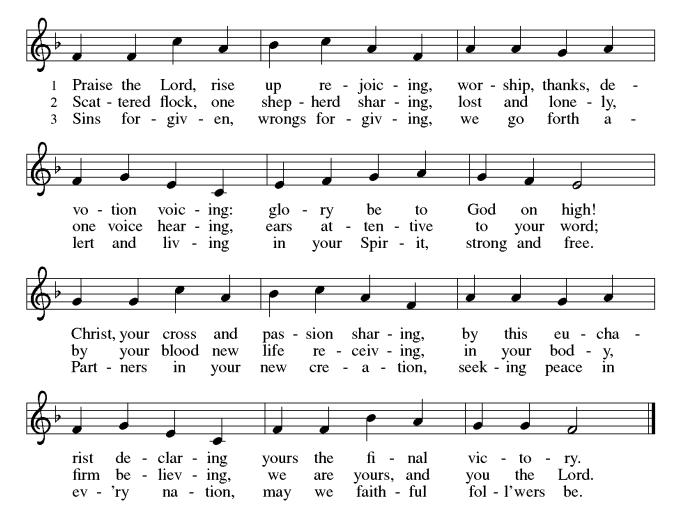
*BENEDICTION

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt. Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt. Text © Oxford University Press.

*DISMISSAL

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

We depart in peace to continue our worship in lives of witness to Christ's love in work, play, service, and care for creation.

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Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas Sunday April 21

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Annual Program Meeting (immediately followed by a Council Meeting) Monday April 22 1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study **Outreach Committee Meeting** 7:30 p.m. **Thursday April 25** 7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Friday April 27 10 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Sunday April 28 8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship LuMin Grab and Go Lunch 9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Worship 11 a.m. LuMin Grab and Go Lunch 12 p.m. 4 p.m. Sister Parish Interest Group

Next Steps

Looking for a way to get involved at STLC? Try this next step:

Offering Counter

Count financial gifts to the congregation and prepare a simple weekly report on a weekday morning (usually Mondays).

Contact the church office if you are interested in this next step. parishadmin@stlconline.org



Welcome

Today St. Thomas is pleased to welcome into membership or associate membership: Robert & Donna Brunner Spencer Anspach, and Susan and Wyatt Kinzer April Armstrong & Susan Cote Andrew Rhoda

Announcements

Annual Program Meeting Today

The Annual Program Meeting of St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church will be **Sunday**, **April 21 following the 11 a.m. worship service** (around 12:15 a.m.). The agenda will include ratification of the constitution, the election of council members, and celebrations of the year's ministry. Those who wish to join the meeting on Zoom may do so here: <u>https://bit.ly/3JIP7D2</u>

LuMin Lunch

Our final **LuMin Grab and Go Lunch** for this semester takes place on **Sunday, April 28**. Let's keep students nourished for their final exams! Please sign up at the Welcome Desk to bring food or host the table.

Sister Parish Interest Group

Can you imagine being part of a delegation to Chichipate, maybe during Spring Break 2025? Or maybe you'd like be part of a local support team to help raise funds so others can go? Let's get together to talk over possibilities on **Sunday**, **April 28 at 4 p.m.**

Spring Choir Concert

It is time to mark your calendars for the annual Spring concert given by the St. Thomas Lutheran Church Adult Choir. The date will be **Sunday, May 5, at 4 p.m.** The theme is *Hope for All People*. The choir will be performing Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* and Janacek's *The Lord's Prayer*. More details will be coming in the upcoming weekly announcements. A sign-up sheet for contributions to the reception is available at the Welcome Desk.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Elif Ogan, Paula Ionescu, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Barbara Peterson, Steve Caudill, Brenda Caudill, Jim Wallace, Ted Berlin, Bob Shuck, Kent Unger, Mark Wilkes, Bill Barr, Don and Marilyn Findlay, and Harry Smith.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at <u>skcolston@aol.com</u> to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

The altar flowers this week are given

by Kris Stewart in memory of her daughter Alicia on her baptismal birthday, and in memory of her mother Katharine Pohlmann on her birthday.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Kaye Hill, Gail Seegert Bread/Wine: Haley Hatton Coffee Crew: Larry Moore, Margaret Harter Prayer Writer: Moriah Reichert A/V Tech: Johnathan Frank

8:30 a.m. service

Assisting Minister: Carolyn Sowinski Lectors: Mike & Debbie Witt Ushers: Sacha Arterberry, Gene Laughman Communion Steward: Jaydene Laros Greeters: Mike & Jaydene Laros Council Coordinator: Ashley Ahlbrand

11 a.m. service

Assisting Minister: Kris Stewart Lector: Susan Hiller, Sharon Fawbush Lord's Prayer Leader: Lucy Meier Ushers: Randy & Nancy Nye Communion Steward: Kaye Hill Greeters: Tim & Jennifer Gal Council Coordinator: Kaye Hill

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street Bloomington, Indiana 47401 Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30p.m. Phone: (812) 332-5252 <u>stlconline.org</u>

Partners in ministry with Lutheran Church of the Living Waters Cherokee, North Carolina

Linked with Sister Parish Iglesia Santo Domingo de Guzman, Chichipate Parish of San Pedro, El Estor, Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with Lutheran Campus Ministry at Indiana University

Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian, Campus Pastor <u>lutheran@indiana.edu</u> Phone: (812) 333-2474 <u>lcmiu.org</u> Rev. Adrianne Meier Senior Pastor pastor@stlconline.org

Rev. Lecia Beck Pastor of Youth and Christian Nurture <u>christiannurture@stlconline.org</u>

> Erica Whichello Parish Administrator parishadmin@stlconline.org

Matthew Benkert Director of Music and Organist <u>directorofmusic@stlconline.org</u>

> Kathryn Davidson Adult Choir Director <u>choir@stlconline.org</u>

Melissa de Graaf Children's Choir Director

St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU are Reconciling in Christ Ministries

We are a Christ-centered community that lives, shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!