



“My Sheep Hear My Voice”

Ascension Lutheran Church
Landover Hills, Maryland
Church Phone: 301-577-0500
www.alutheranchurch.com



Fourth Sunday Of Easter

April 21, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome and Notices

Prelude

“Guidance”
arr. Michael Hassell

(Stand) Invocation and Confession

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

(Kneel Sit)

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

C: and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

L: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in his name he gives power to become children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. They who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C: Amen.

(Stand) Greeting

L: He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

ELW 369

Text: Latin sequence; Tune: Robert Williams

- 1. Christ the Lord is ris’n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim’s feet. Alleluia!**
- 2. For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinner’s stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris’n on high; Alleluia!
Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**
- 3. Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciles, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**
- 4. Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris’n on high; Alleluia!
Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

L: Let us pray.

C: 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.

(Sit) The First Lesson

Acts 4:1-12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by

you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Second Lesson

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Stand) Verse “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”
ELW385 v.1 Cyril Argentine Alington | Melchior Vulpius.
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**Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The Holy Gospel

John 10:11-18

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit) Message

(Stand) Hymn

ELW764

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson; Tune: L Heinz Werner Zimmerman
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“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

- 1. Have no fear, little flock;
Have no fear, little flock,
For the Father has chosen
To give you the Kingdom;
Have no fear, little flock!**

- 2. Have good cheer, little flock;
Have good cheer, little flock,
For the Father will keep you
In his love forever;
Have good cheer, little flock!**

- 3. Praise the Lord high above;
Praise the Lord high above,
For he stoops down to heal you,
Up-lift and restore you;
Praise the Lord high above;**

- 4. Thankful hearts raise to God;
Thankful hearts raise to God,
For he stays close beside you,
In all things works with you;
Thankful hearts raise to God!**

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from
the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.**

(Kneel/Sit) Prayers

We come to you god- with op -en heart pray ing To ask for your heal ing and
7
bless -ing a bound. We pray to you knee ling with heads bowed in -
12
wit ness the glo - ry of your pow - er and un bound less love.
Text: Ben Harris
Music: KREMSER, A Valerius, Niederrantsch Gedanckelanck, 1626

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs:

(After each portion of the prayers:)

C: Hear our prayer.

(The prayers conclude:)

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

(Stand) Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All may greet one another with a word of peace.

(Sit) The Gathering of Gifts

Any tithes or offerings may be placed into the offering plate by the entrance to the Sanctuary at the beginning or the end of service. For those who are worshipping with us via live-stream, please consider mailing your offering to the Church office or giving online through our website.

(Stand) Presentation of Gifts “Let All Things Now Living”
ELW 881 Text: Katherine K. Davis; Tune: Welsch folk tune

1. **Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

2. **His law he enforces, The stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise.
Till all things now living Unite in thanksgiving;
“To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!”**

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: **In the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(Sit) Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L: 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


C:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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.

The Eucharistic Prayer

L: 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.

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 in 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

L: 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.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

L: 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.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

L: 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 Trinity, through Jesus Christ who taught us to pray:

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.**

(Sit) Communion Distribution

The Holy Meal we celebrate today was consecrated at our service on Maundy Thursday by an ordained minister of the LCMS. We remember this precious gift that God gives us as we hear the words of our Lord in the Eucharistic Prayer.

Lutherans believe that in Holy Communion we are offered the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized and Communicant members of all Christian denominations who share this belief with us are welcome to come forward to receive Holy Communion. Others, including children, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Those communing may receive the wafer in their hand or upon their tongue. You may receive the wine by the common cup, individual cup, or by dipping the wafer into the wine. The ushers will direct you to communion. Please step up to the blue line.

Communion Hymns

“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.

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

ELW 778

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650

- 1. The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**
- 2 My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake;
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.**

- 3** Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.
- 4** My table thou hast richly spread
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.
- 5** Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling-place shall be;
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW638

Fanny Jane Crosby | Phoebe Palmer Knapp
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- 1.** Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song;
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2. Perfect submission, perfect delight!**
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*
- 3. Perfect submission, all is at rest,**
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

(Stand) Post Communion Blessing

L: May this, the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keeping you steadfast in your faith for life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Canticle

ELW 367

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

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

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

- 4. Adoring praises now we bring**
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Post Communion Prayer

L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

L: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW536

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904, alt.

Tune: God Be With You

- 1. God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

Refrain:

**Till we meet, (till we meet,
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.**

**2. God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain***

**3. God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain***

Sending

L: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

**Llanfair (Christ the Lord Is Risen Today)
arr. Robert J. Powell**

SERVING US IN WORSHIP

Assistant	Annette Singletary
Musician	Ben Harris
Reader	Leola Motley
Greeters	Vivian Licorish
Message	Adam Kampia
Altar Guild	Agnes Jones, Agnes Brown, Helen Jones Dianne Yohe
Ushers	Harry Sessums, Clay Goldston
Counters	Pat Broady, Dianne McGill

Adult Bible Study

We are happy to announce that Ascension will be offering a new in- person adult Bible Study class. Jenny DeMaio will be teaching and Annette Singletary has graciously agreed to be the substitute if needed. The class will be focused on the book of Matthew. Our text will be Life Lessons from Matthew by Max Lucado. Themes in the study include: 1. The Birth and Preparation of the Messiah 2. Jesus' Ministry in Galilee 3. Jesus' Last Days on Earth. The series is divided into twelve lessons. Ascension will be purchasing books for those interested in joining us.

Class will be held on Sunday mornings following church service the weeks that choir is not rehearsing. That will allow those who participate in choir to join. Based upon the current choir schedule, Bible Study will meet on the following weeks in 2024:

April 28;
May 12 and 26; June 9 and 30

Ascension has purchased the texts for Bible class. Donations of \$10.00 to cover the costs of books would be appreciated. Please earmark checks for Bible study materials payable to Ascension.

Acknowledgments

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Prayer List

*In order to keep the prayer list current the **Board of Elders** will edit the list once a month. If you have the name of a loved one that you would like to keep on the prayer list permanently, please contact Marj Nilsson @ 301-442-6253 marjorienilsson@hotmail.com.*



Sunday @6

To the Homebound and Sick, we invite you to participate in Sunday @ 6, a weekly worship call. We have prayer, Scripture, a devotion and music. We invite, welcome and encourage you to join us in Christian fellowship every Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

The call is toll-free:(267) 807-9601

Sunday @ 6

Enter this code:773-431-475 #

For further information, call Alice Gaither at (301) 459-4194!

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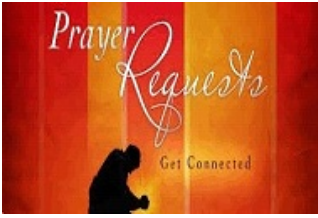
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**Ascension Lutheran Church
Prayer Request**
*Please put your prayer requests in the
Prayer Diary at the rear of the Sanctuary so
we can add your need to our prayers.*

Darrell Prather, nephew of Alice Gaither, prayers for healing.

Ginny Lee and Family upon the recent passing of her brother-in-law, Maynard Honesty.

Gloria Malachi and Family upon the recent passing of Sam Malachi

Bette Carpio, Prayers for healing and comfort

Jenny DeMaio, Prayers for healing.

Amy Scully and Family, Upon the recent passing of Bill Kley

Family of Robin Sands, Upon her recent passing

Marj Nilsson, Prayers for healing.

Calvin Lee, Prayers for healing.

Lewis Powell, Prayers for healing

Agnes Brown, Prayers for healing and recovery.

Herman McNeil, Prayers for comfort and healing.

Maria Doakes, Prayers for continued healing.

Lois Fulford, Prayers for continued healing.

Zachary Plue, Prayers for continued healing.

Susie Nilsson, Prayers for continued healing.

Joyce Bailey, Prayers for continued healing.

Helen Bell, Prayers for healing

Alice Gaither, Prayers for healing.

Kent & Walt Nilsson, Prayers for improved vision.

Ascension Shut-Ins:

John DellaGatta; Lois Flemming;

Olivia Powell; Arthur & Mildred Smith, Helen Riley.

Ascension Weekly

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Fax: 301-577-9558

Information & Notices

April 21, 2024

Services

Divine Worship

Sunday at 9:00 am

Holy Communion is
celebrated in most services.

Holy Baptism

Arrangements for Baptism
can be made with the
Church Office.

Weddings

Weddings for active
Ascension members are
arranged with the Church
Office

Please Note

Adult Bible Study: Bible
study meets on Sundays
after worship, at 10:30 am.

Staff:

Gwen Neal Office Mgr.
Ben Harris Parish Musician

Office open Mon-Fri., 8-4:30
Closed Holidays.

Send your **email address**
to the Church Office at
ascenluth@aol.com.

Sunday, April 21

9:00 am

6:00 pm

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Worship

Sunday @ 6

Sunday, April 28

9:00 am

10:30 am

6:00 pm

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Worship

Bible Study

Sunday @ 6



Altar Flowers Presented By

Please Note that flowers will only be provided when they are sponsored by members. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the Church Office Wing.



Altar Flowers

***Altar Flowers* \$50.00**
***Sanctuary Lights* \$ 5.00**

**Ascension Lutheran Church: Becoming Caring
Servants who Extend Life in Christ to Diverse people**

Call Committee Prayer Vigil:

Our designated prayer time for the Call process is 7 pm. Please remember to set some kind of an alarm for this time daily for the remainder of the call process. I know many of us are already praying, so let's have this one time daily when we do it all together.

For the Call Committee and Pastoral Candidates, please pray for...

- *The Lord's Guidance
- *The Lord's Discernment

This is not an exhaustive list so please add any other prayer that comes to mind

Thank you!
Ascension Board of Elders

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week



**Brian Carpio, Dianne McGill, Caroline Savoy,
Joy Ekanem, Gavin McClure, Bette Carpio,
Atinuke Doherty-Moore, Lewis Powell**

James & Lois Flemming



SERVING US IN WORSHIP, Next Sunday, April 28

Assistant Morris Hymes, Jr.
Musician Ben Harris
Reader Mike Walker
Message Stephany Sims
Greeters Melanie Demones
Altar Guild Gloria Malachi, Kathy Garrett, Roberta White,
Barbara Thom
Ushers John Corkill, Calvin Lee, Ekanem Ekanem
Counters Dianne Yohe, Harry Sessums