

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Bruce Thorsen

Ministers: Every Baptized Member

Sunday, April 26, 2026, 9:00 a.m.



## TRINITY'S MISSION

*Bringing God's love to the world in worship, witness, and service.*

## TRINITY'S VISION

A Christ and Scripture centered congregation.

- Mission centered congregation constantly evaluating its vision to accomplish its mission.
- A congregation whose members sense that they belong to the body of Christ and, in turn want to provide for the needs of others.

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# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

## Introduction to the Day

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

## GATHERING

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

*\*Indicates stand*

**Prelude:** “Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him & We Are Your People”

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Thanksgiving for Baptism

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

Joined to Christ in baptism, we give thanks for God’s saving water.

For the waters of creation and the gift of life, **All: We thank you, O God.**

For deliverance through the flood and freedom through the sea,

**All: We thank you, O God.**

For Jesus’ baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit, **All: We thank you, O God.**

For claiming us as your children and giving us new life, **All: We thank you, O God.**

Pour out your Spirit and renew us in grace and love. **All: Renew us, O God.**

To you be honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

Renewed by the waters of baptism, let us give thanks and praise to God.

## Gathering Song: Jesus Call Us Here to Meet Him



1. Je - sus calls us here to meet him as through  
2. Je - sus calls us to con - fess him Word of  
3. Je - sus calls us to each oth - er, vast - ly  
4. Je - sus calls us to his ta - ble root - ed



word and song and prayer, we af - firm God's  
life and Lord of all, shar - er of our  
dif - f'rent though we are: creed and col - or,  
firm in time and space, where the Church in



prom - ised pres - ence where Christ's peo - ple live and  
flesh and frail - ness, sav - ing all who fail or  
class and gen - der, nei - ther lim - it nor de -  
earth and heav - en finds a com - mon meet - ing



care. Praise the God who keeps each prom - ise,  
fall. Tell his ho - ly, hu - man sto - ry;  
bar. Join the hand of friend and stran - ger,  
place. Share the bread and wine, his bod - y;



praise the Son who calls us friends, praise the Spir - it  
tell his tales that all may hear; tell the world that  
join the hands of age and youth, join the faith - ful  
share the love of which we sing; share the feast for



who, a - mong us, to our hopes and fears at - tends.  
Christ in glo - ry came to earth to meet us here.  
and the doubt - er in their com - mon search for truth.  
saints and sin - ners host - ed by our Lord and King.

## 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

Let us pray. O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

# WORD

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

## First Reading: Acts 2: 42-47

A reading from Acts.

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23 (read in unison)

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways 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 of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is 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 Peter 2:19-25

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

<sup>19</sup>It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

### \*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! the Word of God is liv - ing! Al - le - lu - ia! The



gos - pel is a - mong us! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Gospel: John 10:1-10

The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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

**Sermon:**

**Pastor Bruce Thorsen**

**Hymn of the Day: Our Shepherd Comes in Loving Care**



1. Our Shep-herd comes in lov-ing care; She nur-tures us each day.  
2. When we are weak, our Shep-herd comes, and She re-stores our souls.  
3. Through ev-ery val-ley filled with grief, our Shep-herd calms our fears.  
4. She makes a feast for ev-ery-one; Her bless-ings flow each day.

By wa-ters still and mead-ows green She leads to peace-ful ways.  
She guides us all on heal-ing paths and makes us ful-ly whole.  
In lov-ing arms She com-forts us and holds us al-ways near.  
And in Her love-ly dwell-ing place for-ev-er we will stay.

By wa - ters still and mead - ows green She leads to peace - ful ways.  
 She guides us all on heal - ing paths and makes us ful - ly whole.  
 In lov - ing arms She com - forts us and holds us al - ways near.  
 And in Her love - ly dwell - ing place for - ev - er we will stay.

Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton

BROTHER JAMES'

Music: James L. Bain; arr. Larry E. Schultz

AIR 8.6.8.6.8.6

### Creed

**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.\* 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.**

### Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

**Peace:** The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**Offering: "Slow Me Down"**

**By O. Stroud**

## \*Offering Prayer

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. **Amen.**

## 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.... We praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly One, God of pow'r and might - y love,  
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly One, God of earth and hu - man heart,



heav-en and the earth are full of You! Hal - le - lu -  
heav-en and the earth are full of You, Em - man - u -



jah! Our hearts are break-ing o - pen. Save us, Ho -  
el. Our hearts are break-ing o - pen. Save us, Ho -



san - na. O God of pow'r and might - y love,  
san - na. Em - man - u - el, our broth - er,



help us, Ho - san - na. Bles-sed are You who  
help us, Ho - san - na. Bles-sed are You who



bears the name, bles-sed are all - who bear the name of God!  
bears the name, bles-sed are all - who bear the name of God!

## Thanksgiving at the Table

### Lord's Prayer

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.**

### Invitation to Communion

Come to the table, all are welcome to feast on God's goodness and mercy.

### Communion Song: Feed Us Now



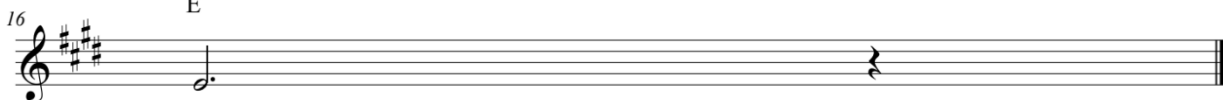
1. Feed us now, Bread of Life, in this ho - ly meal; Let us know Your  
2. Piece of bread, glass of wine: Lord, this food is good; Love and mer - cy  
3. God is here, O so near, near - er than our thoughts. Stay with us wher -



love a - new; We hun - ger for You. Feed us now, Bread of Life,  
come to us, Your prom - ise we trust. Piece of bread, glass of wine;  
e're we go; Lord, help us to grow. God is here, O so near,



come and live with - in; Let Your peace be ours to - day, Lord Je - sus, we  
Who can un - der - stand how His mer - cy works in these? Yet, Lord, we be -  
in this heav - en's meal. May we al - ways feed on You, on the Bread that's



pray.  
lieve.  
true.

# Communion Song: Feed Us Now

## VERSE

F2/A G/B C Dm7 C/E G C/E F2

1. Be hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for us:
2. The bod - y of our Sav - iour, Je - sus Christ, torn for you:
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for you:
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re - spond

C/G G7sus G7 F2/A G/B C Dm7 C/E G C/E

And we re-mem - ber the prom - ise made that all who come in faith find for-  
 Eat and re-mem - ber the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the  
 Drink and re-mem - ber He drained death's cup that all may en - ter in to re -  
 and to re-mem - ber our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as His

F2 G7sus G7 C C/E F2 C2/E Fmaj7 G2 C/E F2

-give - ness at the cross. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His  
 price to make us one. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His  
 -ceive the life of God. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His  
 bod - y here on earth. As we share in His suf - fer - ing, we pro-claim: Christ will

C2/E F2 G C/E F2 C2/E Fmaj7 G7sus G7 F2/A Fmaj7 G7

sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of peace a - round the ta - ble of the  
 sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of love a - round the ta - ble of the  
 sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of grace a - round the ta - ble of the  
 come a - gain! And we'll join in the feast of heav'n a - round the ta - ble of the

C2 C2/F C2 C2/F C2

King.  
 King.  
 King.  
 King.

## \*Communion Blessing

### Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

### Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

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MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon

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YOUR PEOPLE  
Irregular

## Sending Song: We Are Your People

$\text{♩} = 120$  Gm Eb F C Eb Bb/D

1 We are your peo - ple, Spir - it of grace, you dare to make us  
2 Rich in di - ver - si - ty, help us to live clos - er than neigh - bors,  
3 Give, as we ven - ture jus - tice and care (peace - ful, re - sist - ing,

Cm Bb/D Gm Cm7 Dsus4 D

to all our neigh - bors Christ's liv - ing voice, hands, and face.  
o - pen to strang - ers, a - ble to clash and for - give.  
wait - ing or risk - ing) wis - dom to know when and where.

Gm Eb F C Eb Bb/D

Joined in com - mu - ni - ty, trea - sured and fed, may we dis - cov - er  
Glad of tra - di - tion, help us to see in all life's chang - ing  
Spir - it, u - nite us; make us, by grace, will - ing and read - y,

Cm Bb/D Gm Cm7 D7 Gm

gifts in each oth - er, will - ing to lead and be led.  
where you are lead - ing, where our best ef - forts should be.  
Christ's liv - ing bod - y, lov - ing the whole hu - man race.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a song in 6/8 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system continues the lyrics. The fourth system concludes the lyrics. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 120. The score ends with a double bar line.

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**