



The Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025 **10:15 a.m.**



*O God, whose Son Jesus is
the good shepherd of your people:
Grant that when we hear his voice
we may know him who calls
us each by name,
and follow where he leads.*

Welcome to Church of the Ascension

Church of the Ascension provides opportunities to
Connect with God and one another,
Grow in faith and understanding, and
Serve the Lord, one another, and the world around us.

We are an active community of faith committed to welcoming all
and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Christ-centered + Spirit-filled + Mission-minded

Celebrant: The Reverend Dr. William Pugliese

The Liturgy of the Word of God

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome

Prelude

✠ **Processional Hymn** “The Lord My God My Shepherd Is”

1. The Lord my God my shepherd is;
how could I want or need?
In pastures green, by streams serene,
he safely doth me lead.

2. To wholeness he restores my soul
and doth in mercy bless,
and helps me take for his Name's sake
the paths of righteousness.

3. Yes, even when I must pass through
the valley of death's shade,
I will not fear, for thou art here,
to comfort and to aid.

4. Thou hast in grace my table spread
secure in all alarms,
and filled my cup, and borne me up
in everlasting arms.

5. Then surely I can trust thy love
for all the days to come,
that I may tell thy praise,
and dwell forever in thy home.

Words: F. Bland Tucker
Music: *New Britain*

The Opening Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia**

Hymn of Praise

Hymnal #S280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Acts 9:36-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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

Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 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.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Epistle: Revelation 7:9-17

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will

not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Children's Chapel

Children ages 3 – 8 and their Leaders exit to "Children's Chapel," returning at the Peace.

✠ Sequence Song

"Blessing and Honor"

Chorus:

Blessing and honor, glory and power be yours for ever and ever, Amen.

1. Thousands of angels sit round the throne
to praise him whose hand made all things.

With all creation, we join the song
to praise Him who sits on the throne,

The blood of the Lamb has purchased for God
a people to serve as they sing.

To honor the Lamb who was slain for our sins
His glories for ever we own.

by Jodi Page-Clark and Kevin Hackett

The Holy Gospel: John 10:22-30

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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

The Sermon

✠ The 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.

The Prayers of the People

On this joyful day, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

For the Church of Christ throughout the world, all the baptized, the clergy, and the bishops, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

For our nation and its leaders, for peace among nations that a spirit of respect and forbearance grows among all people, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For peace in Holy Land, and all countries devastated by war, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For the weary and the sick, and for those who are consumed with sorrow, for Jenny, Jacques, Debbie, Jackie, Scott, Matt, Rich, Mary M., Megan, Tony, Mary S., Kathy, Kevin, John, Calvin H., and those in our prayer list, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For Eddie+ and Marion, who celebrate their birthdays this week, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For those who are oppressed or persecuted, for all the victims of violence, and all who suffer or are in danger, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For all mothers and those who have shown us a mother's love, that God will watch over them, bless them with every good gift and fill their hearts with peace and joy, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For all the departed, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

For the needs of all gathered in this church today, trusting in God's resurrecting power, let us pray; for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant: Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us

and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

O God, our times are in your hands: look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send your blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

To make an online offering, please scan the QR code.

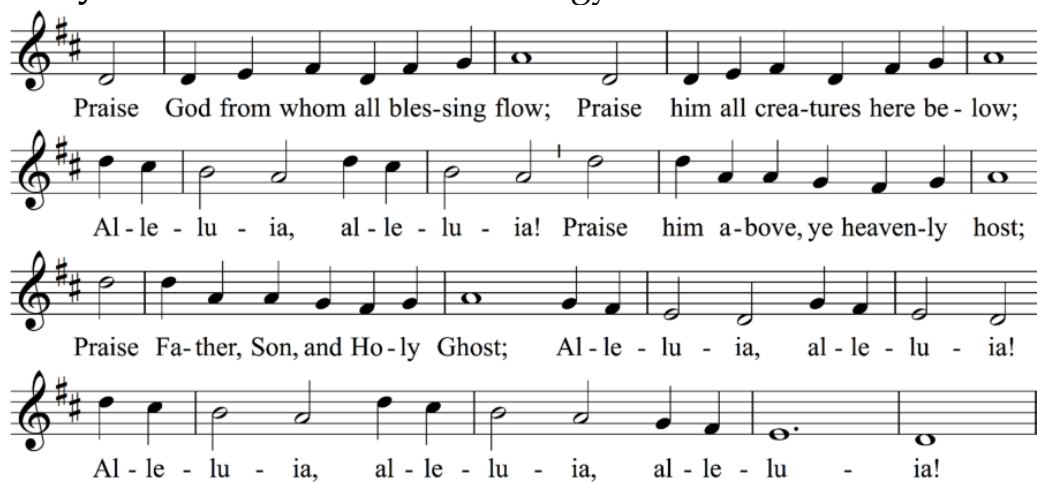


Offertory

“Alleluia, Sing to Jesus” arr. Mitchell & Sandra Eithun
Handbell Choir & Keyboard

✠ Presentation Hymn

“The Doxology”



Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*. 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William, 1906.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company

of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal #S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. ____

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

The Great Amen

Amen, a - men, a - men.

Amen, a - men, a - men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, G major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Amen, a - men, a - men.' written below each staff.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

“Be Known to Us”

Setting: Gary James

Choir sings first line, congregation repeats

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread. Be

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread. Be' written below the staff. A first ending bracket is shown above the final measure.

bread. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, is the com - mun - ion of the

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'bread. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, is the com - mun - ion of the' written below the staff. A second ending bracket is shown above the final measure.

body of Christ. Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'body of Christ. Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.' written below the staff.

One bod - y are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though man - y, we share one

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'One bod - y are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though man - y, we share one' written below the staff.

bread. Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'bread. Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.' written below the staff.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

The Communion of the People

All baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest. To receive the wine you can either drink from the common cup or dip your host held by the

second Eucharistic minister on both sides of the priest.

Communion Music

“Glory to the Lamb”

1. Glo ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to the Lamb. Glo - ry, glo - ry,
2. Wor - thy, wor - thy, wor - thy is the Lamb. Wor - thy, wor - thy,
3. Ho ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lamb. Ho - ly, ho - ly,
glo - ry to the Lamb. For He is glo - ri - ous and wor - thy to be praised, the
wor - thy is the Lamb.
ho - ly is the Lamb.
Lamb up - on the throne; And un - to Him we lift our voice in praise, the
Lamb up - on the throne.

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✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ The Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant: With whom will you share this communion? Lay Eucharistic Visitors say the names of those that they will visit.

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Blessing for Easter Season:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Song

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Hymnal #664

1. My shepherd will supply my need.
Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed
beside the living stream
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways.
And leads me for his mercy's sake
in paths of truth and grace

2. When I walk through the shades of death
thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
Thy hand in sight of all my foes
doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows,
Thy oil anoints my head.

3. The sure provisions of My God attend me all my days.
O may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come.
No more a stranger or a guest but like a child at home.

Words: Isaac Watts Music: *Resignation*

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Worship Assistants	May 11	May 18
Organist	Mary Butler	TBA
Musicians	Adult Ensemble, Handbell Choir	Praise Ensemble
Ushers	<i>2 needed</i>	<i>2 needed</i>
Acolyte	<i>1 needed</i>	Kat Dittrich
Lector	Roberta Gore	John Holbert
Chalicians	Kat Dittrich, Jim Fariss, Jill Horn, Betsy Reinders	John Holbert, Jim Fariss <i>2 needed</i>
Worship Slides	John Holbert	<i>1 needed</i>
Audio Visual	Gabriel Hoff	Gabriel Hoff

May Altar Guild: Team 4

Kim Tompkins Charlie Aler Beverly Baker Jenny Beeker Helen Lang

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Kim Tompkins, in loving memory of her mother, Mary Jo Cornes, and in thanksgiving for the blessing of all mothers as we celebrate this Mother’s Day.

The Bread and Wine

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Tom and Sharon Schwartz, in celebration of son-in-law, Cody Plog’s birthday.

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Debbie Bargar, in honor of her mother, Carla Sonson, and daughter, Kim Gossert on Mother’s Day.

Attendance May 4

8:00 am - 44 10:15 am In-person - 74 YouTube - 3 Facebook - 3 **Total: 124**

Readings for Next Sunday: The Fifth Sunday of Easter - C

Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35