



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026 10:15 a.m.



Now you have returned
to the shepherd
and guardian of your souls.
1 Peter Ch. 2

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

The Liturgy of the Word of God

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome

Prelude

✠ Processional Hymn

“Good Christians All Rejoice And Sing”

Hymnal #205



1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the
*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -



1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5. To God the Father God the Son
To God the Spirit, always one

We sing for life in us begun. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Words: Cyril Alington Music: Gelobt sei Gott, Melchior Vulpius

Opening Acclamation

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

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Setting: Mass of Ascension

Donna Parker

1.Glo-ry Glo ry Glo-ry to God and peace to God's peo-ple on
Earth 2.Lord God Heav-en-ly King: al - migh-ty God and Fa-ther, we
wor - ship You we give You thanks we praise you for Your glo-ry. 3.Lord Je-sus
Christ on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God Lamb of God you take a -
way the sins of the world have mer - cy on us. 1.Glo-ry Glo ry
Glo - ry to God and peace to God's peo - ple on Earth 5.You are
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther re-ceive our prayer For
You a - lone are the Ho-ly One, You a - lone are the Lord. 7.You a -
lone are the mo - st high Je-sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi-rit in the
glo - ry of God the Fa-ther A - men A - men 1.Glo-ry Glo ry
Glo - ry to God and peace to God's peo - ple on Earth

The Collect of the Day

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 First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell

their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 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, 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

- 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: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. 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. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

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. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 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 Chapel: *Children of all ages are welcome!*

✠ Sequence Song

"Be Unto Your Name"

1. We are a moment. You are forever
Lord of the ages God before time
We are a vapor. You are eternal
Love everlasting reigning on high *Chorus*

We are the broken. You are the healer
Jesus Redeemer mighty to save
You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowling before you, blessing your name *Chorus*

Chorus:

Holy, holy Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises honor and glory
Be unto your name. Be unto your name

CCLI Song # 2177476

Gary Sadler | Lynn DeShazo

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The Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. 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, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson

✠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

Celebrant: In joy and hope, let us pray to the Risen Lord for the Church and the world.

Intercessor: For the Universal Church, its members, and its mission: that our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, and make us bold witnesses to the Good News we proclaim, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all the nations of the earth and their leaders, and for this nation in particular: that the God who shows no partiality may guide us in the ways of justice and peace, and make us signs of hope in a wounded world, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the Middle East, for Ukraine, and for all places torn by war: that the One who rolled away the stone may also roll away every wall of hatred and division, and bring forth reconciliation and new life, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who serve in our armed forces throughout the world, especially those in harm's way: that they may be kept safe in body and spirit; and for the families who wait and worry at home, that they may be sustained by hope and surrounded by love, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the United Thank Offering ministry, that in gratitude for all the blessings of our lives, we may give generously and live thankfully; let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer and those in any trouble – especially Lianne, Stacy, Bill, Gail, Jack, Jackie, Liz, Scott, Betty, Steve N., Steve P., Ryan, Debbie S., Jordan, Reed – that they may be upheld by your healing presence and delivered from their distress, let us pray.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

For Charlotte, Joe, Jim L., Lynn, Pauline, Ann H., Arlena, Kamy and all celebrating birthdays and anniversaries: that they may be renewed in joy and strengthened in love throughout this Easter season, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the departed: that, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, they may share fully in the victory of the risen Christ, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *A time of silence is kept.*

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

Thank you for your financial support! To make an online offering, please scan the QR code.

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

Offertory

"Psalm 23"

1. The Lord's my Shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
2. He guides my way in right - eous - ness, and He a -
3. And though I walk the dark - est path, I will not
lie in pas - tures green, He leads me by the still, still
noints my head with oil; He makes my cup to o - ver
fear the e - vil one, for You are with me, and Your
wa - ters, His good - ness re-stores my soul. (to verse 2)
flow with joy, I feast on His pure de - lights. (to refrain)
rod and staff are com - fort I need to know. (to refrain)

Refrain
And I will trust in You a - lone, yes, I will
trust in You a - lone, for Your end - less mer - cy
fol - lows me, Your good - ness will lead me home.

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✠ Presentation Hymn

"The Doxology"

Praise God from whom all bles-sing flow; Praise him all crea-tures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -bove, ye heaven-ly host;
Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly 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 Kirchengesong*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William, 1906.

Prayer over the UTO Boxes

Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept, we pray, these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering; and keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenge that come our way; through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

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

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker

Ho-ly Ho - ly, Ho-ly Lord. God of pow - er God of might

8
Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry Ho - sa na in the high -

16
est. Blest is He, who comes in the name of the Lord Ho - sa - na

26
in the high - est Ho - sa 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

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker




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 Luke and 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

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker



A - men A - men A - men A - men.

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

"Lamb of God"

Setting: Mass of Ascension, Donna Parker



Je - sus Lamb of God have mer - cy on us. Je - sus Lamb of God have
7
mer - cy on us Je - sus Lamb of God Gra - nt us your peace


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 Blessing

May the Risen Lord, who reveals himself in the breaking of the bread, make himself known to you and empower you to testify to his Resurrection in word and in deed. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn “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	April 19	May 3
Organist	Mary Butler	Mary Butler
Musicians	Choir	Choir
Ushers	Debbie Linard, Bryan Barry	<i>2 needed</i>
Lector	Buck Lyon-Vaiden	John Holbert
Acolyte	<i>1 needed</i>	<i>1 needed</i>
Chalicians	John Holbert, Jill Horn, Sandy White, Helen Lang	John Holbert, Sandy White, Karen Griesmyer, <i>1 needed</i>
Worship Slides	Karen Lance	Lynn Lyon-Vaiden
Audio Visual	Allison Lord	Gabriel Hoff

April Altar Guild: Susan Considine, Debbie Linard, Liz Lowe

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Debbie and Greg Linard, in thanksgiving for family and friends.

Attendance April 19

8:00 am - 29 10:15 am In-person - 55 YouTube - 6 Facebook - 2 Total: 92

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

Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14