

Misericordias Domini

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Sunday of the Good Shepherd



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN
Truth, Beauty, Goodness

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME – MISERICORDIAS DOMINI

The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep

Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:11–16). He is not like the hireling, who cares nothing for the sheep and only for himself, who flees when he sees the wolf coming. Rather, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks out His scattered sheep to deliver them (Ezek. 34:11–16). He gathers them and feeds them in rich pasture. He binds up the broken and strengthens the sick. He lays down His life for wandering and wayward sheep. On the cross, Christ bore in His body the attacks of the predators of sin and death and the devil for you that you might be saved. He now lives to restore your soul in the still waters of baptism, to lead you in the paths of righteousness by the voice of His Gospel, to prepare the table of His holy supper before you, that you may dwell in the house of the Lord forever (Psalm 23). “For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls” (1 Peter 2:25).

**Image on front cover: “The Good Shepherd” by Jean Baptiste de Champaigne (1631 - 1681)*

APRIL 18, 2021 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.
DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE
UAC XXIV: *Retinetur enim missa apud nos et summa reverentia celebratur.*



PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze

Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 461

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth. *Psalm 124:8*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Psalm 32:5*

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The Second Commandment

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Second Commandment:

- *Does the Gospel adorn my daily speech and conduct, or do I curse, speak carelessly, or misuse God's name?*
- *Have I kept all the vows I have made in the Lord's name?*
- *Am I diligent and sincere in my prayers, or have I been lazy, bored, or distracted? Do I trust that the Lord God will answer them according to His good and gracious will?*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen. *[John 20:19-23]*

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 33:1, 18-20; antiphon: Psalm 33:5b, 6a



L The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.*
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.

L Shout for joy in the LORD, O you | righteous!*
Praise befits the | upright.

C Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who | fear him,*
on those who hope in his | steadfast love,

L that he may deliver their | soul from death*
and keep them alive in | famine.

C Our soul waits | for the LORD;*
he is our help | and our shield.



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

L The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.*
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

HYMN OF PRAISE ~ *This Is the Feast*

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16

A The Old Testament Reading for the Third Sunday of Easter is from Ezekiel, chapter 34.

A ¹¹ “For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them

with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:21-25

A The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter two.

A ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting

himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Luke 24:35b; John 10:14



L [The Lord] was known to them in the breaking of the bread.



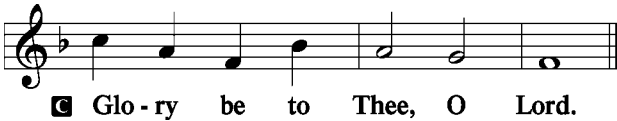
L I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.



HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-16

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



P [Jesus said:] ¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He 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. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the

sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C **I believe in one God**, *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4*
the Father Almighty, *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *Romans 10:9*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 3:16; Matthew 16:16*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:2*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1*
very God of very God, *Colossians 2:9*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30*
by Whom all things were made; *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3*
Who for us men and for our salvation *1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23*
came down from heaven *John 6:41; Luke 15:20*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18*
He suffered and was buried. *John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*
and ascended into heaven *Acts 1:9*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Acts 7:55*
And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *2 Peter 1:11*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 15:26*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Ezekiel 11:5*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
and the life of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*
Amen. *Psalms 106:48*

"The greatest tragedy of our world is that men do not know, really know, that God loves them."
Catherine de Hueck Doherty (1896 – 1985)

P What is the Second Article?

C And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 709

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my

I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;
 And, oh, what transport of delight
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever!

SERMON

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalms 51:10–12



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Pastorale

Philip Hayes

MEDITATION

John 10:14 – “*I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.*” What does it mean to know the Lord? It starts with being known by the Lord. He claims us as His own and calls us by name. Then, once we are His, we learn to know Him. In knowing Him, we learn to imitate Him. That is how the Christian life of good works and generosity grows from the Lord’s grace.

“Anyone who loves God in the depths of his heart has already been loved by God. In fact, the measure of a man’s love for God depends upon how deeply aware he is of God’s love for him.”

St. Diadochus of Photiki (c. 400 – 486)
On Spiritual Perfection

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P Shepherd of Israel, in Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have sought out Your sheep and gathered us into Your flock. Keep us always in Your fold, and guard us from every wolf and snare. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, send faithful shepherds to care for Your flock here and scattered throughout the world. Keep them devoted to You and Your truth and so turn them in dutiful service toward Your people. Spare us from hirelings who would serve ego, belly or the world's doctrines. Give discerning ears to Your sheep to listen for the voice of Christ, our Good Shepherd. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, as You have put our sins to death in Christ's body on the tree, also bring life to our faith by His Spirit, that in Your continual grace we may bring forth the fruit of holy lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Eternal Lord, through the Paschal Lamb You have wrought peace between man and God. By Your gift of good government, grant peace and good days also to our citizens and between the nations of the world, that we and all our neighbors may lead quiet lives in godly contentment. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, by the firstfruits of Christ's life from the dead, You secured forgiveness for our troubled consciences. Bless also with temporal health and well-being those who suffer among us [*especially* _____]. Grant them aid in this moment and, even more so, true, immortal health in the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our Shepherd, You calm all fears in this valley of the shadow of death, and You prepare the holy table of Your Son's testament in the presence of our enemies. Grant us repentant and faithful hearts. In every tribulation or besetting sin, lead us to find comfort and strength in Your overflowing mercy given us here in this Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, out of Your fatherly goodness You have remembered us poor, miserable sinners and given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd — not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that even as this Shepherd knows us and helps in every affliction, we also may know Him, trust Him, seek help and comfort in Him, heartily obey His voice and obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

"Our Lord possesses a life that is not common and small, but a *superabundant life* (John 10:10), to the end that every person participates in it and lives from this same life, which is that of grace, entirely loveable. But for us to acquire this life, Our Lord purchased it for us at the price of his blood and by the lance in his side. Therefore, our life is not ours, but his; we are no longer our own, but his."

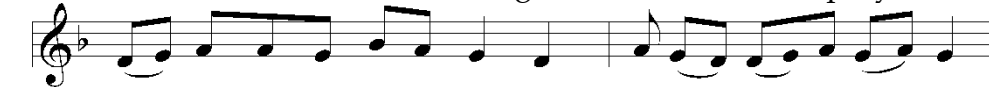
St. Francis de Sales (1567 – 1622)

Oeuvres, 9:269-270

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:



C Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal-low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as



it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly



bread; and for-give us our tres-pass - es as we for-give



those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -



to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -



ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv-en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ̣ bod-y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem-brance of Me." In the same way al-so
He took the cup after sup-per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say-ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My ̣ blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al-ways.
A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sitting

About participation in the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 740

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the

heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,

Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me

day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

"He whom the angels contemplate trembling is he who made himself our food; we are mingled and fused with him, and thus we are made one body and flesh with Christ."

St. John Chrysostom (c. 347 – 707)

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

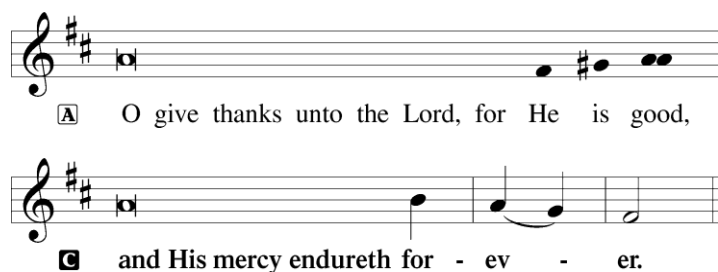
Luke 2:29-32



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
 cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



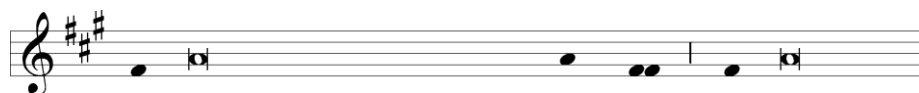
A Bless we the Lord.



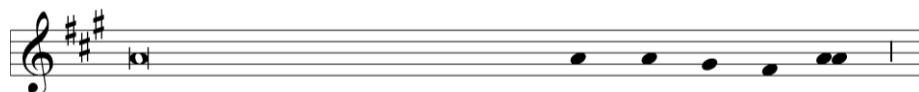
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

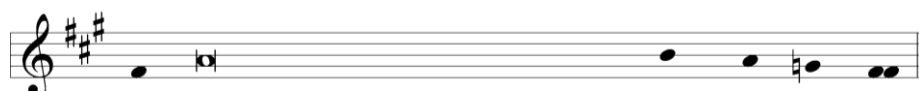
Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 711

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly
need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly
feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,
bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

POSTLUDE

"Spring" (from *The Four Seasons*)

Antonio Vivaldi

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Caitlin East/Jill Drachenberg

Usher(s)

Richard Drachenberg/Tracy Woolery

Fellowship Host(s)

Brian & Darlene Beckman

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Anne Bigelow

Usher(s)

Grayson Beckman/Martin Kunkel

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
Sunday 4/18	Third Sunday of Easter (<i>Misericordias Domini</i>) Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>"Here I Stand" Sunday</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship
Monday 4/19	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Tuesday 4/20	Private Confession The Daily Office: Matins Open Arms LCDC Church Office	5:30 AM 6:00 AM 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 4/21	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Private Confession The Daily Office: Morning Prayer Open Arms LCDC Chapel	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 8:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM
Thursday 4/22	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Private Confession The Daily Office: Vespers	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 11:30 AM Noon
Friday 4/23	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Private Confession The Daily Office: Evening Prayer	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 2:30 PM 3:00 PM
Saturday 4/24	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 4/25	Fourth Sunday of Easter (<i>Jubilate</i>) Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Paul's Epistle to the Romans</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour New Member Class	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship

Truth ~ GROWING IN HIS WORD

✝ Adult Bible Study: *Paul's Epistle to the Romans*

Theme: Law and Gospel. Judgment and grace. Freedom and bondage. These are just a few of the powerful themes St. Paul mentions in his letter to the Christians at Rome. Masterfully, he uses such images to paint a vivid portrait of salvation in Christ Jesus. Come, uncover the beautiful picture of what life now looks like on account of your Savior.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., through the end of June

Location: Church fellowship hall

✝ Adult Bible Study: *Stewardship Basics*

Theme: You are a stewards of God's gifts! So, do you know how to best manage them? Learn how to make the most of what God has given you, and watch the gifts multiply in your life. This eight-part Bible study is designed to help you live the joyful stewardship lifestyle that Christ has to offer you.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., from July 11 through August 29

Location: Church fellowship hall

✝ Book Club: *The Monster Within*

Theme: The classics of literature serve as cautionary tales. They have much to teach us about ourselves, and warn us what can happen if we're not careful. Each month you are invited to attend and discuss the moral of each of the following books.

Day & Time: *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
Sunday, June 27 at 3:00 P.M.

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
Sunday, July 25 at 3:00 P.M.

Dracula by Bram Stoker
Sunday, August 22 at 3:00 P.M.

Location: Pastor Miller's home
(address in directory)

✝ Women's Group Bible Study: *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions*

Theme: Come, delve into the great hymns of our church as they're informed by God's Word! The Ascension Women's Group is taking on a new hymn each month using the book *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions* by Timothy Shoup. It's available for purchase on Amazon for \$13 or through Concordia Publishing House for \$18, and the book "features introductions to 14 hymns with devotions based on each stanza, helping readers learn the biblical basis of the words the authors chose."

If you've never joined this group for a book study before, now is a great time – since the ladies will be studying a different hymn each month, you're free to come when you can and not stress if you can't commit to every meeting. Childcare is provided!

Day & Time: April 24 at 10:30 A.M.

Location: Church narthex

Beauty ~ WORSHIPING OUR GOD

✝ The Daily Office

Theme: We pray that the Lord would "Give us each day our daily bread." Every day, throughout the week at Ascension, He answers that prayer. While Sunday morning Divine Service is the main entrée of your week, He ever provides the manna of His Word to tide you over. And what better way to receive this food for your soul than to gather with your church family. Private Confession is available 30 minutes prior to each Daily Office.

Day & Time: Matins:	Tuesdays at 6:00 A.M.
Morning Prayer:	Wednesdays at 9:00 A.M.
Vespers:	Thursdays at noon
Evening Prayer:	Fridays at 3:00 P.M.

Location: Church sanctuary

Goodness ~ SERVING IN HIS NAME

✝ 1-1-1 Mission Campaign

Theme: 1-1-1 is a campaign of the English District to raise \$1/per person/per week. That means that by giving \$4 each month, just \$52 a year, everyone can give toward the district's mission efforts. Just think what could happen if every person in the English District did this! Right now, those missions are focusing on district ministries on college campuses. Please consider playing a part in this special mission! Dollars may be contributed in the designated 1-1-1 Mission box located in the narthex.

✝ Pastor's Open House

Theme: Pastor, Jeni, and the kids are rolling out the welcome mat for you. You are invited to enjoy the hospitality of their home with good food and fellowship. A lunch will be provided, and silly games will be included. This annual event has returned for 2021!

Day & Time: Saturday, September 11 at noon – 2:00 P.M.

Location: Pastor Miller's home
35 Coopers Glen Drive SW
Mableton, GA 30126

✝ Brazilian Barbecue

Theme: Back by popular demand, it's almost time for the Brazilian barbecue hosted by Brazilian native, Martin Kunkel. This go around, men, women, and children of all ages are welcome to enjoy the fine cuisine and fun festivities. If you missed out before, you'll want to be sure to catch it this time!

Day & Time: TBD

Location: Church grounds

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

Birthdays

✝ Penny Durden, 4/19

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

✝ Lauren Morr, 4/22

Wedding Anniversaries

✝ Richard & Jill Drachenberg, 4/21

Membership Anniversaries

✝ Eileen Buehl, 4/18

✝ Jill Drachenberg, 4/21

✝ Brian Beckman, 4/23

✝ Darlene Beckman, 4/23

✝ Grayson Beckman, 4/23

✝ Isaac Beckman, 4/23

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

✝ China

For comfort, health, and healing:

✝ Mary Greene (neighbor of Ruth Henry)

✝ The unborn child of Lauren and J.P. Morr

✝ Adi Murphy (former neighbor of the Beckmans)

✝ Jimmy Murray (friend of Adrian Popescu)

✝ Suzanne Powell (mother of Bekah Beckman)

✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)

✝ The unborn child of Luke Voss (former neighbor of the Schoellens)

✝ All impacted by COVID-19

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

✝ Edith Bohannon (mother of Caitlin East's friend)

✝ Terrie Dowling (aunt of Caitlin East)

✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden

✝ Fred Grenier (grandfather of Josh Mech)

✝ Brandon Irwin (friend of Lauren Morr)

For the leaders of Church and state:

✝ Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board

✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & all district officials

✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials

✝ Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension

✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic

✝ President Joseph Biden & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION

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