

Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 21st, 2024

Introduction to the Day

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

Easter Proclamation

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

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.

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.**

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

**The ark carried your creation through the flood
into a new day.**

**Miriam led the dancing as your people passed
through the sea into freedom's land.**

**In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

#533

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Drawn to the Word

Scripture	Psalm 23	
Music	“When Peace Like a River”	#785
Silence		
Music	“Reverie”	Heavenly Bells
Scripture	John 10:1-6	
Silence		
Music	“HeeHaw” “Clap De Hands”	Shepherd’s Kids
Scripture	Matthew 19:13-14	
Silence		
Music	“Shepherd Me, O God”	#780
Scripture	John 10:11-17	
Silence		
Music	“Children of the Heavenly Father”	#781
Scripture	Luke 15:1-7	
Silence		
Music	“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”	Heavenly Bells and Senior Choir
Scripture	1 John 3:16-24	
Silence		
Scripture	Psalm 46:10	
Music	“Be Still and Know”	
Silence		
Music	“You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd”	Ensemble
Scripture	“John 10:7-10	

Offering **Instrumental**

Offertory Prayer

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

Prayers

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith (*including Anselm of Canterbury and all who labored to help generations understand the good news of the gospel*). Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

#471 & #466

Lord's Prayer

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

Post Communion Prayer

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

A Word from Pastor Paul Oman

Blessing

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Okay! We will! Thanks be to God.
 And all of Good Shepherd said,
“AMEN”



Your Generosity in Action:

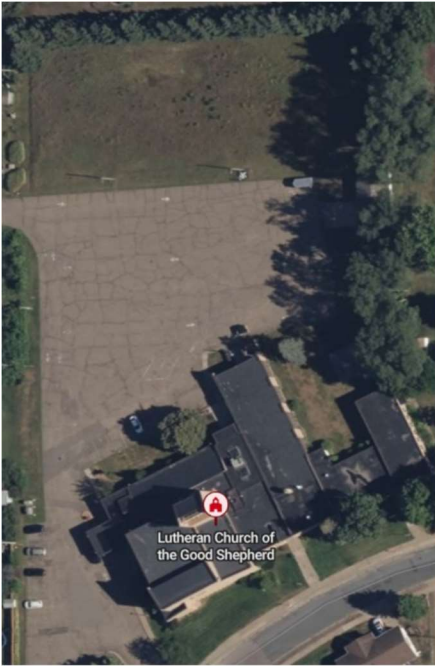


A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone that stuck around following worship on Sunday to help with our Spring Clean-Up Workday! Who knew that a church clean-up day would be a family fun event?!



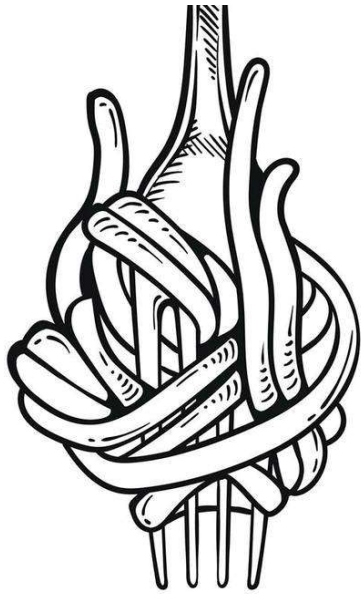
THANK YOU!!

Monthly Financials to date:	Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Difference
	\$19,960	\$13,416	\$6,444
	2023: \$24,969	2023: \$25,770	Checkbook thru March \$28,602



Special Congregation Meeting
Following worship April 28th
For the purpose of discussing the
many property needs facing us as
a congregation and our future
together as the church that God is
calling us to be.





Spaghetti Feed

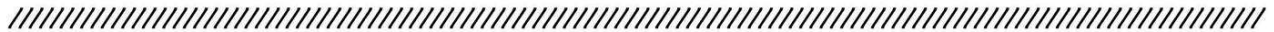


When: Tuesday, April 30th from 4:00PM to 7:00PM

Where: Good Shepherd Church on 1120 Cedar Street.

Cost: Free will donations will be accepted.
We recommended \$10 per Adult or \$5 per Child

Includes: Small salad, plate of spaghetti, breadstick,
and your choice of coffee, milk, or water.



Tickets available at the door.

We will also have a bake sale, silent auction,
and 50/50 raffle!



All proceeds go directly to the Roosevelt Elementary neighborhood playground fund!