

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

A Serving Community

God's work, our hands!

Rev. Rebecca Zielke, Pastor

Tim L. Elder, CAGO, Director of Music

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 26, 2026

10:15 a.m.



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.

550 North Broad Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406

330-533-3531
e-mail: lordoflife550@gmail.com

GATHERING

Announcements

~~Notes~~

Prelude

Please stand.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

What is GriefShare?

A support group to help you move through the grief process



A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpre-

dictability—and gain solid support each step of the way, Lord of Life Lutheran Church has a GriefShare Program, facilitated by **Tom Drotloff**; he is assisted by **Alta Johnson**, Sessions are currently being held on Tuesdays; 1:00pm – 2:30pm. For more information, contact Tom at (330) 533-4527.

~~Notes~~

Gathering Hymn Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Greeting

ELW 807

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 C And also with you.

This is the Feast

Refrain

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 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and
 strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.

Wednesday Bible Study for May/June On TV Series The Chosen



This is an eight-week study using *The Chosen*, to see Jesus' life in a more personal and relatable way. As Christians, it's important we understand how He's portrayed and compare it with Scripture.

And for those who find reading difficult or less engaging, this can be a meaningful way to experience the story of Jesus and grow in faith together.

**

Nathan Ferguson, who earned his Eagle Scout Award by building and providing the playground equipment to the rear of the Church, is having a reception here at Lord of Life Lutheran Church to celebrate his Eagle Scout Award and his graduation from Canfield High School. Nate is a member of Saint Michael Roman Catholic Church, where he is an Altar Server. Please join Nate on Sunday, May 3, here from 2:00pm to 4:00pm, for a cake and cookie reception.



READ between the LINES Lord of Life Book Club



The Lord of Life Book Club has some interesting changes planned! To find out the changes, such as meeting day and time, and the books to be read, be sure to check out the May issue of the Servant.

 Acknowledgements Copyright and streaming permission given through Sundaysandseasons.com under license #22472 for seasonal texts, prayers scripture readings, ELW Setting 3 (This Is the Feast, Gospel Acclamation, Holy, Holy, and Lamb of God), Psalm 23.
 ONELICENSE under #A-708717 for *Have No Fear, Little Flock* Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House: *God of All Creation* Choral setting by Hal Hopson © 1978 GIA Publications; Public Domain: *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*. Public Domain: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing; Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us; What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*.



Wednesday Prayer Time

continues at 10:00am each Wednesday before Bible Study.

 The Service Board is expanding on Meals for the Sick ministry, started by **Kay Welch**. We came up with “The Meal Train.” This is for people who are released from the hospital who would be given a meal. The Chairperson for this ministry is **Phyllis Ruse**, and her co-chair is **Alta Johnson**. When you know someone is being sent home from the hospital you may call Phyllis **(803) 553-3650** to get the process started. We need volunteers to either cook a meal or donate a meal card. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you are able to help. We pray this is a valuable ministry for our congregation.



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

continues studying “Peaceful Practices” this Wednesday at 10:30am.

The Altar Flowers
 this weekend are given to the glory of God in memory of **Madolyn Elder**.

Prayer of the Day

P 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.
C **Amen**

Please be seated

WORD

First Reading

Acts 2: 42-47

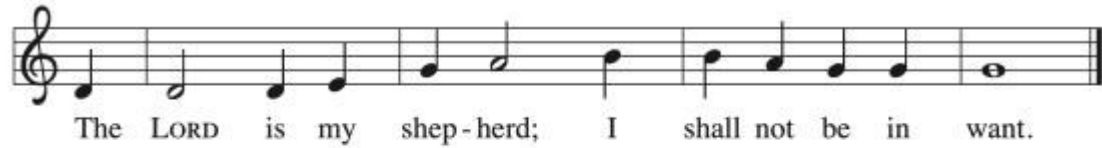
Today’s reading is a description of life in the community following Peter’s sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God’s people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ 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.

L Word of God, word of life.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19



- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- ² The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- ³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your 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. R
- ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. R



Daily Scripture Readings for April 27 Through May 02

Mon 04/27	Tue 04/28	Wed 04/29	Thu 04/30	Fri 05/01	Sat 05/02
Psalm 100	Psalm 100	Psalm 100	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Ezekiel 34:17-23	Ezekiel 34:23-31	Jeremiah 23:1-8	Genesis 12:1-3	Exodus 3:1-12	Jeremiah 26:20-24
1 Peter 5:1-5	Hebrews 13:20-21	Matthew 20:17-28	Acts 6:8-15	Acts 7:1-16	John 8:48-59

Serving in Worship in April

	04/05	04/06	04/07	04/08	05/01
Greeter/ Usher	Bob Soles	Jeff Dombroski	Phyllis Ruse	Gabe West	Zack West
Lector	Norma Thomas	Diana Williams	Larry Cohol	Chris Eash	Judy McCartney
Counters	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff
Altar Guild	Diana Williams	Diana Williams	Norma Thomas	Norma Thomas	Diana Williams
Crucifer	Larry Cohol	Art Thomas	Chris Eash	Larry Cohol	Art Thomas
Acolyte					

Scan for Online Giving



Scan for April Calendar



Please be seated

Communion

Follow the usher's direction to come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and take a glass of wine from the tray. Dispose of the cup in the basket provided on the railing and return to your seat by the side aisle.

Communion Distribution Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

Anthem God of All Creation Hal Hopson

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P Let us pray,
Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine ELW 774

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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.

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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.

²² "He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

John 10: 1-10

P The holy gospel according to John.
C **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:] ¹ “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. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

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

P The gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day

Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 764

Lord's Prayer

C **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

P Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

This invitation is extended to all who receive Communion in any Christian denomination. All are welcome!

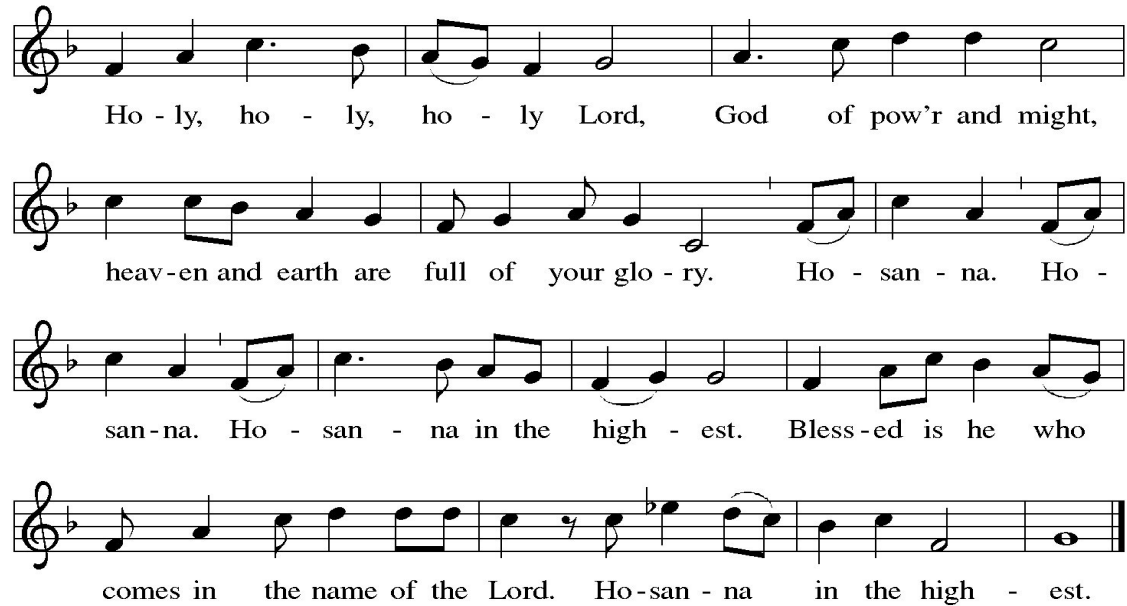
Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy,



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe....
With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as
we proclaim the mystery of life.
C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
P O God of resurrection and new life...Grace our table with your presence.
C **Come Holy Spirit.**
P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread...
...Send us forth burning with justice, peace and love.
C **Come, Holy Spirit.**
P With your holy ones of all times and all places...
...we praise you, O God, blessed Trinity, now and forever.
C **Amen**

Apostles' 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 life
everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

P Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken
world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.
Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of
righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and
guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison
chaplains serving near and far. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
P Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and
instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of
your creation. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
P Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and
advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the
temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

P Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured, especially those we name out loud or in our hearts -

Sean Bandelier, Bonnie Eash, Oweda Frederick, Laurel Froelich, Chris Hunnicutt, Rick Kershner, Devon Kirtley, Todd Kirtley, George Lange, Tom Malloy, Craig Miller, Marge Pancher, Emma Parker, Pam Parker, Staci Thomas, Bob Titus, David Titus, Pearl Torrence, Patty Weiss, and the family of Madolyn Elder.

C Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

P Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

The offering plate is located on the table as you enter/exit the worship space.

MEAL

Offering Response

Be Not Afraid

ELW 388

Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Please stand.

Offering Prayer

P Let us pray,
Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C Amen.

Dialogue

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.