

Sunday, April 26, 2026
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Trinity Lutheran Church
11:00am: Meadowlawn
1801 62 Avenue N
727.822.3307



 **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

 **PRELUDE**

 **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you empower us with divine love.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

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.

Amen.



GATHERING HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

ELW 807

In verse two, the word "Ebenezer" comes from 1 Samuel 7 and means "stone of help," referring to a stone that is set up as a memorial of God's deliverance.



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813



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.



HYMN OF PRAISE



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



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

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:7-15

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel.

⁷ Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ⁸ As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep, ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁰ Thus says the Lord God: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them. ¹¹ For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. ¹² As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will

feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 100

The accompanist will play the refrain once as introduction and then all will join in singing; and will repeat the sung refrain when indicated by "R"



We are God's peo - ple and the sheep of God's pas - ture.

¹ *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!*

² *Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.*

³ *Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. R*

⁴ *Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's holy name.*

⁵ *Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from age to age. R*



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.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung twice.

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

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



GOSPEL: John 9:39—10:10

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.

The good news of God’s love according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”

⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains. 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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

A brief period for silent meditation will follow at the conclusion of the sermon.



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

 **THE 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

 **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

After each petition:

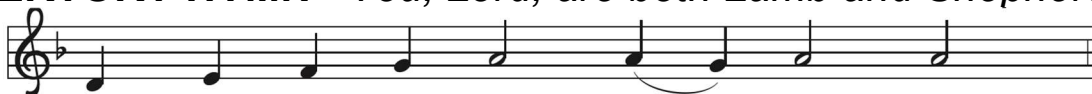
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

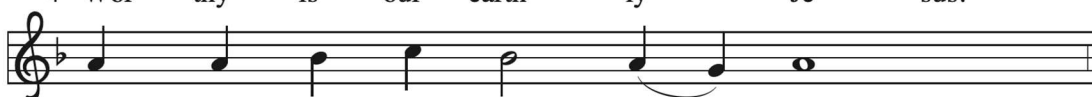
God of resurrection power, we entrust these prayers to you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**THE SHARING OF PEACE**

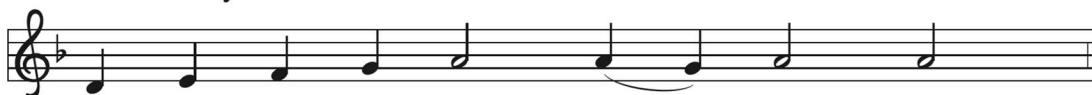
Instead of putting a donation in the offering plate during the anthem, you can use the QR code to make a contribution on the church website; or you can mail an offering to the church.

**OFFERTORY HYMN** *You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd* ACS 954

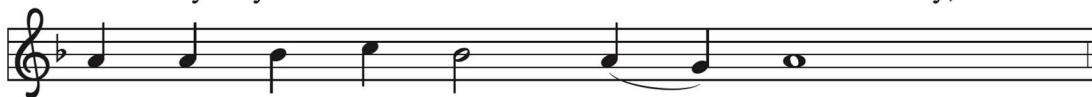
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



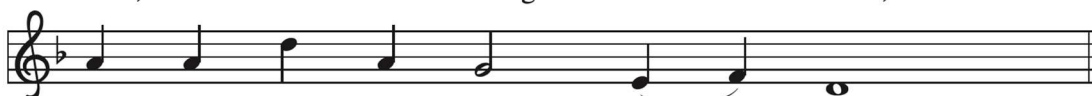
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,

**you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.**

**Come among us again, breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true passover lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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


Come to the table of life to receive the risen Lord.
Amen.



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, grant us peace.

Refrain




You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



Refrain

so when you call your fam-'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joi - ce.
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

 **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Holy One,
 through this meal you are making all things new.
 Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
 to love our enemies,
 and to bring your healing to the nations,
 in the name and in the power of our Savior, **Amen.**

 **BLESSING**

May the God who has brought us from death to life
 fill us with great hope and great joy.
 Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
 bless you now and forever.
Amen.



SENDING HYMN *Savior, Like a Shepherd*

ELW 789



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868



DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
 You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
 Go in peace. Live the good news.
Thanks be to God. We will!



POSTLUDE [Livestream ends]



Please join us for a time of fellowship immediately after worship.

Thank you to those serving this month: (MLC) = Meadowlawn Campus (DTC) = Downtown Campus

04/02/26	ML	6:00 PM			Maundy Thursday	
04/03/26	DT	Noon			Good Friday	
04/05/26	DT	11:00 AM	Gretchen Frederick	Phil Rearick, Aimée Fox		
04/12/26	DT	11:00 AM	Ruth Kinsey	Frances Guido, Ruth Kinsey		
04/19/26	ML	11:00 AM	Lou Carter	Marty Snapp, Margarita Rodriguez	Carla Sajda	IHO Charlie Glaum's birthday
04/26/26	ML	11:00 AM	Gary Bartelt	Violet Prepost, Gary Bartelt	F. Guido	For the Glory of God

Birthdays this week:

04/27 - Don Dorr
05/02 - Mike Lederhouse
05/02 - Elizabeth Hamilton

Anniversaries this week:

04/26 - Linda & Bob Gascon

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (04/26)

8:30am – City Church Worship (DTC Sanctuary)
11:00am – Trinity Worship (MLC Sanctuary)
12:00pm – Fellowship Hour (MLC CommUNITY Room)
12:30pm – All Ages Education (MLC CommUNITY Room)
7:00pm – St. Augustine Group (MLC Library)

Monday (04/27)

Deadline to RSVP for WELCA Conference on Saturday!

Tuesday (04/28)

10:30am – Ship Modeler's Club (DTC 1st Floor)
11:00am – TLC Staff Meeting (MLC Library)
2:00pm – Healthy Grieving (DTC 2nd Floor)
7:00pm – Meadowlawn Assoc Mtg (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Wednesday (04/29)

10:00am – Women's Bible Study (MLC Nursery)
11:30am – Community Meal (DTC 3rd Floor)
1:00pm – Grace & Games (DTC 2nd Floor)
6:00pm – Bible Study (MLC CommUNITY Room)

Thursday (04/30)

6:30pm – Choir Practice (MLC Sanctuary)

Friday (05/01)

9:30am – TLC Pantry (DTC 1st Floor)
9:30am – Dolores Food Pantry (MLC CommUNITY Room)
6:00pm – First Friday Dinner (MLC CommUNITY Room)

Saturday (05/02)

9:00am – Hope Chest (MLC Thrift Store)
11:00am – WELCA Conference (MLC CommUNITY Room)

Further Info & Items of Interest:

Women of the Suncoast Conference:

THIS SATURDAY the Women of Grace will be hosting the Suncoast Conference gathering of the WELCA at our Meadowlawn campus at 11:30am. Cost is \$10. RSVP by tomorrow!!

Digital Contact Card:



Prayer List:

For those ministering in our congregations:

Pastor Paul Gibson
Deacon Lynne Tallon
Music Director Ross Kimura
Music Director Brenden Hall

For those suffering from cancer:

Jim Tallon
Whitney & Greg Corrigan
Rick Jackson
Frank Durilla
Rev. Ernest Knoche
Ron Oughton
Bob Sockrider

For those homebound:

Lorna Holder
Shirley Taylor
Betty Aker
Marion Cheslock
Judy Milanese
Petra Young
Sally Evans

Note: These prayer requests are active for 3 months unless a shorter timeframe is requested.

For those needing strength or healing:

Billy Boynton	Bob & Irma Kay
Jill Boos Martin	Corinne
Gerry Barnard	Leonard
Pr. Felice Johnson	Robert & Brenda Meredith
Janet Crim	Brian Schutzbach
Vickie Clark	Shakira
Luke Mendenhall	Pr. Tom Snapp
Guy Smith	Will Diefel
Joyce Dare	
Cecil Miles	
Linda Miles	

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

Logan & Grace Paul (baby Millie)
Deigh Stanton
The family & friends of Melissa Hixon
The family & friends of Bob Burke