



***Community of Christ Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter,
April 26, 2026 – 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Stephen Bond

Musical Prelude

“Rejoice Rejoice Believers” by Paul Manz Eric Dickey

(10:00 a.m.)

“Oboe and Violin Duet”

Sarah Schaefer, Oboe
Sarah Magoun, Violin

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, retracing the mark made on us in our baptism.

Blessed be the God who raises the dead, the risen Christ who meets us where we are, and the Spirit of Life who has claimed us forever.

Amen

We give you thanks, O God, for calling creation into being in the beginning, and for calling us into the family of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

We are your Easter people.

We give you thanks, Lord Jesus, for finding us when we are overcome by fear and distraught by the turbulent world around us and giving us the peace of your presence.

We are your Easter people.

We give you thanks, Holy Spirit, for stirring up among us hope and courage to be witnesses in the world, embodying the way of Christ.

We are your Easter people.

As you first made us your own through our baptism into Christ’s death and resurrection, so now remind us who and Whose we are by your grace as we come into your presence.

Amen

Hymn

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

ELW 807

Greeting

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.**

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God.

To refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *To refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *To refrain*

Prayer of the Day

PO 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**

Childrens Sermon

Anthem (10:00 a.m.) “My Life Flows on in Endless Song”

Choir

THE READINGS

The First Reading Acts 2:42-47

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 The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25

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.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

Congregation:

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



The Holy Gospel John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according... **C** **Glory to you, O Lord!**

[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!**

Sermon

“A Flock of Foundlings”

Pastor Steve Bond

Hymn

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

ELW 502

VS 3 High Voices VS 4 Low Voices

The Nicene Creed

C 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

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

A brief silence.

AM 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, **receive our prayer.**

AM 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, **receive our prayer.**

AM 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, **receive our prayer.**

AM Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured, *especially* **Tom Jennings, Larry Battles, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O'Konski, Luke Holtz, Ron Hetherwick, Jake Cope, Virginia Dillon, Staci, Greg Urbanski, Matt Jurrus, Tom Druschel, Phyllis Sturgeon, Jeff Bucher, Albert Preston, Pastor Ray Gottschling, Morgan & unborn baby, Baby Elliot, Mya Chapp, David Atkinson, Maurice Atkinson, Karen Meyer, Deanna Cedargren, Kori, Rich Rison, Claudia Koperski, Ginny Krueger, Betty, Mike, Bob Beers, BethaLynn Mbaya...** and all others whom we remember in silence. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM 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, **receive our prayer.**

Presider:



lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation:



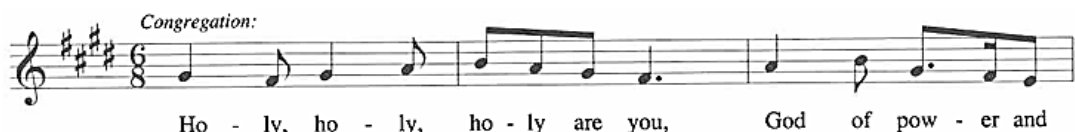
thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

****Eucharistic Prayer Continues**

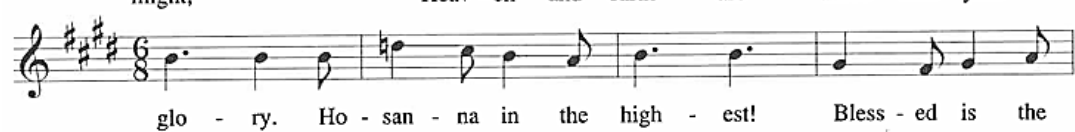
Congregation:



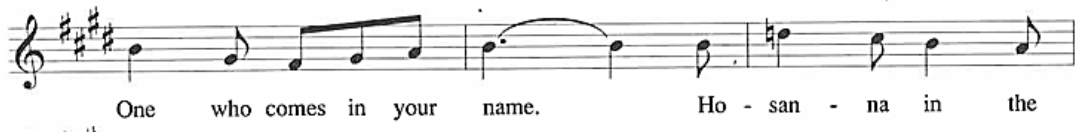
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and




might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the



One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the



high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The 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. Jesus said, 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. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and 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 of Jesus, **Amen.**

Blessing of Prayer Shawls

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P 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. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”
VS’s 1, 5-8

ELW 362

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

AM And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

“Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! We welcome YOU to worship with us at one of our TWO worship services. Join us at **8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m.** in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you, and as always, **BRING A FRIEND!!!!**

Adult Forum Explores Luther’s Small Catechism, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

We are continuing our Adult Forum, inviting EVERYBODY to catechism! We’re inviting all who would like to join us to explore the essentials of the faith as summarized in Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. We’ll explore the meaning in our lives of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles’ Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, Holy Baptism, The Lord’s Supper, and the Christian Life, using the insights of Luther’s own “handbook for the faith” called the Small Catechism. Whether you first learned these things long ago in a confirmation class or you have never had a chance to study the catechism, this is a great chance to explore some of the Big Ideas of the Christian

faith and get at why it all matters, and what it all means. Join us between services, continuing this spring in the Bible study/council room!

Thursday Bible Study Opens Up the Book of Acts Join us for our current series in our Thursday afternoon Bible Study, as we take a deep dive into the New Testament book of Acts to learn the story of the early church and how the band of rag-tag fishermen and tax collectors from Galilee grew into a movement that reached outward to the very heart of the Roman Empire and became a “found family” of Jewish and Gentile people, rich and poor, enslaved and free, women and men, and lived through the growing pains of that outreach to change the world. Join us weekly on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Bible Study/Council Room as we work through the book of Acts and let it spark our own ways of living out our faith and sharing the good news of Jesus in the world around us. Remember, too, that we’ll continue to share video catch-up sessions on our social media (see the church Facebook page) each week, so that you can know what we’ll be looking at each week in case you miss a week, want to join in, or to share with a friend!

New “Go Team Jesus” Stickers to Help Support Salem! Check out our new foam-finger inspired stickers that say, “Go Team Jesus!” in several different colors, on the table in the Gathering Space! We’d invite you to get one or more, which are perfect for putting on your laptop, travel mug, phone case, notebook, or car bumper, and we’d invite your donations of \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00, which we’ll use to help support our mission partnerships with Salem Lutheran Church in the north end of Toledo. Get yours today!

Risk Management Task Force – Volunteers Needed! We are forming a Risk Management Task Force and are seeking members of the congregation who would be interested in serving. This team will help review and strengthen practices across all areas of church life to minimize risk and promote a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for all. We are looking for individuals who are thoughtful, attentive, and willing to share their time and insight in this important work. If you have experience in areas such as safety, facilities, health care, or simply have a heart for helping our church operate responsibly, we would love to have you join us. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kevin Steinman at 419-707-1943 or the church office. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve! Our first meeting will be held on May 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council/Bible Study Room.

**Toledo School for the Arts Vocal Music Concert and Silent Auction
TODAY!! April 26 at 3:00 p.m.**

Rooted Youth – School’s Out Celebration! You made it through another school year—come celebrate with us! Join us for a fun-filled evening featuring: *Cornhole Tournament *Volleyball *Campfire *S’mores *Cookout **Date:** May 28, **Time:** 6:00–10:00 PM, **Who:** Students in grades 6–12, **Location:** Providence Lutheran Church 8131 Airport Hwy., Holland, OH, **RSVP:** Text *SCHOOLSOUT* to (567) 522-0525. We hope you’ll join us as we celebrate the end of the school year together!



<i>Event</i>	<i>Day and Time</i>
Outreach/Council Breakfast	Today, Sunday, April 26, 9:00 a.m.
Last Day to Collect Baby Shower Gifts	Today, Sunday, April 26
TSA School of Arts Concert & Silent Auction	Today, Sunday, April 26, 3:00 p.m.
Youth Group @ CoC	Today, Sunday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.
Music Director Search Task Force Meeting	Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 p.m.
Choir	Wednesday, April 29, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study	Thursday, April 30, 1:00 p.m.



**Altar Flowers given by Neil & Susan Raymond in celebration
of Page & Alex Raymond, 3rd Anniversary 🎉 🎊**