



April 21, 2024 – 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Easter



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.

Good Morning and Welcome!
[Online Guest Form](#)

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

7740 HIGHWAY 72 W | (256) 721-0041 | MLUTHERAN.ORG

SERVICE of WORSHIP

** Please stand as you are able*

Band-led worship with the Lord's Supper

Worshippers who prefer lyrics with its music should use the black Band-led Service binders. Music for songs that are not in the binders is available from an usher.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: "Let God Arise" (Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves)

Messiah's Praise Band
Ric Birdsong, Director

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

*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 SONG: "Always" (Jason Ingram, Kristian Stanfill)

#60

My foes are many, they rise against me
But I will hold my ground
I will not fear the war,
I will not fear the storm
My help is on the way,
My help is on the way

Troubles surround me, chaos abounding
My soul will rest in You
I will not fear the war,
I will not fear the storm
My help is on the way,
My help is on the way

REFRAIN:

Oh, my God, He will not delay
My refuge and strength always
I will not fear, His promise is true
My God will come through
Always, always

[REFRAIN]

I lift my eyes up,
My help comes from the Lord

[REFRAIN]

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

SPECIAL MUSIC

Christ Kiswahili Members

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

THE PSALM

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though 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.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MLC Youth

*THE GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

SERMON

Pastor Kris Schroeder

SONG: “Cornerstone” (Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, William Bradbury)

#56

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

REFRAIN:

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

[Repeat REFRAIN]

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again 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**

(After each petition)

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

***BLESSING THE MINISTRY OF CLAIRE STRAND**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

Offertory Song: "The Lord Is My Shepherd" (Jeremy Riddle) Band

**During the Presentation of Gifts the Band and Congregation Repeat the Refrain:*

The Lord is my Shepherd
And I'll want for nothing
You lead me to water for You know
I'm thirsting and I I'm only satisfied by You

***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.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

*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.

SENDING

*BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

Amen.

*SENDING SONG: “Lord I Lift Your Name On High” (Rick Doyle Founds)

#18

Lord, I lift Your name on high	From the earth to the cross
Lord, I love to sing Your praises	My debt to pay
I'm so glad You're in my life	From the cross to the grave
I'm so glad You came to save us	From the grave to the sky
You came from heaven to earth	Lord, I lift Your name on high
To show the way	

*DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: “Mighty to Save” (Reuben Morgan, Ben Fielding)

Band

MESSIAH'S PRAISE BAND

Ric Birdsong - Acoustic Guitar

Bob Davis - Electric Guitar

Stephen Strand - Bass Guitar

Gerry Meyers - Vocal

Melanie Payne - Keyboards

Matt Saari - Drums

Paul Zutter- Sound

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WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Kit & Jerry Baker
Wayne Walker
The Porter Family
Laura and Family

Gary Heideman
Ron & Norma Freymuth
DJ Warren, Shawna Hillis, Brandalyn Fox
AJ

Mulia Sitepu
Amber Alt

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Chris Fossum in celebration of her daughter-in-law Kim's 40th birthday, and by Susan King in celebration of Andrew's birthday on April 26.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee, donuts and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall after both services.

A NURSERY, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT starting May 26 and ending July 28, MLC will have a single Sunday morning Service of Worship at 9:30 a.m with coffee fellowship following the service. Council hopes a single service in the summer will enhance worship and foster fellowship among members, MLC plans to resume two Sunday morning services on Sunday, August 4.

A CELEBRATION OF MISSION AND THE RETIREMENT POTLUCK FOR CLAIRE STRAND is today at Noon in the Parish Hall. Come and celebrate God's work through MLC's missions and ministries nurtured by this gifted and caring disciple. There will be BBQ and lots of sides and desserts.

SPRING HANDMADE MINI-MARKET to support MLC's three *Lunches for Learning* schools in Honduras is today in the Fellowship Hall between services of worship. Cash, Check, and Credit Cards accepted. 100% of money raised supports *Lunches for Learning*. POC Elaine Shriver

A TOWN HALL MEETING will take place next Sunday, April 28, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Council leaders will review the May 5 Congregation Meeting agenda and provide updates on MLC's current financials, demographics, and possible endowments. Round table discussions on use of parsonage sale proceeds are also planned.

COME SERVE DINNER AT OWEN'S HOUSE FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month from 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. on a regular or on-call basis. Contact Bill Emerson at bemerson@knology.net to complete the brief training and screening check required.

MUSIC CAMP 2024 If your child or grandchild plans to attend Music Camp, please take a moment to sign them up. We currently have over 20 campers registered for the June 3 - June 9 camp. Details and registration links can be found at www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org.

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - 4 oz. Bars of Soap **FOOD PANTRY** - Cereal

<u>Pastor</u> Kristine Schroeder	<u>Acolytes</u>	(11:00)
<u>Director of Music</u> Randall Fields	<u>Lector</u>	Bonnie Flowers (11:00)
<u>Organist/Accompanist</u> Melanie Payne	<u>Ushers</u> Jake Dorminey, Mark Thompson	(11:00)
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u> Claire Strand	<u>Altar Guild</u>	Debbie Neely (11:00)
<u>Communication & Tech Director</u> Meredith Kilby	<u>Sound/Stream Team</u>	
<u>Office Managers</u> Bobbey Huwaldt, M. Kilby		Danny Hopkin, L. Seitz (11:00)
<u>Nursery Attendant</u> Sarah Walker	<u>Flower Guild</u>	Beverly Berry

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

Pastor's Office Hours are M-W

MLC staff will never directly solicit you for funds.

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, April 21

- 8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. - Mini Handmade Market, and Fellowship Coffee - Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 a.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal
- 12:00 p.m. - Celebration of Mission & Retirement Potluck honoring Claire Strand
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

Monday, April 22

- 6:30 p.m. - Women's Book & Social Club (Bartel Home)

Tuesday, April 23

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 6:00 p.m. - Men of Messiah (MoMs) gather at Trash Panda Game

Wednesday, April 24

- 5:00 p.m. - Confirmation
- 5:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir, Seraph Choir
- 7:30 p.m. - Messiah Choir

Thursday, April 25

- 6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

Sunday, April 28

- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: WOV Setting 5 (Bread of Life) w/the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 a.m. - Town Hall in Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. - *Service of Worship: WOV Setting 5 (Bread of Life) w/the Lord's Supper
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Group
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

LOOKING AHEAD

May 5 - Congregation Meeting with Elections and Cinco De Mayo Potluck

May 19 - Sunday School (Pre-K to Gr. 12) last day, Pentecost Sunday, Affirmation of Baptism, and Graduate Blessings / Basket Presentations

May 26 - Summer Sunday Worship Schedule starts

June 3 - 9 - Messiah Music Camp Week with Presentation of "Say What" on Sunday, June 9.

June 11 - 15 - Disaster Relief Mission Trip

June 17 - 20 Vacation Bible School "Waves of Gratitude" @ St. Matthews Episcopal

Attendance:

April 7 - Online - 70 April 14 - 8:30 a.m. - 88, 11:00 a.m. - 62

Offerings Counted April 14, 2024

Church Ministries	\$6,145.38	Youth Travel Fund	\$135.76
Capital Investment Fund	\$530.00	Rumage / Plant Sale	\$179.00
Flowers	\$30.00	Music	\$100.00
Wednesday Night Dinner	\$55.00	Kit Ministries	\$100.00
Comforters	\$30.00	Owen's House	\$20.00
Messiah Mugs	\$27.00	Lunches for Learning	\$50.00

Online Giving

