



The Season of Easter

April 21, 2024 10:00am

Church at Thessalonica

Rejection does not have to alter the strength, the consistency, or the nature of God's love that we strive to bring into the world every day.

Trusting God + Loving the World

Worshiping and Growing Together in Christ | Serving and Reaching Out Joyfully to All!



Welcome! We're glad you're here!

*If you are a guest and are interested in knowing more about this community and the ministries that Holy Shepherd is engaged in, please fill out the **Welcome Card** located in the pew racks. Once filled out, please place the card either in the offering basket as you come forward to receive communion or at the information desk as you enter the narthex. Thank you and we look forward to getting to know you!*

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

The Holy Spirit calls you to this place.

We are inspired to hear and know God's word.

The Holy Spirit calls you to this place.

We are inspired to sing God's praises!

Confession & Forgiveness

We begin with an honest assessment of our individual and communal life that falls short of fullness and wholeness. You are invited into this vulnerable space as a practice of opening to God's grace as we will experience it in worship.

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Risen God, **we confess to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we have caused harm by the things we have said and done, and by the things we have not said and not done. Take away our sins that we might fully embody your commandment to love you with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

In grace and mercy, God forgives all our sins, and with joy and expectation calls us into new life for the sake of the world, through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise



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!



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.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

Prayer of Day

Holy God, **it is not always easy to live out the gospel in our daily lives. We are sometimes met with opposition or rejection when we stand in solidarity with those who are marginalized. Strengthen us by the example of the early Christians that we might persist in our call to bear witness to you. In and through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Musical Offering

Care for Creation

Choplin

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song

As Paul and Silas travel through Thessalonica and attempt to grow the early church there, they are met with dramatic resistance. Their story combined with Paul's letter to the Thessalonians shows us why that might not be such a bad thing.

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:1-9

After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, ³explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." ⁴Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. ⁶When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, ⁷and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." ⁸The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, ⁹and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

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

Scripture Reading

Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! (Repeat)**

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:9-11

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. 10And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. 11When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

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

+ Children's Time +

Children's Church

Children age 3yrs – 4th grade.
After children's message, meet
leader in back of church.



Faith Talk

Youth 5th – 12th grade
After worship

Message

Song

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671

Refrain

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me. *Refrain*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever-changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story,
Shine on me, shine on me. *Refrain*

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 the People

Trusting in the promise of the resurrection we pray for the church,
the world, and all in need.

Prayer petitions response

God of new life, **in mercy, hear our prayer.**

We place in your arms all for whom we pray, out loud or in our hearts, confident in
your mercy and grace, through Jesus Christ, our savior. **Amen.**

Sharing God's Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 God 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 Paschal 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:

Holy

ELW 191

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

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.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation

The one in whose name Peter healed now invites you to this feast of promise. In bread and wine, Jesus gives his very self to strengthen you in your life of faith. Come and eat.



Holy Communion - All Are Welcome

During the season of Easter, we stand for communion in honor of the resurrection. Come forward and starting at the center, fill in along the step. After you have received communion please exit by the side aisles and those waiting will then fill in the empty space. Bread (gluten-free) and wine or grape juice (center of the tray) will be given to you with the words spoken:

“The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.”

If you would like communion served in the pew, please signal to a pastor.

You are invited...

To bring an **offering** forward before or after worship or during Holy Communion.

The offering is gathered in front of the communion table where we are reminded of God's gifts given to us in Christ and our response to these gifts.



Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä, *täs - sä*
 1 In this feast of love, in this
 2 In this bread and wine, in this
 3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us



pöy - däs - sä *syn - ti - sil - le*
 feast of love, Lord, you share your
 bread and wine, you have prom - ised,
 peace, O Lord; fill us with the



it - se - si an - nat, *Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!*
 blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.
 Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.
 joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Many and Great

ELW 837

**Many and great, O God, are your works,
 maker of earth and sky.
 Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
 your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
 Lo, at your word the waters were formed;
 deep seas obey your voice.**

**Grant unto us communion with you,
 O Star-abiding One.
 Come unto us and dwell with us;
 with you are found the gifts of life.
 Bless us with life that has no end,
 eternal life with you.**

Prayer after Communion

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

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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

Go out with Joy

W&P 48

**Go with joy and be led forth with peace,
the mountains and the hills shall break forth singing.**

**Go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
the mountains and the hills shall break forth singing.**

**And all the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,
The Lord almighty shall be praised.**

**And all the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,
The word of the Lord shall be forever. (Repeat Song)**

Sending

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude



Worship Leadership

- Pastor: Julie Brooks, Kim Gonia
- Organist: Jordan Ortman
- Reader: Shirley Bradsby
- Communion Assistants: Dianne Watts, Pat Szkrumelak
- Greeters: Pat & John Szkrumelak
- Musical Offering: Chancel Choir
- Usher: Del Felton
- Altar Guild: Joan Meister-Bridges
- Children's Church: Margaret Mohrbacher
- Teen Faith Talk: Nancy Bybee
- Technology: Mike Madsen, Mark Lee
- Fellowship Hosts: Becky Sauer & Joe, Josely & Whitney Navarro

Song Resource Key

ELW: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal (Pew)*

ACS: *All Creation Sings*

HSSB: *Holy Shepherd Songbook*

WOV: *With One Voice*

W&P: *Worship & Praise*

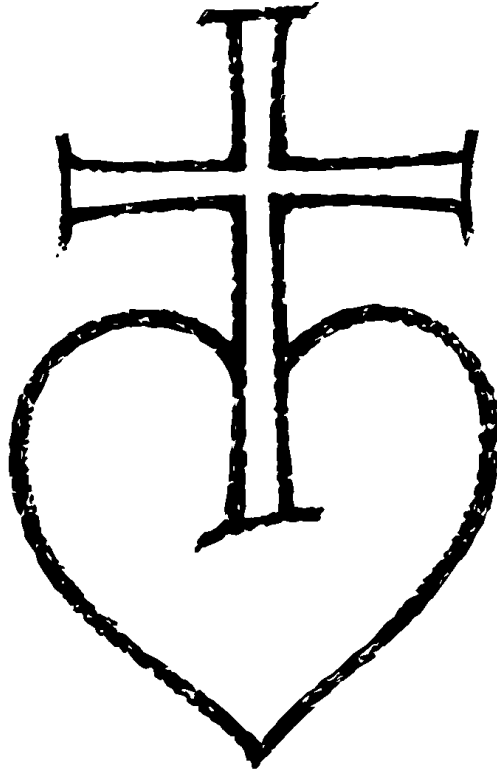
Narrative Lectionary Worship Resources

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