



The Season of Easter

April 7, 2024 10:00am

You Shall Be My Witnesses

*The most important thing about witness is
that we never have to do it alone.*

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

Come to the mountain.

We come to meet Jesus.

Jesus sends us out to serve.

We will be his witnesses to all the world.

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

Refrain



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.

Refrain



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



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



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



God; to make all things new.

Refrain

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

Gracious God, **you call us together in your presence and charge us with the task of bearing your love into a suffering world. Strengthen us for this work, that all might share equally in your reign of justice and peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song

The last thing that Jesus does before ascending to heaven is to lay out for his apostles a witness roadmap – a framework that they can fall back on to remember how and why they will continue to share the good news of the Gospel.

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:1-14

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."
⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."
¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they

went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

Gospel Acclamation

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

Holy Gospel

Mark 6:7-13

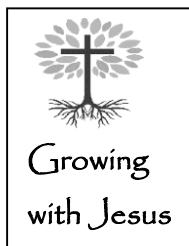
The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

+ Children's Time +

Children's Church
Children age 3 – 4th Gr.
During message



Faith Talk
Youth 5th – 12th Grade
After worship

Message

Song

Song of Fire and Water

~ Haugen

Refrain

***If we have died to ourselves in Jesus, then we shall arise to new life in him:
Alleluia, alleluia!***

**We are fire and water, we are symbol and sign of grace,
we are the myst'ry, we are the image of God's own face. *Refrain***

**In our dying and rising, we shall follow where he has gone,
pilgrims and lovers, he is our story and he our song. *Refrain***

**Raining down from the heavens, springing up from the driest earth,
simple and holy, water of love and life eternal. *Refrain***

**Gift of love and of mercy, given freely to all who thirst,
gentle and yielding, water of grace and life eternal. *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



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.

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 who was taken up in the cloud is yet here at this holy table and invites you now to share with him the bread and wine of the new covenant. Come, for all is prepared.

+ *We Are Church. Better Together* +

Options on how to receive Holy Communion

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.

Communion Songs *As the Grains of Wheat*

ELW 465

Refrain

***As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.***

**As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain***

**Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain***

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

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

ELW 392 vs. 1,3,5

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."**

**Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."**

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: Jeanette Teske
- Communion Assistant: Barb Jacobson, Corene Morcom
- Greeters: Kurt & Darlene Mader
- Usher: Bob Mohrbacher
- Altar Guild: Judy Ekberg
- Teen Faith Talk: Pat Mohrbacher
- Technology: Mike Madsen, Mark Lee
- Fellowship Hosts: Kathleen Clark, Pat & Bob Mohrbacher

Song Resource Key

ELW: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal*

ACS: *All Creation Sings*

HSSB: *Holy Shepherd Songbook*

WOV: *With One Voice*

+ WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES +

- **THANK YOU** for being considerate of disabled worshippers and their families. Please leave the pew cuts and several adjoining seats available for those with walkers, wheelchairs, or electric carts and their families.
- **HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES (4 devices available)** are located at the sound booth located in the back of the sanctuary on the east side.
- **PRAYER/CANDLE STATION** is available in the rear of the sanctuary.
- **FELLOWSHIP:** Please join us for coffee, snacks and conversation in the fellowship hall.

OFFERING

If you would like to make a donation to the mission of Holy Shepherd, which will be used to serve the community, neighborhood and the world, there is an offering plate located at the front of the sanctuary. Please make checks payable to: Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church or use the PayPal link below. *Thank you.*

NURSERY

The **Kids Zone** (un-staffed) will be available to use for your family, if you need to leave the service. It is located off the hallway to the west of the sanctuary. The library and Fellowship Hall are also available.

**Narrative Lectionary Worship
Resources**

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