

St. James Evangelical **Lutheran Church April 25, 2021 Fourth Sunday of** Easter

Worship every Sunday 10:45 AM

Welcome

We welcome all visitors who come to worship with us today. We are delighted that you have come to share in the prayer and praise of our Lord and invite you to return and add your voice to ours in holy celebration. If you have a special need or prayer write it on the prayer card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Before you leave us today, we ask that you please sign our guest book.

Pastor: Revs. Scott & Carol Custead

Church Organist/Choir Director: PATRICIA McCONNELL Administrative Assistant: Tim Surkovich

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St. James Mission Statement: To make disciples of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament by the Holy Spirit.

Announcements: If you cannot read the hymns, you can turn to the hymn in the red ELW hymnal in the pew racks.

Prelude: Variation's On "Coronation" Holden/Krapf (We take this time to silently prepare our hearts and minds for worship)

PLEASE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

An extended silence may be kept.

Merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

We Gather

*GATHERING SONG: The Lord's My Shepherd ELW 778

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The Lord's My Shepherd



Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895–1984 Arr. © Oxford University Press.

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*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.



Glory to God



*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

We Listen to the Word

First Reading:

Acts 4:5-12

A reading from Acts.

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 word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

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

A reading from 1 John.

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?

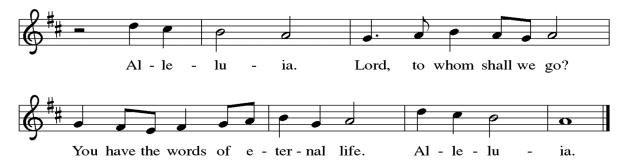
¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



*GOSPEL:

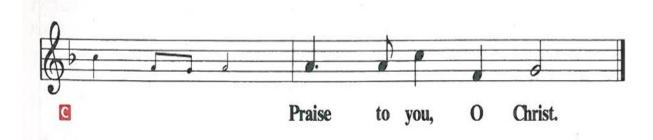
John 10:11-18

The Holy Gospel according to John.



[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."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

We Respond to the Word

*Hymn of the Day: Savior, like A Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

Savior, like A Shepherd Lead Us



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

*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

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Petitions are offered for the Church, the world, the nations, and all who are in need.)

....Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

(after final petition)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Sharing of the Peace

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

We Offer Our Gifts

*Offering Prayer:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with the gifts we have offered. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Lord remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

*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.

We Are Sent

*Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Sending Song:

Blessing and Honor

ELW 854

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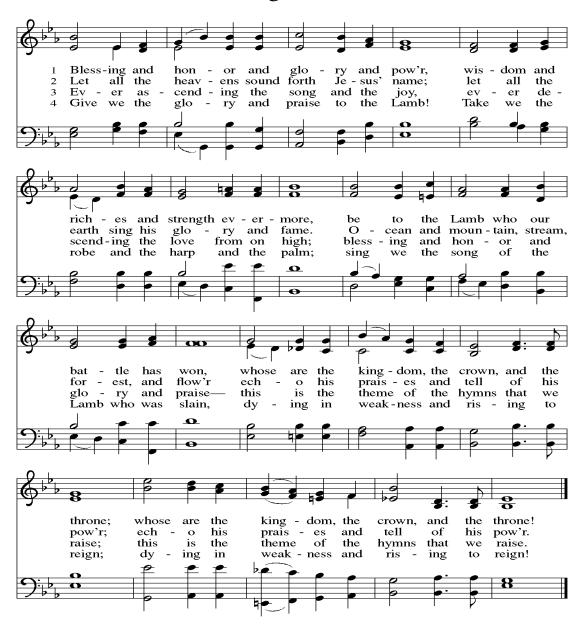
*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Recessional: The Trumpets Of Heaven David Paxton

Blessing and Honor



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt. Music: AMERICAN HYMN, Matthias Keller, 1813–1875

Announcements

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastors Scott & Carol Custead Phone: 814-254-3072 Email: scustead@atlanticbb.net or ccustead@atlanticbb.net

The church office email is stjamesaltoona@gmail.com The church's website is www.stjamesaltoona.org On Facebook—St. James Lutheran Church—Altoona, PA

REMINDER AND IMPORTANT

BULLETIN ADDITIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY AT 10:30 AM.

For corrections, please contact the church office secretary Tim Surkovich, I'm in the office Monday-Thursday 9-1.

****IF AN ARTICLE FOR THE KIRCHENBLATT CANNOT BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH, PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE A SPACE FOR YOUR ARTICLE SO THAT THE KIRCHENBLATT CAN BE FORMATTED AHEAD OF TIME TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR ALL THE CONGREGATIONAL NEWS.****



- UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ALL EVENTS ARE <u>CANCELLED</u> OR POSTPONED UNLESS THEY ARE LISTED IN THE BULLETIN!
- AS WE GET NEW IMPORTANT INFORMATION MEMBERS
 WILL BE EMAILED OR RECEIVE PHONE CALLS!





Sunday June 13 Highland Park Pavilion 1 More Details Coming Soon!

Our Prayer List:

Tim Surkovich Carol Weaver

Evelyn Holsinger

Bill Wilt

(Names for inclusion on our parish prayer list can be submitted to the church office. The name will remain on the list for one month. At the end of that period please advise the church office, if you would like the name to be continue for another month.)

Those serving in our military

Graystone Manor//Bellmeade

Robert Civils

Inglenook Sr. Apts. Sylvia Malsatzki

Allegheny Lutheran Home:

Janet Kauffman

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.