4th Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024

resurrection REALity

Prepare for Worship

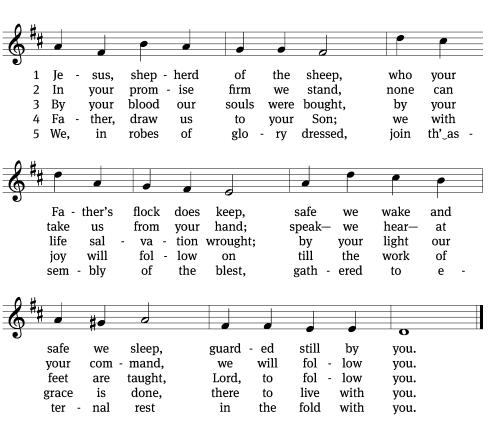
"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord." Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.

Amen.

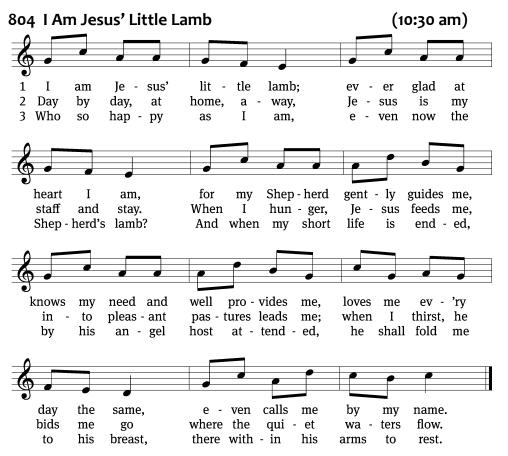
Setting One

551 Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

(8:00 am)



Text: Henry Cook, 1788–1868, alt. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876 Text and tune: Public domain



Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–1782 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, Leipzig, 1784 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession CW 155

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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938 This Is the Feast



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722518 Tune: © 1975, 1988 Richard W. Hillert. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722518

The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 20:28-32 (EHV)

"Always keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers, to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure savage wolves, who will not spare the flock, will come in among you. ³⁰Even from your own group men will rise up, twisting the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be always on the alert! Remember that for three years, night and day, I never stopped warning each one of you with tears.

³²"And now I entrust you to God and to the word of his grace, which has power to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

23A I Will Live in the House of the LORD





Alternate Tone



The LORD is my / shepherd,

I lack / nothing.

He makes me lie down in green / pastures,

he leads me beside quiet / waters,

he refreshes / my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his / name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no / evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they / comfort me. *Refrain*

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my / enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup / overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days / of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for- / ever.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be-/ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Tune: Mark Haas Setting: Mark Haas Music: © 2014 Mark Haas. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722518

Second Reading

1 John 4:1-6 (EHV)

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit who does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is already in the world. ⁴You are from God, dear children, and you have overcome the false prophets, because the one in you is greater than the one in the world. ⁵They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. That is how we can distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14

Refrain: Congregation

Verse: Soloist



I am the good shepherd;

I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

Refrain

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Gospel

John 10:11-18 (EHV)

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. ¹³Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

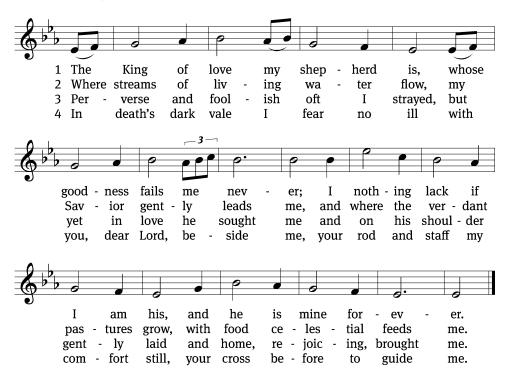
¹⁴"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me ¹⁵(just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it up again. This is the commission I received from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

552 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- You spread a table in my sight, a banquet here bestowing; your oil of welcome, my delight; my cup is overflowing!
- And so through all the length of days your goodness fails me never; Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt Tune: Irish, 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding 1 John 4:1-6

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Loving Shepherd of the sheep, fill us with contentment and confidence during this season as we celebrate your Easter victory. You laid down your life for the sheep and then rose again to assure us that you give us eternal life.

Good Shepherd, save us.

Strengthen our faith to follow where you lead, to the green pastures of your Word, the quiet waters of our baptism, and the gracious table of your body and blood where our cup overflows with your forgiving love. Guide us to find in you the gate that leads to safety and good pastures.

Good Shepherd, lead us.

Guard and protect us from those who want to lead us astray and snatch us out of your hand. Give us courage to fight against the devil and wisdom to recognize false teachers. Lead us to honor and follow those you have called to shepherd your flock, the Church.

Good Shepherd, guide us.

Let your rod and your staff comfort us and all your sheep in times of sickness and sadness and especially when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. May we find in your redemption and your Father's resolve the unbreakable promise that we will dwell in your house forever.

Good Shepherd, console us.

Move us to reach out to sheep who are not yet a part of our sheep pen but whom you have claimed as your own. Give us your passion to search for the sheep who are lost and lead us to rejoice when they have been found.

Good Shepherd, inspire us.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We thank you for all the blessings we have gained from your goodness: family and friends, wealth and health, work and leisure. Give us wisdom to long for and cherish your more precious gifts, your Word and sacraments, so that your goodness and love may follow us all the days of our life.

Good Shepherd, hear us. Amen.

Be seated

Good News for Kids/Offering

al - le - lu

al - le - lu

ia!

ia!

al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia,

Al-le - lu - ia,

Al-le - lu - ia,

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

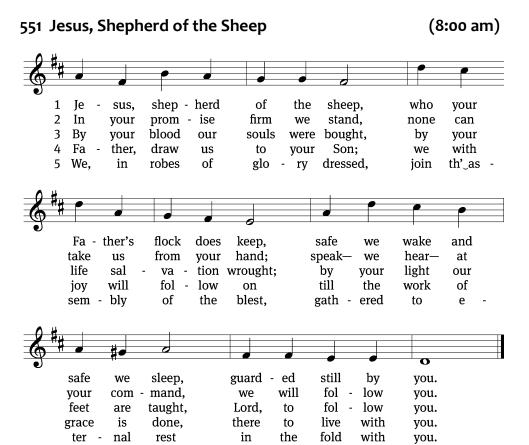
Amen.

804 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

(8:00 am)



Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–1782 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, Leipzig, 1784 Text and tune: Public domain



Text: Henry Cook, 1788–1868, alt. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

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Welcome to Lincoln Heights!

We are glad you are here today to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please speak with an usher for any help.

Yellow Cards

Please fill out a yellow card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Thank you.

In Our Prayers

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list:

Ukraine

Ray & Gloria Overson, Sherry Just and Randy Michael- shut-ins

Gary Finch, Pat Oswald, Larry Borchert, Makenzie Phippen, and Tom Rea - health

Online Giving

Thank you for your generous and cheerful offerings to the Lord.



www.LHELC.org/giving

Open Forum TODAY at 9:15 am

All congregation members are encouraged to attend the open forum meeting. The council updates the congregation on the work of the congregation and the finances. We discuss our mission and ministry as the people of God gathered at Lincoln Heights and the council seeks input from all congregation members.

Thank You to Today's Helpers

Accompanist: Donna Bakken

Altar Guild: Candice Pippett & Andrea

Travi

Counters: Karl Kuhrt & Steve Winecke

Mowing: John Hoey

Streaming: Benjamin Weber

Ushers 8 am: Peter Nolte & Dennis

Moural

10:30 am: Steve Winecke

Next Sunday's Servants Accompanist: Buffy Kokke

Altar Guild: Candice Pippett & Andrea

Travi

Counters: TBA

Mowing: Jay Pender

Streaming: Benjamin Weber

Ushers 8 am: Peter Nolte & Dennis

Moural

10:30 am: Steve Winecke

Usher Volunteers Needed

Ushers ensure that the service runs smoothly so worshipers can focus on the Word of God. If you would like to usher, contact Chad Virden at 515-720-5152. There is also a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex.

Prepare for Next Sunday

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday:

Acts 4:32-37, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8

April 2024 Forward in Christ

This month's issue is available on the shelf outside the sanctuary doors or online if you prefer at forwardinchrist.net.

Articles of interest include:

It Happened in a Garden by Jason Strong, page 10

Go to the garden that held Jesus' tomb and be reminded that the beauty in death is that it's not the end.

My Christian Life by Paul Brug on page 18.

Cancer can never win. Christ is Risen! See how a pastor who lost his earthly fight with cancer won the gift of eternal life.

Sick or in the Hospital?

Contact Pastor Pfeifer if you or someone you know is sick or in the hospital and would like a visit and encouragement from God's Word. The hospitals rarely contact pastors if members are admitted to the hospital.

Connecting WELS Members

The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod offers several ways to connect members through social media: Facebook.com/welslutherans Twitter.com/welstweets Instagram.com/welslutherans Vimeo.com/wels

Find Us on Facebook www.facebook.com/lhelc

Like us to follow our updates. Then share and leave comments so others will also see. More likes, shares and comments means more people will see the post.

Donate Your Meditations Books

Instead of recycling the Meditations books when you are finished with them, bring them back to church. Drop them off in the office and we will distribute them to the homeless along with meals. Thanks.

TOGETHER: a biweekly and breaking e-newsletter from WELS

God-given workers for his harvest field

The number of vacancies for pastor, teacher, and staff minister positions continues to present a real challenge for congregations throughout our synod. At the direction of last summer's synod convention, a special task force has been formed to study the issue of enrollment at our synodical schools and bring recommendations regarding how we can encourage more young people to prepare for the public ministry.

Thankfully, we are approaching the month of May when some relief will be provided for the vacancy situation. The Conference of Presidents will be meeting as the synod's Assignment Committee to assign teacher and staff minister candidates from Martin Luther College (MLC), New Ulm, Minn., and to assign pastoral candidates at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS), Mequon, Wis., to their first calls.

This year at MLC, 145 candidates will be available for assignment. Some of those will be teachers who will be assigned to their first calls; others who were assigned for one year last year will either be permanently assigned to the call in which they are now serving or be re-assigned to new locations. Thirty-seven of the candidates are restricted in where they can serve due to marriage or other circumstances. Many of these will be assigned in May; others will receive assignments in the weeks and months after call day.

At WLS, 27 men will be assigned as pastors. Most of those will serve in parishes; several will be assigned to one-year calls in one of our ministerial education schools as tutors. The Assignment Committee, with the input of the seminary, will also assign 40 men as vicars in congregations throughout our synod. Many of those will be assigned as "Vicars in Mission" to home mission congregations.

Assignment days at MLC and WLS are joyful days—joyful for the young men and women who learn where God will have them serve in the ministry and joyful for the members of the synod who see God keeping his promise to send workers into his harvest field. Keep giving thanks to God for these gifts to his church and keep praying that God will provide even more workers in the years to come.

Serving with you in Christ,

WELS President Mark Schroeder

Spring 2024 Home Missions' milestones

A number of home mission congregations have experienced major milestones so far in 2024. Refuge Church, Durham, N.C. Rev. Doug Lange was called to plant a new home mission church in Durham, N.C., in 2021. The June 2023 WELS Connection showed Refuge in the early stages of development where the core group began to plan its ministry and look for opportunities to share Jesus with the community. Through many prayers, extensive planning, and outreach, God blessed the efforts, and Refuge launched public worship on Jan. 21 at a coworking space in downtown Durham.

New mission start, Idaho Falls, Idaho On Sat., Feb. 10, Rev. Paul Krueger was installed as the home missionary for a new mission start in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Members of the core group traveled to Cross of Christ in Boise to participate in the installation service. This new mission was one of the first new missions approved as part of the 100 Missions in 10 Years initiative.

CrossView, Windsor, Colo. On March 3, CrossView Church in Windsor, Colo., launched its public worship. This home mission plant was approved in 2022 and welcomed more than 85 guests to its opening worship service.

Home Missionary Stephen Koelpin arrived in January 2023 to work with the core group and prepare for the official launch. CrossView received a donated trailer from a home mission church in Arizona and items for its portable church from the nearby home mission church in Castle Rock, Colo. After renting a local elementary school to host worship, the group held four preview services starting in January 2024 in preparation for the launch. Learn more about what the core group in Windsor did to prepare to start its church in this special video: wels100in10.net/lightindarkness.

Living Hope, Chattanooga, Tenn. On March 24, Living Hope in Chattanooga, Tenn., celebrated the grand reopening of its newly renovated facility. Living Hope began as a new home mission in May 2017 and has worshiped in a movie theater, hotel conference room, and a university campus church since then. Thanks to over \$350,000 in matching land and facility grants and a loan from WELS Church Extension Fund, the congregation purchased its current facility in December 2021. Now, the newly renovated space is complete and equipped to serve the congregation and community.

New start and enhancement requests received WELS Home Missions has received requests to start 16 new home mission churches and support 17 enhancements at existing congregations

Each request will be thoroughly reviewed by a dedicated team of Board for Home Missions (BHM) members. The entire BHM will meet April 18-19 to review and evaluate the requests. The approved requests will be the second round of home mission churches approved toward the synod's goal of starting 100 new missions and enhancing 75 existing ministries in the next 10 years.

Learn more about the first year of approvals and how you can get involved at wels100in10.net

Our Mission is to nurture each other in God's Word and spread the Good News of Christ to all.

THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS

April 21 - 28, 2024

Sunday	8:00 am 8:45 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 pm	Worship Homeless Meal Delivery Open Forum Sunday School Worship Kunama Worship
Tuesday	10:00 am	Pastors' Study Club
Wednesday	5:15 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Catechism & Bible History Evening Prayer Service Bible Class
Thursday	10:00 am	Women's Fellowship Group
Sunday	8:00 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 pm	Worship with Communion Homeless Meal Delivery Sunday School Bible Class Worship with Communion Kunama Worship

Lincoln Heights Evangelical Lutheran Church

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