

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024

10:45 AM Praise Worship Service with Holy Communion

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church warmly welcomes people of any age, race, nationality, sexual orientation, life circumstance, and physical or mental capability.

*You are invited to stand

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Praise Team

Welcome

***Litany for Creation and Confession**

P Whoever we are and wherever we come from, we share the reality that this earth is our home. So we come at this moment to remind ourselves of the truth that the ways in which we live within this earth home affect for good or ill the home itself and all that dwells within it. Open to the moment, therefore, and open to one another we come before the mystery of life.

We join with the earth and with one another to bring new life to the land, to restore the waters, to refresh the air.

C We join with the earth and with one another,

P to renew the forests, to care for the plants, to protect the creatures.

C We join with the earth and with one another,

P to celebrate the seas, to rejoice in the sunlight, to sing the song of the stars.

C We join with the earth and with one another,

P to create human community, to promote justice and peace, to eradicate poverty and inequality, to remember the generations yet to come.

C We join with the earth and with one another.

P We join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery, for the healing of the earth and the renewal of all life.

C Amen!

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Let us confess our sins against creation to our creator God and to one another.

Silence for meditation

P Holy God,

C you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust. Sometimes we are part of the just, and sometimes we are part

of the unjust. You have given us incredible gifts of water, soil, air, plants, and animals that sustain our lives. When we are ungrateful,

forgive us. When we forget to take care of these resources, forgive us. When we hoard these resources and keep them from others who need them, forgive us. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us to refresh us and renew us so that we can use the

gifts you have grown in us to care for each other and for our earth.

☐ By the mercies of our creator God, and by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

☑ **Amen.**

***Gathering Song**

"He Lives"

Words and Music by Anthony Skinner, Chris McClarney and Jonathan Smith; © Bethel Music Publishing SESAC | Thirsty Boots Music | Capitol CMG Genesis | Tiny Hits | Be Essential Songs | Cashagamble Jet Music

Verse 1

See the tomb where He laid
See the stone rolled away
He is risen He is risen He's alive
See His hands see His feet
Touch His scars and believe
He is risen He is risen He's alive
Oh He's alive

Chorus

He lives
All honor and power are His
All glory forever amen
Jesus lives

Verse 2

Hear the shackles breaking free
Hear the song of the redeemed

He is moving He is moving He's alive
So take this freedom take this love
Can you feel it rising up
He is here He is here He's alive

Final Chorus

He lives
All honor and power are His
All glory forever amen
Jesus
He lives
All honor and power are His
All glory forever amen
Jesus lives
Jesus lives
He is risen He is risen He's alive

***Greeting**

☐ 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 the Day**

☐ Let us pray. Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things, for you live and reign with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

First Reading

L A reading from Genesis
At conclusion of reading

Genesis 1:1-2:3
Pew Bible, Page 1

L The Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

L A reading from Romans.
At conclusion of reading

Romans 12:1-2
Pew Bible, Page 1033

L The Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God**

Children's Message

*Gospel

P The holy gospel according to Luke.
At conclusion of reading

Luke 24:36B-48
Pew Bible, Page 749

L The gospel of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation

Pastor Karen Boda

*Song of Day "All Creatures Of Our God And King"

Words by St. Francis of Assisi Translated by William Henry Draper; Music "Lasst Uns Erfreuen" Arranged by David Crowder and Brent Milligan; © Words: Public Domain | Music: 2002 sixsteps Music | worshiptogether.com songs | Moon & Musky Music

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

O praise Him alleluia
Praise praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit three in One
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Ending

O alleluia alleluia
O alleluia alleluia
O alleluia alleluia
O alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 2

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness

*Apostles' Creed

C 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**

The Assisting Minister will close each petition with the words, "We pray:" worshippers respond with the words, "Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace".

***Peace**

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** And also with you.

(Please greet one another with a friendly word or gesture of God's peace.)



Offering

The "Who's Who in the Pew" pads are passed as the offering is received. For online giving, see the QR code on the back page.

Offering Anthem

"Tend"

Praise Team

-by Michaela Gentile, Emmy Rose and Jessie Early

***Offering Prayer**

A Let us pray. 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. **C** Amen.

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

C 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.

***Invitation to Communion**

Communion

Communion Songs "Indescribable"

Words & Music by Laura Story & Jesse Reeves; © 2004 Laura Stories | sixsteps Music | Worshiptogether.com songs

Verse 1

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creation's revealing Your majesty
From the colors of Fall to the fragrance of Spring
Ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Chorus 1

Indescribable uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing God
All powerful untamable
Awestruck we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God

Verse 2

Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt where it should go

"Behold Our God"

Words and Music by Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird and Stephen Altrogge; © 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise | [Sovereign Grace Worship](http://SovereignGraceWorship.com)

Verse 1

Who has held the oceans in His hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne
Come let us adore Him
Behold our King nothing can compare
Come let us adore Him

Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Interlude

You are amazing God

Chorus 2

Indescribable uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing God
Incomparable unchangeable
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing God
You are amazing God

Verse 2

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of His words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds
(Chorus)

Verse 3

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign
(Chorus)

"The Earth and Everything"

Words and Music by Hans Peterson; ©1992 Dakota Road Music

Chorus

The earth and everything that lives in it,
The earth and everything that lives in it,
belongs to the Lord.

Verse 1

Who are those that truly love
their God faithfully?
It is they with hearts and hands
who do God's will joyfully.
(Chorus)

Verse 2

God is present in our midst;
Lift your hearts, look up and see.
We are his work, and through our lives
God's love and glory we will be.
(Chorus)

Verse 3

If everything belongs to God,
all the people, all the land,
can we agree to work together
one another understand?
(Chorus)

*Post Communion Blessing

☞ May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. ☩ Amen.

*Prayer After Communion

☩ Let us pray. 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.

Announcements

 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

"Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom"

Words: Adam M. L. Tice; Music: W. Moore; Words © 2009 GIA Publications; Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

While singing the song, the congregation will process (weather permitting) outside to the "Garden of Grace".

Verse 1

Earth is full of wit and wisdom,
sounding God's delighted laugh,

from the tiny roly-poly
to the treetop-tall giraffe.
All creation sings in wonder;

even rocks and trees rejoice
as they join the ringing chorus:
echoes of our Maker's voice.

Verse 2

Earth is full of wit and wisdom,
woven into harmony.
Ev'ry creature has a purpose,
ev'ry flow'r and bumblebee.
Spider, human, redwood, gecko,
monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake
live within a single fabric:
cloth that only God could make.

Verse 3

Earth is full of wit and wisdom:
penguin, platypus, and snail,
cactus, sea slug, oak, and algae,
from the microbe to the whale.
In this great and strange creation,
with a breath God gives us birth:
born of soil to live as stewards,
called to love and serve the earth.

Blessing of the Garden

Adapted from The Blessing of the Garden written by Joshua Paul Smith. Christ Church Cape Girardeau, The Episcopal Diocese of Missouri. May 10, 2022.

P Let us pray. God of earthworms and compost, God of fertilizer and dirty fingernails, God of field and furrow:

In the beginning you created human beings in your image, giving us a lush and abundant garden to be our home together with you;

When we were lost and wandering in exile you provided water and manna to sustain us;

By your prophet Jeremiah you urged your people Israel to build houses and plant gardens, even when they were uprooted and far from home; And in the fullness of time you sent your Son Jesus Christ to scatter the seeds of your Word, to proclaim the coming of your Kingdom, and to give your blessing to all who hunger:

We ask your blessing now upon this garden, that it may faithfully provide food for those in our community.

A volunteer lifts a shovelful (or handful) of soil from the garden and distributes it.

Creator God, bless this soil, that it may nourish the vegetables and herbs planted here, strengthening their roots and encouraging their growth by the prayers of this community.

G **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A volunteer uses a watering can to sprinkle water over the garden bed.

P Lord Jesus Christ, who gives Living Water so that none may be thirsty: Bless this water, the most basic necessity of life, that it may carry nutrients from the soil to the plants, making them healthy, green, and full of life.

G **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Set a pair of work gloves onto a garden post.

☐ Holy Spirit, our comforter and friend, who brings near those who were once far-off: Bless the volunteers who will help tend this garden and also those who will receive its gifts, that their work may produce the good fruit of hospitality and friendship, bearing witness to your holy love, faithfulness, and service.

☑ **Lord, hear our prayer.**

☐ We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ the Sower, who plants in our hearts the seeds of mercy and loving-kindness. ☑ **Amen.**

***Dismissal**

☐ Go in peace. Care for creation!

☑ **Thanks be to God!**

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Looking for more announcement details? [Read your Sheep Buzz!](#) Sign-up on our website for a newsletter to be delivered to your e-mail inbox every Friday around 3 PM. Want to get a text when a Sheep Buzz is sent? Join our Remind Text Notifications group. On your mobile device simply text (including the @ symbol) @gslc1 to 81010.

Looking for all the news for our Youth? Be sure to read your [Wednesday, Weekly Lamb Buzz](#) Email. Some exciting things are happening at GSLC for all ages of our youth. Access each week on our website at gslutheran.org/youth under the Youth Tab or sign-up to be on the e-mail list.

Sign up to receive our weekly SHEEP BUZZ



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GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Rev. Karen Boda.....Interim Pastor
Pam Weinelt . Praise Team Coordinator
Melina Thurmond..... Youth/Family
.....Ministry Coordinator

.....& Office Coordinator
Donna Garges Media Coordinator
Carrie Escamilla Bookkeeper
Aaron Frink..... Custodian
Gay Lyn Ferry..... Supply Organist

A nursery room is available with an audio/visual of the service. Please consult with an usher if you need assistance.

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