

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 27 / 30, 2023

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D

Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

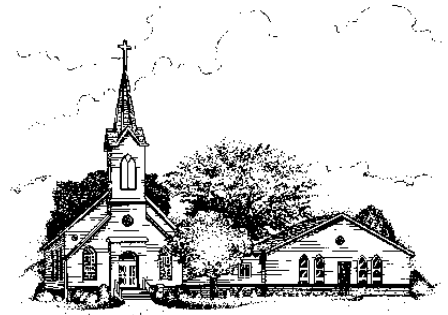
Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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Welcome to God's House

Every culture has the concept of an ideal citizen, someone who typifies its values. For much of the United States' history, the ideal citizen was the American farmer: hard-working, innovative, vital to our collective well-being. Even some of our first presidents were farmers.

For the people of Israel, their ideal citizen was the shepherd. Sheep were an invaluable source of clothing and food. But they were hard to keep in the Judean countryside. Food was sparse and the predators were plenteous. The survival of sheep was dependent on their shepherd. There he is. Weather-beaten. Sleepless. Armed. In the dusk, he scans the land, counting his sheep, making sure they are all accounted for, every one of them on his heart. You see why Jesus chose the shepherd to illustrate how he cares for us. He feeds us with his Word. He protects us from that roaring lion, Satan. Jesus is leading us into the green pasture of eternal life. For centuries, the Church has observed this Fourth Sunday of Easter to celebrate that *he lives to be our Good Shepherd*.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds #471:1-3

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:

“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!

Repeat their song of glory here:

“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer thro’ your triumph.
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day
that by our lives we truly say:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Invocation

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

Confession

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

The congregation is invited to sing the refrains

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace

to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. ***Refrain***

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. ***Refrain***

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. ***Refrain***

THE WORD

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.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

I Will Live in the House of the LORD - Psalm 23A

I will live in the house of the LORD all the
days, all the days of my life.

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**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” ²⁵ For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



I am the good shep - herd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

The Lord's My Shepherd #554

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul. (Refrain)

**Refrain: And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.**

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights. (Refrain)

3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know. (Refrain)

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

Jesus, Good Shepherd and Gate for your sheep, continue to give us life, that we may enjoy it to the full.

Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, but you have borne the iniquity of us all by laying down your life. Teach us to know your voice, that we may follow you closely, enter your gate and be saved.

Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Open the gate of your fold to other sheep. Call them also to be fed in the green pastures of your Word and refreshed with the quiet waters of your baptismal grace.

Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Bless the gatekeepers who shepherd your people with you, those who teach the young, who lead your people in worship and praise, and those who minister to the aged, sick and dying. Strengthen them with the love of your people, and through their work add to the number of those who are being saved.

Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Shepherd and Overseer of souls, return the wandering, the lost, and the doubting to you. Restore their souls and guide them again to your right paths. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

With the compassion of a Shepherd, walk with those who go through the darkest valleys of life, sickness, despair, and even the shadow of death. [We ask your special blessing for ...]. With your Word, remind them of your presence and take away their fears.

Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Special intercessions and silent prayers

Lord our Shepherd, in your kindness you give us all good things. Fill us with your overflowing cup, and bring us to dwell with you in your house, where you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

The Sacrament

Preface

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of eight lines of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first line of music is a short prelude consisting of six notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, B-flat4, A4. The second line begins the main melody with the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,'. The third line continues with 'God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your'. The fourth line has 'glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The fifth line has 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the'. The sixth line has 'Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -'. The seventh line has 'san - na in the high -'. The eighth line concludes with 'est!'.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

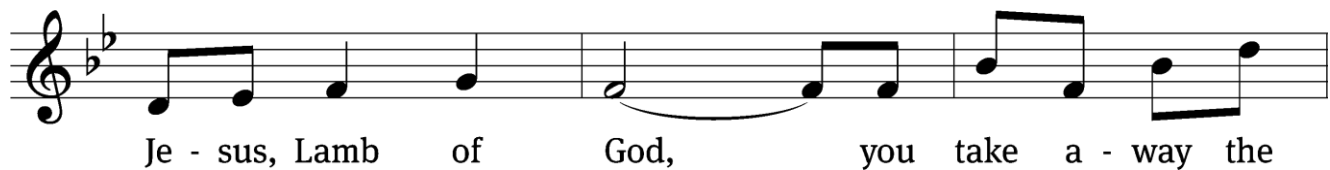
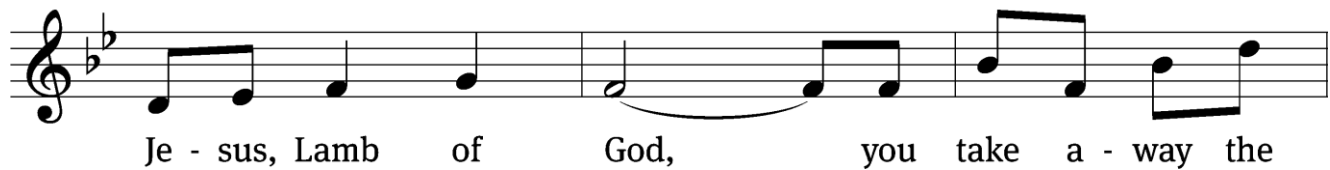
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



Distribution Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is #552

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
my Savior gently leads me,

and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feeds me.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me
and on his shoulder gently laid
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with you, dear Lord, beside me,
your rod and staff my comfort still,
your cross before to guide me.

5 You spread a table in my sight,
a banquet here bestowing;
your oil of welcome, my delight;
my cup is overflowing!

6 And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house forever!

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Benediction

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.

Closing Hymn

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb #804

1 I am Jesus' little lamb;
ever glad at heart I am,
for my Shepherd gently guides me,
knows my need and well provides me,
loves me ev'ry day the same,
even calls me by my name.

2 Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
into pleasant pastures leads me;
when I thirst, he bids me go
where the quiet waters flow.

3 Who so happy as I am,
even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
by his angel host attended,
he shall fold me to his breast,
there within his arms to rest.



This Week at Zion

Today:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Catechism Instructions
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Sun:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
	4:00 p.m.	Lutheran Chorale Concert at St. Marcus, MKE

In Our Prayers Marv Brueggeman, still at St. Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee; Tina Uelmen who suffered a broken leg last week and is at Aurora Hospital in Oshkosh; Marv Brueggeman, back home after a week at St. Luke's in Milwaukee; Laurie Heinecke, recovering from a fractured shoulder and ribs; Herbie Justman, recovering at home after eye surgery this past week; and Julie Steinhaus (Shannon Allison's aunt) who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Lord's Supper As a church concerned with upholding all the truths of Scripture and encouraging faithful Christian living, we practice "member communion" with those who have confessed a unity of faith with us. If you are not a WELS or ELS member and you would like to commune with us in the future, please speak to the pastor after the service.

Memorial A memorial service for Earl Schulz - longtime Zion member and relative of a number of our members - will be held at Shepherd of the Hills in West Bend on Sunday, May 7th at 2:30 (visitation at 1:30).

Perennial Exchange Zion will be hosting a perennial exchange on May 20th, at 9 a.m. in the church parking lot. It will be a great opportunity to find homes for your extra plants, and add some new varieties to your yard. Bring 6 pots of your divided perennials and exchange them for 6 new-to-you plants. Please label your plants with the color (if you know the color) and directions for planting (sun / partial sun / shade, etc...). Please invite your family and friends as well! See the poster on the bulletin board for more information.

New Beginnings Collection In past years we used to fill baby bottles with

change during the annual drive to support *New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers*. This year, we're simply asking for donations to be placed in the little baby bassinet in the entryway. To learn more about *New Beginnings*, see the poster next to the bassinet and please consider supporting this worthy ministry.

Sign up to Greet Thanks to all who have been serving as greeters for our worship services each weekend. We'd love to work our volunteers out of a job by making this something self-sustaining...people simply signing up on their own as often as you'd like. Go to www.zionallenton.org and click on the "Greeter Signup" at the bottom of the page.

We thank Barb Olsen for serving as our organist this weekend.

Please pick up the new church calendars for May, along with the new *Forward in Christ*. If you picked up a calendar last week, please pick up an updated one...a number of items have been added to it. You'll find everything on the cabinets in the entryway.

Lutheran Chorale Concert Join the Chorale next Sunday at 4 p.m. for a very special concert offering a cornucopia of styles from our American heritage, including shape-note tunes, Appalachian inspired music, Southern gospel, an African-American spiritual, modern American hymnody and more! The concert will take place at St. Marcus Lutheran in Milwaukee. Highlights will include the sturdy "Easter Anthem" by William Billings, the gorgeous "Pilgrim's Hymn" by Stephen Paulous, the Lutheran staple "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" by Paul Manz, the energetic "Unclouded Day" by Shawn Kirchner, and the heartfelt rendition of "The Blessing" by former Chorale director, Kurt Eggert.

KML Spring Play Join us for Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School's production of the classic play *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller on Friday & Saturday, May 5 & 6, at 7:00 PM and Sunday, May 7, at 2:00 PM. Tickets will be sold at the door at KML beginning 30 minutes before each performance. All tickets are general admission and \$5 each.

Copyrights / Acknowledgments

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds *CW 471 sts. 1-3*

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Gloria

Tune: Marty Haugen

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I Will Live in the House of the LORD *Psalms 23A*

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Gospel Acclamation *John 10:14*

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554 The Lord's My Shepherd *CW 554*

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Holy, Holy, Holy *CW 184*

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Jesus, Lamb of God *CW 186*

Tune: Marty Haugen

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804 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb *CW 804*

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

May 25th Jay German undergoing a bone marrow transplant which will keep him in the hospital for 4-6 weeks;

Craig Martin, undergoing double knee surgery this week at _____