



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m.

United Lutheran Church  
Oak Park, Illinois

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*Welcome to United Lutheran Church! We're delighted you've joined us for Easter Sunday worship. If you're new to worship, **parts for everyone to say or sing are bolded**, and parts that the worship leaders will say are unbolded.*

Every year the fourth Sunday of Easter attends to the biblical image of Christ the good shepherd. The good shepherd image shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

### PRELUDE

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Christ is Risen, Alleluia!  
**Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.  
**Amen.**

Look, here is water!  
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.  
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep  
and water became the essence of life.  
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.  
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.  
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land.  
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!  
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.  
We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Look, here is water!  
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG (RED HYMNAL) 645

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est  
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

**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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (RED HYMNAL) 101

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*sitting*)

*Mission of the Month for April: A House in Austin (AHIA)*

## FIRST READING:

**Acts 4:5-12**

A reading from Acts.

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let 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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>There 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.**

*The cantor and the assembly alternate in singing the verses.*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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- <sup>1</sup>The LORD | is my shepherd;  
I shall not | be in want.
- <sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**
- <sup>3</sup>You restore my | soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup>**Though 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.**
- <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.
- <sup>6</sup>**Surely 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.

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How 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?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And 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. <sup>24</sup>All 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.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*standing*)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

*Alleluia. Jesus says, I am | the good shepherd. \* I know my own and my | own know me. Alleluia. (John 10:14)*

### GOSPEL

**John 10:11-18**

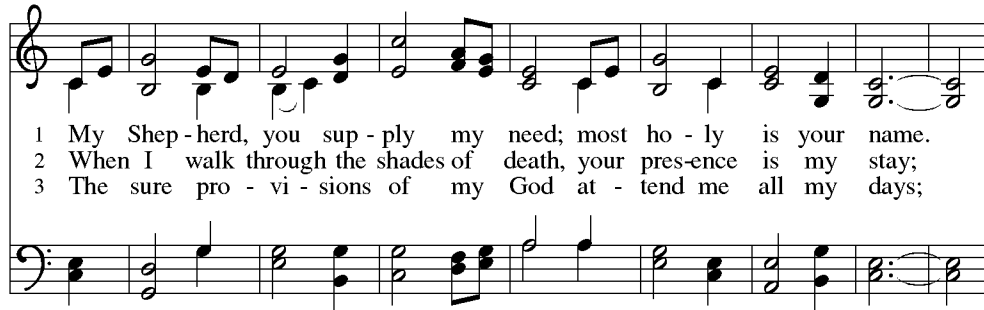
The holy gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The 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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I 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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No 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. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON (*sitting*)

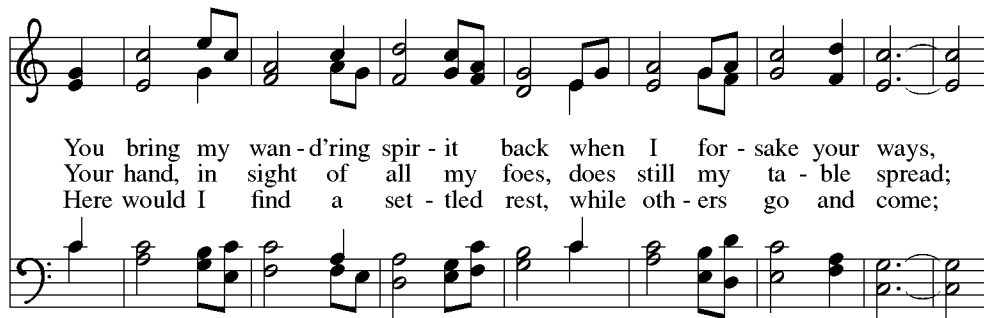
HYMN OF THE DAY (standing) (RED HYMNAL) 782  
*My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*



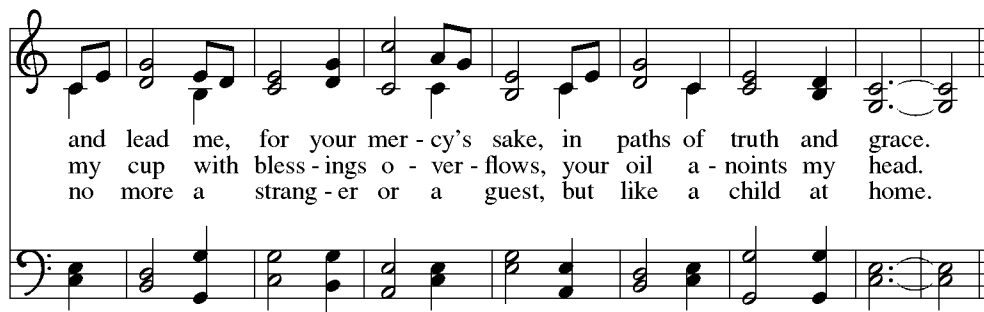
1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.  
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;  
3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.  
one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.  
oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;  
Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.  
no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23  
Music: RESIGNATION, North American traditional



## 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

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*\*Reciting the ancient creeds together connects the church of each generation to the promises made in baptism and to the earliest followers of Christ. The act of saying the creeds embodies how Christian faith is individual and it is shared across generations. If you are new to worship, or if you haven't been baptized or confirmed, or if you aren't sure at this time if you can mean what you are invited to say, remaining silent is also welcome and permitted.*

**In our prayers**

The family of Marilyn Russell, Grace Pointer, Earl, Joan and Susie, Kevin McCole, Tyler, Monica, Julie, Helen, Carol, Tomm, Jen, Edie, Michael, Don, and Mary.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (*standing*)

*Following each petition:*

Risen Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**


**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

*At the end of worship today you may leave an offering in the plate on the table at the entrance to the sanctuary where the bulletins are, or you use our website <[unitedlutheranchurch.org](http://unitedlutheranchurch.org)> and the giving tab on the menu bar. There is also a QR code printed on the last page of the bulletin.*

## OFFERING SONG (RED HYMNAL) 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

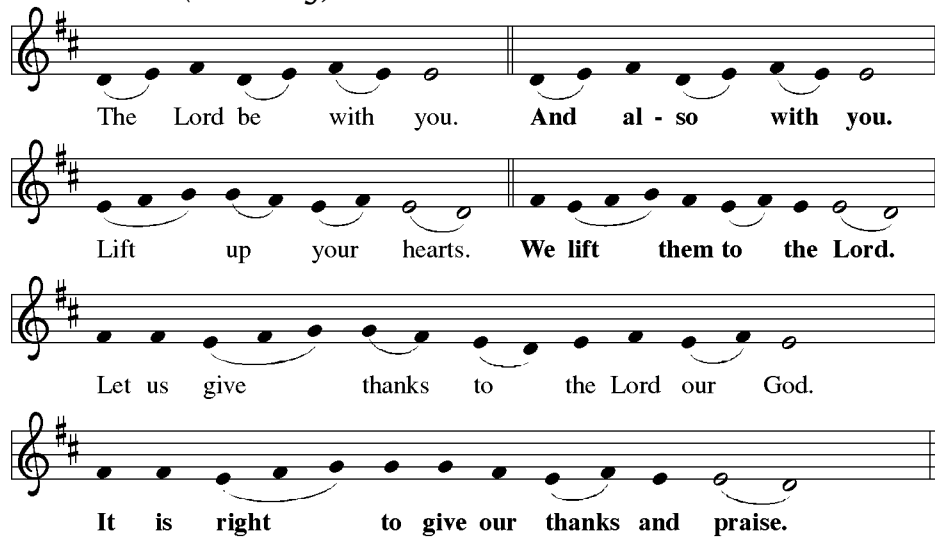
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## OFFERING PRAYER (*assisting minister*)

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.  
**Amen.**

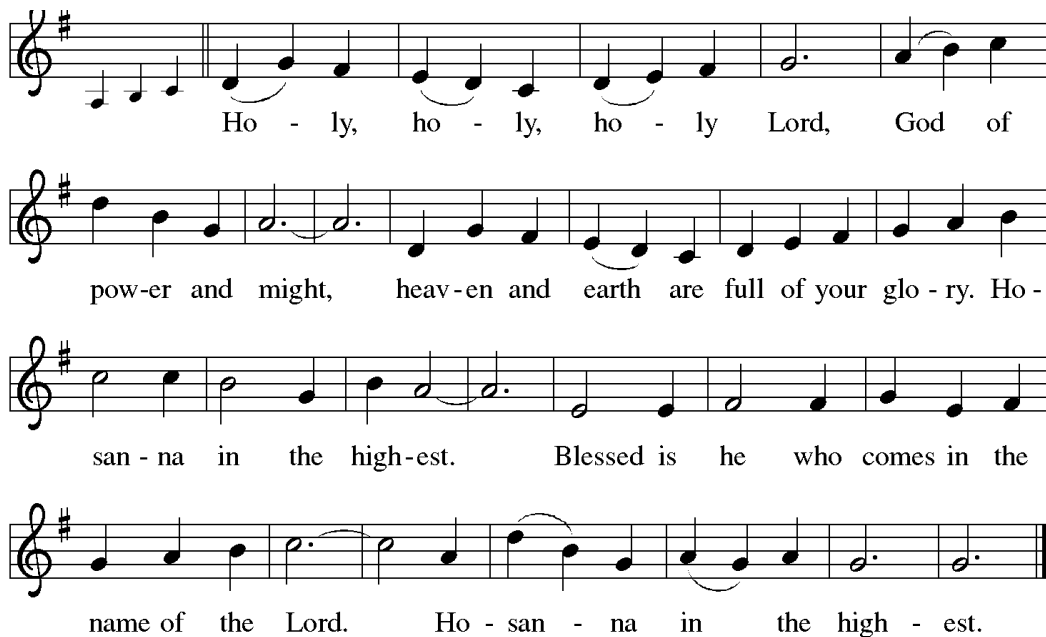
## GREAT THANKSGIVING (*standing*)



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

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 ...  
... with the whole church on earth  
and with the saints of every time and place,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God most mighty,  
O God most merciful,  
O God our rock and our salvation,  
hear us as we praise,  
call us to your table,  
grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,  
you formed order and beauty.  
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,  
you sent them a child;  
When the Israelites were enslaved,  
you led them to freedom.  
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,  
and the psalmists cried out for healing,  
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.  
He was born among the poor,  
he lived under oppression,  
he wept over the city.  
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.  
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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen!**]  
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen!**]  
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [**Amen.**]

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.  
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.  
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.  
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.  
Grant us such life,  
the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,  
life in you, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome to commune. Worshipers seated on the pulpit side come forward in the center aisle first to receive the bread. Then turn to pick up an empty cup for wine or a prepackaged cup of grape juice. An assisting minister will pour wine from the pouring chalice into the empty cup. Return used cups to a tray near the head of the side aisle as you return to your seat.*

## COMMUNION SONG

### *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN (RED HYMNAL) 780

Shepherd Me, O God

All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

death in - to life. *to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5* *to stanza 4* life.

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I  
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you  
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I  
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my  
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.  
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.  
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.



**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** (*led by assisting minister*)

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

**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 (RED HYMNAL) 712

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,  
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;  
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light  
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,

who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed;  
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,  
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;

we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;  
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,  
 hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,

con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.  
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.  
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984  
 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985  
 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.  
 Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
 Thanks be to God.

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#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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#### LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

*Presiding Minister:* Ole Schenk; *Director of Music:* Cacie Miller; *Cantor:* John Halvorson; *Reader:* Kathi Schmitt; *Assisting Minister:* Max Guenther; *Audio Technician:* Tom Guenther; *Zoom Technician:* Galen Willhoft; *Usher:* Rich Liefer; *Altar Guild:* Joyce Immartino; *Sunshine Club:* Arlene O'Meara; *Bread Baker:* Kurt Stadtwald

**Welcome to all** worshipping with us this morning. We invite everyone to commune with us. Join us for a time of fellowship after worship in the fellowship hall on the main level of the building.

**Please record your name** and address on a white communication card, check off additional items as appropriate, and place the card in an offering plate as you leave.

**Interested in membership** at United Lutheran Church or would you like more information on participating in an activity or event? Please call or email the church office (contact information below).

**Midweek Moments** is a weekly email newsletter containing announcements from United Lutheran Church and you can subscribe to it on the *news page* of our website. Printed copies of the latest edition of Midweek Moments are also available on the tables with the worship bulletins at either entrance.

Find us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/unitedlutheranoakpark/>

**Call** the church office: 708-386-1576.

**Email** the church office: [office@unitedlutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@unitedlutheranchurch.org).

**Mailing address:** 409 Greenfield Street, Oak Park, Illinois 60302-1143.

**Website:** [www.unitedlutheranchurch.org](http://www.unitedlutheranchurch.org)

**Contact Pastor Ole Schenk (he/him):** [pastor@unitedlutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@unitedlutheranchurch.org), or 312-863-9747 (cell)



**United Lutheran Church**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.