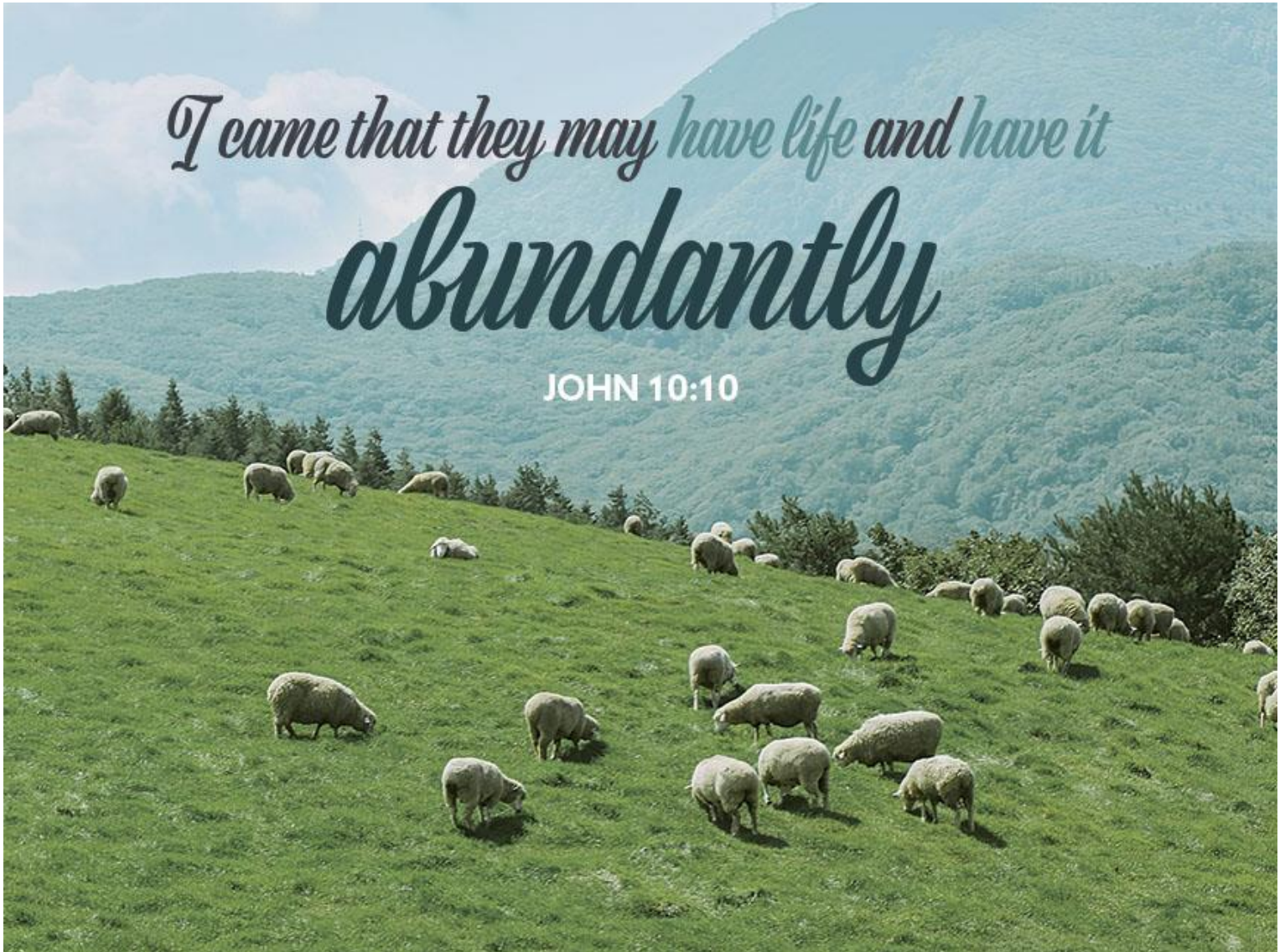


Christ Lutheran Church
115 Church Street, Duncannon, PA 17020
717.834.3140
Pastor Jennifer Toburen
Organist – Joe Abate
www.clcduncannon.org



Sunday, April 26, 2026
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prelude**Announcements**

Congregation please stand

OPENING/CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Followers of Jesus,
Let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

C: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

P: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

**C: Let us give what we can to all who have needs
so that all people, no matter who they are, may regard us with good will.**

P: Let us devote ourselves to prayer and to the gospel.

C: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

From: *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion – Year A, Vol. 1*, ed. Kimberly Bracken Long, p. 148.

PREPARING

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

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

C Amen.

P God has opened to us the gates of righteousness
that we may enter through them.

Confident in God's love, let us confess our sin.

**C Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit
we have been raised from the waters of baptism
to share in your glorious resurrection.
Yet we have not lived as Easter people.
We are unsure of your promise,
confused about your will,
and afraid in the face of danger.
Like Mary, we weep at the tomb,
but do not recognize your presence.
Call us by name, risen Lord,
that we may know you with confidence.
Whenever we are tempted to fear death,
give us courage to confess your Easter victory.
Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts,
Keep our minds on your reconciling love.
Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil,
reveal again to us your triumph
over the destructive powers of oppression.
Forgive our sin
and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation,
through the love of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

P God who raised Jesus from the dead
has not given us over to death.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”

ELW 385

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
 rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.
 Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615
 Text © 1952, ren. 1980 *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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APOSTOLIC 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.

Kyrie

Congregation will sing all of the Kyrie in unison.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Good Shepherd, you call us by name, and we know your voice. Open the gate for us, that we may come and go freely, have life, and have it abundantly. Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

First Reading

Ezekiel 34: 7-15

⁷ Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ⁸ As I live, says the Lord GOD, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep, ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁰ Thus says the Lord GOD: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

¹¹ For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. ¹² As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands!
²Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.
³**Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong;
 we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture.**
⁴Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;
 give thanks and bless God's | holy name.
⁵**Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,
 whose faithfulness endures from | age to age.**

Second Reading

Acts 2: 42-47

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Congregation please stand

Gospel Acclamation
Celtic Alleluia

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

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

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Verse: He is the first fruits from death,
now are our lives filled with glory!
Darkness vanishes
in the light
of his power.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 10: 1-10

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 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 hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

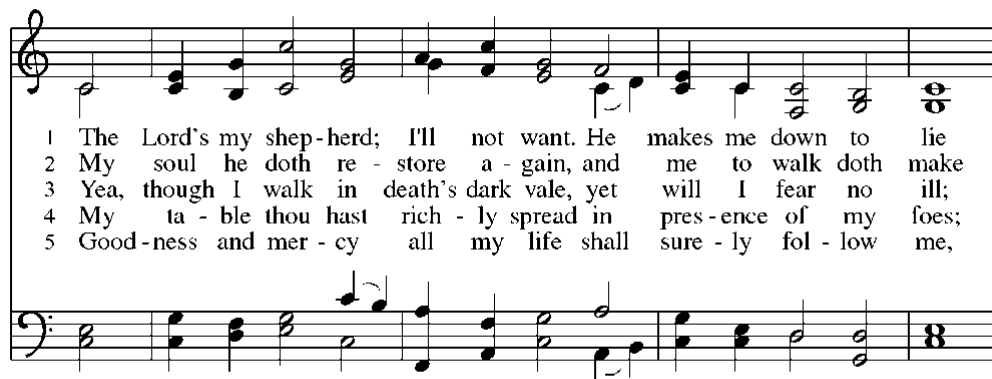
Pastor Jennifer

Hymn of the Day

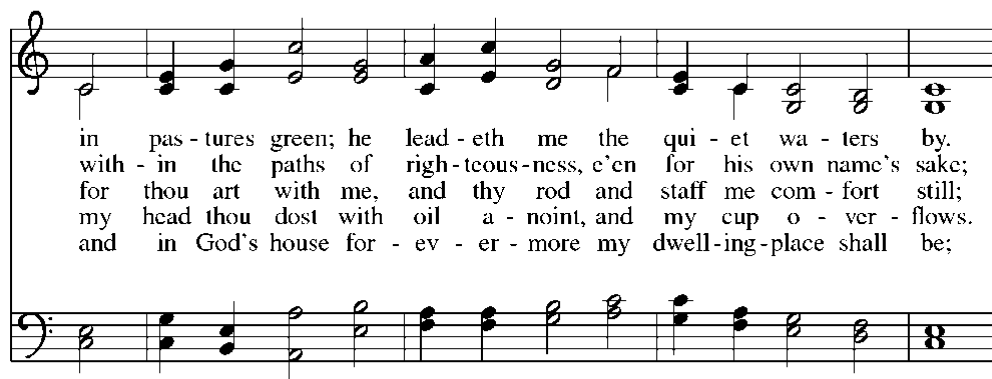
“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

ELW 522

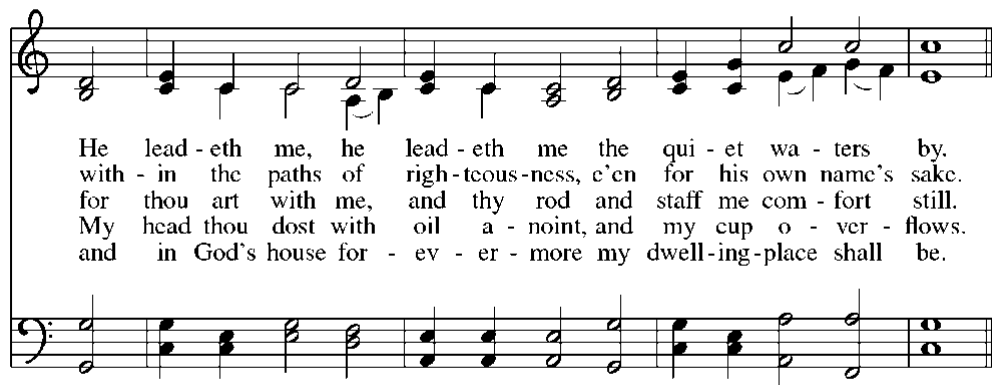
The Lord's My Shepherd



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re-store a-gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta-ble thou hast rich-ly spread in pres-ence of my foes;
 5 Good-ness and mer-cy all my life shall sure-ly fol-low me,



in pas-tures green; he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.
 with-in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com-fort still;
 my head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup o-ver-flows.
 and in God's house for-ev-er-more my dwell-ing-place shall be;



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.
 with-in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com-fort still.
 My head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup o-ver-flows.
 and in God's house for-ev-er-more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

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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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.**

Sign of Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us unite our hearts in prayer, trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, in a dangerous world, let us hear your voice and come and go through your gate. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far.....God of Resurrection,

C hear our prayer.

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation.....God of Resurrection,

C hear our prayer.

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. We pray for the people of the world, their nations and leaders, that your wisdom and peace may govern all, so that no one will fear.....God of Resurrection,

C hear our prayer.

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured. We pray for Shirley, Allan, Charlotte, Jack, Cathy, Roxy, Karen, Darlene, Ron, Chuck, Jessie, Helen, Carol, Millie, Lillian, Marian, Peggy, Glenn, Lisa and Sandy. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit.....God of Resurrection,

C hear our prayer.

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing.....God of Resurrection,

C hear our prayer.

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home.....God of Resurrection,

C hear our prayer.

Blessed are you, Great Shepherd, who through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, gives us goodness and mercy, leads us down right paths, and restores our souls.

Amen.

Stewardship Snippet: John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

Abundant life. Abundance. Abundantly. This idea is a deep one when it comes to thinking about stewardship. This week might provide an opportunity to ponder what this abundant life really might mean, look and feel like. What might abundant life mean for you?

Lector - We will now worship God with our offering.

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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

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MEAL

P Let us pray,

C Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P 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;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and slurs. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
 You are most holy,
 and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
 so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
 but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
 to fulfill for us your holy will
 and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
 we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
 his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
 and the promise of his coming again,
 we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
 not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
 and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
 and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
 so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
 may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
 and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
 may be formed to live as your holy people
 and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
 Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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**

P So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who are wandering still.

Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Amen.

*Please be seated***Be Known to us, Lord Jesus**

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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

Holy Communion

Prepackaged communion is available for those who wish to remain in the pews.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

ELW 484, 496, 789

Congregation please stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
 2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
 till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
 till rap - tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin - ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Post Communion Prayer

P 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.

SENDING**Charge**

P Go in the joy of resurrection:
purify your souls;
be obedient to the truth;
be genuine in love,
through the living and enduring Word of God.

Blessing


P May the God who calls us by name
lead you out to green pastures
and lead you in the safety of Christ's fold.
Amen.

Dismissal

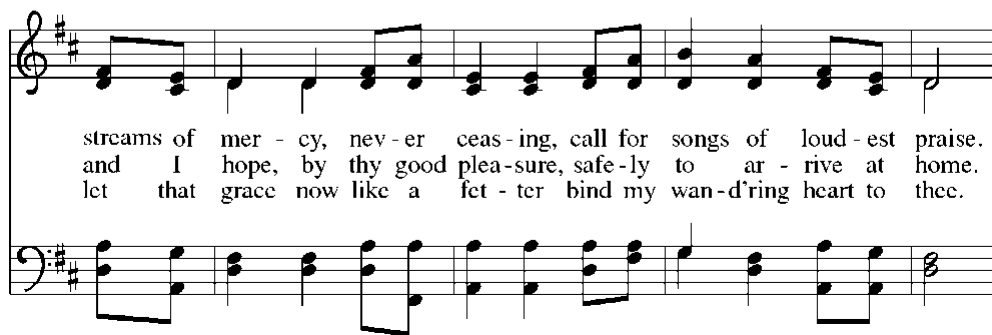
P Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Sending Hymn***“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*****ELW 807**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



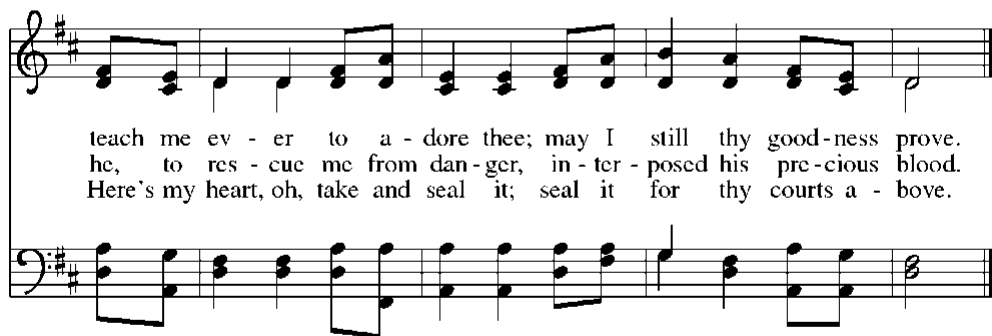
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - c - zer: "Hith-cr by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

P We at Christ Lutheran Church are

C **God's called, Loved Children who serve.**

P Go in Peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Christ Lutheran Church Staff

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Email: pastorjenn.clc.duncannon@gmail.com

Organist: Joe Abate – Email: - jeagdp@aol.com

Council President: Bill Brookhart – Email: billbrookhart195@gmail.com

Secretary: Cindy Brookhart – Email: cbsecretaryclc@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ann Fleisher – Email: TreasurerCLC@live.com

Sexton: Judy Swartz - Email: gammy2072@gmail.com

Prayer Concerns

Shirley Hoffman, Pat Reich, Elyse Brown, Allan Imler, Sylvia Webb & the Indian Mobile Mission, Join Hands, Loads of Love, Neighbor Helping Neighbor, Brian Proctor, Joanne Reisinger, Jackie Maguire, Jack Smith, Cathy Cavanaugh, Charlotte Dyer, Rachelle Gilcrease, Roxy Huss, Karen Ersoz, Carol Darr, Darlene Johnson, Ron Hoffman, Ron & Nancy Moore, Chuck Hoffman, Helen Huss, Jessie Frye, Carol Shumaker, Millie Bell, Lillian Kistler, Marian Hoffman, Hope Kominek, Matthew Landis, Peggy Paden, Glenn Shumaker, Chris Hope, Velma Wittlinger, Lindsey Melnick, Judy Moore, Donna Kistler, Kristen Gaisior, Charlene McBride, Gay Weller, Sandy Hoover, the family of Clyde Jr, Frank Valentine, Lisa Dubay, Shelly Hill, the family of Joanne Speis, Samantha Moyer, David Siegfried, Sr., the family of Robert Caradonna, Jesse Clouser and Family, Sandy Morrison.

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The Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God

By Nancy Carpenter

In Loving Memory of her Husband Donald.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector/prayers – Beverly Reifsnyder

Next Sunday – Sue Masser

Wine – Ann Fleisher

Next Sunday- Beverly Reifsnyder

Grape Juice – Bill Brookhart

Next Sunday – Becky Yohe

Altar Guild – Brianne Chubb

Next Sunday – Clyde Tota

Counters – Becky Meisel, Sue Landis

Next Sunday – Kendra Masser, Joe Kistler

Ushers – Team 1

Bill Brookhart, Joe Kistler,

Terry Kuhn, Becky Yohe

SUNDAY, April 26, 2026

The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Worship service – 11:00am – Holy Communion
Bible Study – 7pm - Zoom
Birthday – Darlene Johnson

MONDAY, April 27th, 2026TUESDAY, April 28th 2026

Bible Study – 1pm - Zoom
Community Outreach Committee meeting – 7pm - Zoom

WEDNESDAY, April 29th, 2026

CLC Book Club Discussion – 7pm - Zoom
Birthday – Lillian Kistler

THURSDAY, April 30th, 2026

LWR Quilters – 1:00pm

FRIDAY, May 1st, 2026SATURDAY, May 2nd, 2026

Spring Clean Up Day - Outdoors
9:30am – 12pm
Birthdays – Velma Wittlinger & Evan Still

SUNDAY, May 3rd, 2026

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
Worship service – 11:00 am - Holy Communion
Kitchen House Cleaning – Following the worship service.
Bible Study – 7:00pm – Zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Deadline – The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is TODAY. Please send your articles to Charlene Lentvorsky at cmsky620@gmail.com.

Appalachian Trail Hiker Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – The dinner will be held on Saturday, May 9th from 4 to 7pm, or until sold out. The cost of a ticket is \$10 per adult; \$5 for 12 and under. The meal includes spaghetti & meatballs, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. Tickets are available for pre-sale. The congregation is asked to donate desserts. There is a sign up sheet available.

April Meeting/Events

April 28 – Community Outreach committee meeting – 7pm – Zoom
 April 29 – CLC Book Club discussion – 7pm - Zoom

May Meetings/Events

May 2 – Spring Cleanup – Outdoors – 9:30am – 12pm
 May 3 – Spring Cleanup in the church kitchen – following worship.
 May 9 – AT Hiker Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, 4 – 7pm (or until sold out)
 May 11 – Finance committee meeting – 7pm – Zoom
 May 13 – AT Hiker Spaghetti Dinners begin. 5-7pm
 May 14 – Church Council meeting – 6:30pm
 May 26 – Bible Study – **11am** - Zoom
 Visit to Christ Lutheran Church, Harrisburg to tour the medical clinic.
 (more info to come)
 Community Outreach committee meeting – 7pm – Zoom

CLC WISH LIST - Dinner Napkins

GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 26, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Our Good Shepherd

The images in today's texts provide us with much food for thought and action. Psalm 23 tells of a shepherd who leads us to green pastures and refreshing waters, walks alongside us as we face challenging times, takes us to a table already set, and anoints us with oil to mark each of us as chosen. We are heard, seen, known, valued, and loved, and remain in the Shepherd's presence for all time.

Jesus' words in the gospel reading add to the image of a loving and caring shepherd. The shepherd calls each sheep by name, while the sheep follow because they recognize that voice. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows us well and calls each of us by name. Jesus also serves as the gate for the sheep, guarding and protecting us in the sheepfold, while also providing access to pastureland. This protection and access give us the space to be who we are, with no need to play games or pretend to be someone we are not. And when it comes right down to it, the Good Shepherd comes to give us abundant life—new life in relationship with God, others, and all creation.

The reading from Acts 2 provides an image of abundant life among the early Christians, a life with an extravagance of worship, fellowship, prayer, generosity, service to others, and thankfulness.

How does the image of the Good Shepherd sit with you? How do you picture the relationship between you and Jesus—with shepherd and sheep imagery, or something else? Where and how do you recognize the Good Shepherd's voice? Do you know someone who has abundant life in Christ—a life of faith, joy, and love? What would such a life look like for you, and for your faith community?

