



April 7, 2024

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Tim Denney | Office Phone (218) 722-4364 | Cell (517) 392-8494 | www.dulutheran.org

WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more announcements and event information, sign up for our weekly email here: <https://www.dulutheran.org/subscribe>.

Altar Flowers: Pastor and Dawn Denney gave the flowers on the altar this morning to the glory of God in celebration of Dawn's mom, Ginger's birthday.

Midweek Bible Study: This Wednesday, April 10th, Midweek Bible study resumes at 6:30 PM. Our Bible Studies for the spring will focus on the theme: "Great Women of the Bible". During Adult Bible study, the children will meet in the fellowship hall. We hope you can join us for this opportunity to study God's Word!

Midweek Services: This Wednesday, our Midweek services resume at 7:30 PM. This service is a repeat of the service from Sunday morning. If you are working or out of town on the weekend, this is a great opportunity to stay connected to the Word and our church.

Quarterly Meeting: On **Sunday, April 21st**, we will have a Quarterly Update Meeting after church in the fellowship hall.

Spring SOTH Clean-up Day: April 27th Weather permitting, we'll try to spruce up the lawns and gardens and parking lots after another long winter. Regardless of the weather, there are also lots of indoor spring cleaning projects such as cleaning windows and screens, cleaning pews, dusting the stained glass windows, washing marks off the walls and similar projects. We hope to start about **9:00 a.m.** Please feel free to come for an hour or two or more if you like. Saturday, April 27 starting at 9:00 AM. Please speak with David Hedin if you have any questions.

OPENING HYMN

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

CW 338



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light.



Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your head up - on my breast."
The liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; Stoop down and drink and live."
Look un - to me; your morn shall rise And all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, Wea - ry and worn and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found In him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

INVOCATION

P: Jesus has promised: "Where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."
(Matthew 18:20) We worship, therefore, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN & GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

P: Dear God, our perfect, heavenly Father, nothing is hidden from you. You have searched us and you know us. You perceive our thoughts from afar. You are familiar with our ways. (Psalm 139)

C: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness.
(Psalm 130)

Continued on the next page...

continued from the previous page.

- P: Therefore, Lord, hear our prayer. Listen to our cry for mercy, and in your faithfulness come to our relief. Show us the way we should go, for to you we lift up our soul. We confess our sins to you:
- C: **Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all of our heart, and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. May your forgiveness give peace to our hearts, strength to our will, and rest to our souls.**
- P: God, in his great mercy, has given his only Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Jesus promises, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." Friends in Christ, our Savior has brought you freedom from guilt and given you peace. Through his death and resurrection, all your sins are completely forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.**

RESPONSE OF FORGIVENESS

"O Lord, Our Lord"
p.28 in front of Hymnal

Please sing at the beginning of the music...

**O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.
Almight-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa-ther, you crown our life with your love.
You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;
You make us pure and ho-ly in your sight.
You did not spare your on-ly Son, but gave him up for us all.
O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.
O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther,
You came to live with us; you made your Fa-ther known;
You washed us from our sins in your own blood.
You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!
O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: O risen Lord, you came to your disciples, and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 26:19-29

¹⁹“So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. ²⁰ First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. ²¹ That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. ²² But I have had God’s help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen— ²³ that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴ At this point Festus interrupted Paul’s defense. “You are out of your mind, Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving you insane.” ²⁵ “I am not insane, most excellent Festus,” Paul replied. “What I am saying is true and reasonable. ²⁶ The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner. ²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do.” ²⁸ Then Agrippa said to Paul, “Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?” ²⁹ Paul replied, “Short time or long—I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 16

pg. 68 in front of the Hymnal

Refrain

Psalm tone

Keep me safe, O God,*
for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord;*
apart from you I have no good thing.”

I have set the LORD always before me.*
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Refrain

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;*
my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the grave,*
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

You have made known to me the path of life;*
you will fill me with joy in your presence.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Alleluia. (John 20:29)

C: **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

SECOND READING

1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

(THE NICENE CREED)

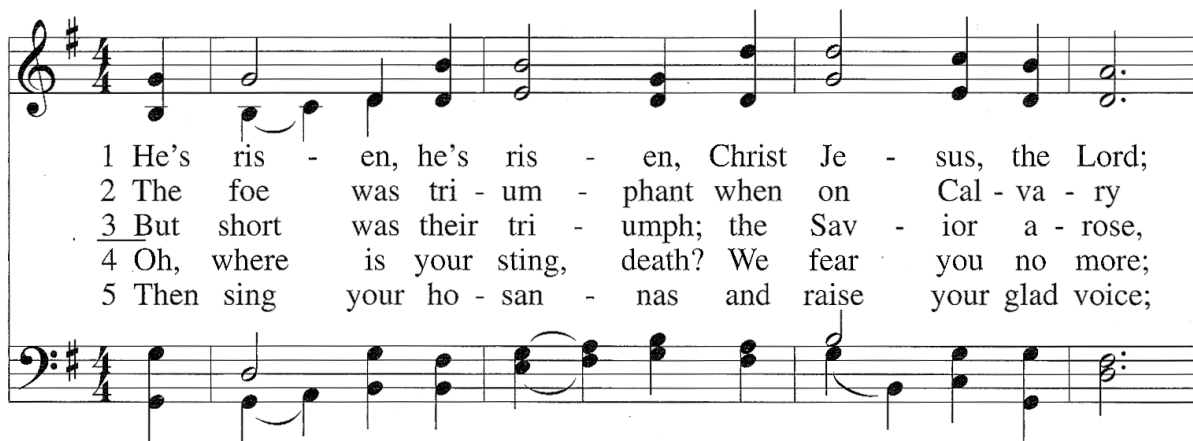
**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**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 fully 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.**

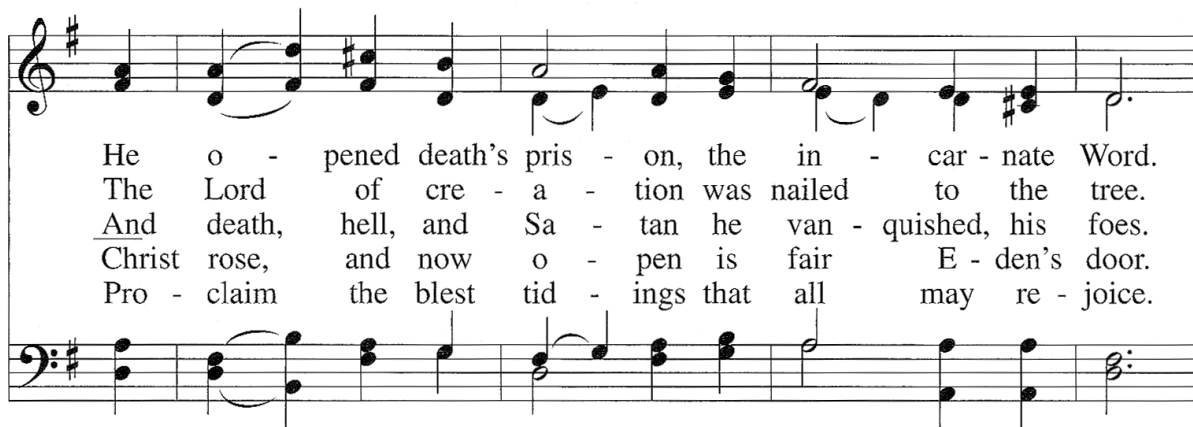
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy
Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

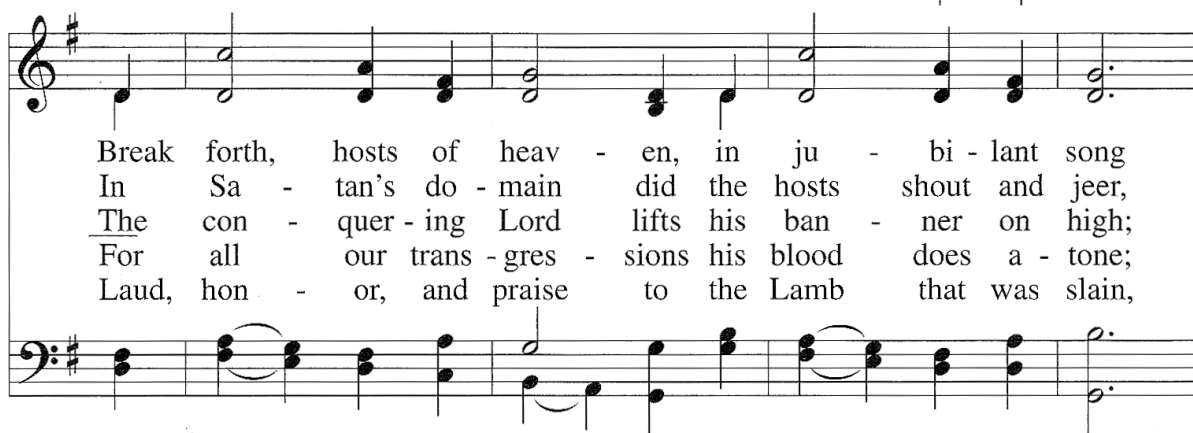
Children in attendance today may come up to the altar steps and sit for a special devotion with Pastor Denney. This service segment is intended to be more interactive and engage the children to help them understand today's message. They will return to their seats afterward.



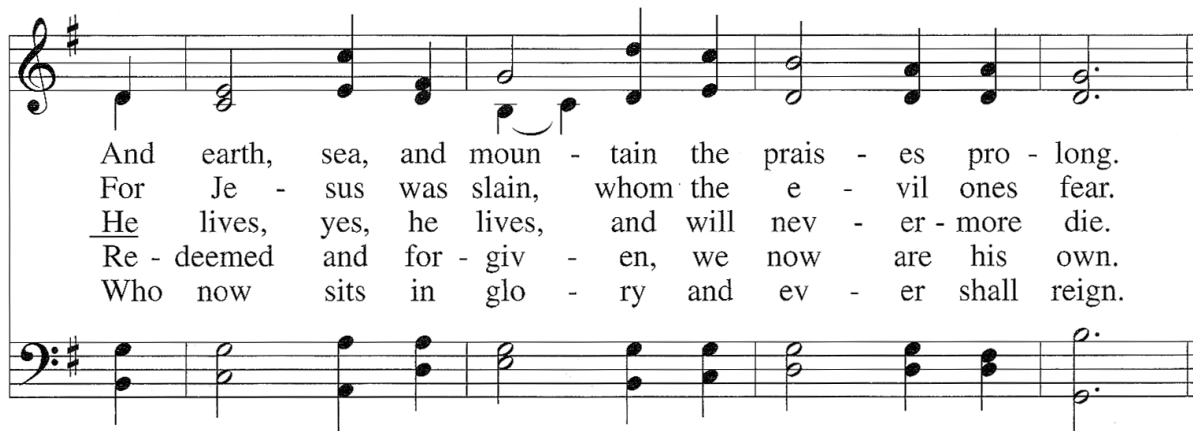
1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
 2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
 3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
 4 Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
 The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
 And death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.
 Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
 Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
 In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
 The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;
 For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;
 Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain,



And earth, sea, and moun - tain the prais - es pro - long.
 For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
 He lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.
 Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.
 Who now sits in glo - ry and ev - er shall reign.

✠ THE MESSAGE ✠

RESURRECTION REALITY

“Peace is Yours in Christ”

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” ²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS

Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior’s love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, visit our website: www.dulutheran.org and click on the “Give” tab.

✠ PRAYERS ✠

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Prayer and petitions offered on behalf of the Church

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.

† SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER †

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

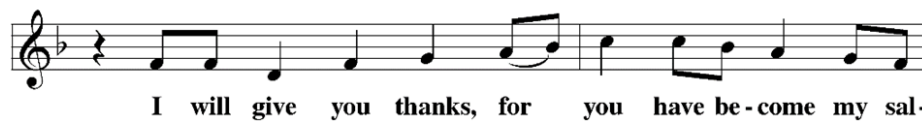
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Continued from the previous page.

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful gift in which we receive Christ's true body and blood for our forgiveness and the strengthening of our faith. It is our practice that only those who are members of Shepherd of the Hills or members of another WELS congregation come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you are a visitor from another Christian church, we kindly ask that you refrain from participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. If you are interested in learning more about becoming part of our fellowship, please speak to Pastor Denney after the service.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

CW 165

Printed on the back of the Message Notes

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

“Thank the Lord”

After a brief introduction, please sing...



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. 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.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Alleluia! Jesus Lives”

CW 153

Printed on the back page.

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus lives! He is now the liv - ing one;
 2 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice; Praise him, ran-somed ones of earth.
 3 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and fre - quent sigh?
 4 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, Life is yours e - ter - nal - ly;

From the gloom - y house of death Forth the con - quer - or has gone,
 Praise him in a no - bler song, Cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.
 He who died our broth - er here Lives our broth - er still on high,
 Joined to him, your liv - ing head, Where he is, you too shall be;

Bright fore - run - ner to the skies Of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
 Praise the Vic - tor - King, whose sway Sin and death and hell o - bey.
 Lives for - ev - er to be - stow Bless - ings on his Church be - low.
 You with him at his right hand Vic - tor o - ver death shall stand.