Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024



Gethsemane Lutheran Church 3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

Worship God, welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.

Welcome to worship! We're delighted you are here!



Gethsemane Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. You are welcome here.



We ask all members, guests, and visitors to please fill out the **attendance slip** in your worship folder and place it in the offering plate.



Please **silence** phones and other devices during the worship service. Sharing that you're at Gethsemane on social media is encouraged! "Check in" using hashtag: #glcstlCheckIn.



The presence, energy, and noise of **children** are always welcome in worship at Gethsemane. The sound of a child in worship is music to our ears. We welcome and encourage kids to move and play. Additional space to move and Wiggle Bags are located in the narthex entry area.



Postures are a way in which we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are optional; please engage in them only as you are comfortable or able.



Holy Communion is offered to all who seek the presence of Christ. This is a welcome table.



Gethsemane Lutheran Church wishes to acknowledge and honor the Osage, Quapaw, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówin, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place—this land—and call it their home.

CHURCH STAFF

Minister: Pastor Cheryl Walenta Gorvie Office Manager: Kimberly Elliott

Connections Coordinator: Gretchen Jenson

Music Director: Dr. Aria Thomé

Organist: Amy Crousore

Council President: Gary Borkowski

pastor@gethsemanestl.org office@gethsemanestl.org connect@gethsemanestl.org musicdirector@gethsemanestl.org organist@gethsemanestl.org gvborkowski@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am – 2pm and Fridays 8am – noon.

Church Office – (314) 352-8050

office@gethsemanestl.org

www.gethsemanestl.org

Now the Feast and Celebration

The image of the good shepherd 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.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: Build a Longer Table

arr. by Mark Sedio

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: 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.

P: Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: 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.

P: Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN: My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

Hymn# 782



- 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. Public Domain.

GREETING:

P: 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:



PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: 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

The congregation is seated.

MISSION MOMENT with Church Council

WORD

THE FIRST READING: ACTS 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.

⁷When they had made the prisoners Peter and John stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed,

¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There 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.

PSALM: PSALM 23

The choir will lead the singing of the Psalm with the congregation singing the bolded lines.

¹The LORD | is my shepherd; I shall not | be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.

³You restore my | soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴Though 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.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶Surely 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

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us— and we ought to lay down our lives for the members of the community. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees someone in need and yet refuses help?

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

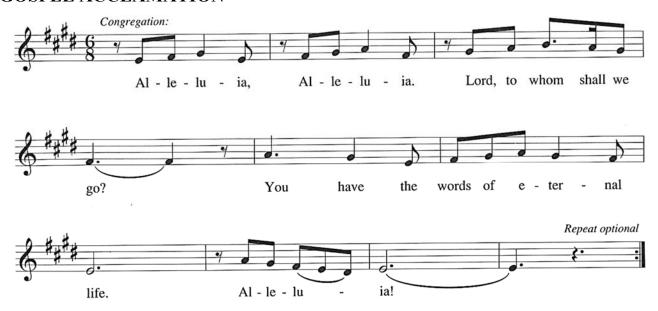
²³And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and love one another, just as Jesus has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey God's commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit that God has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

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

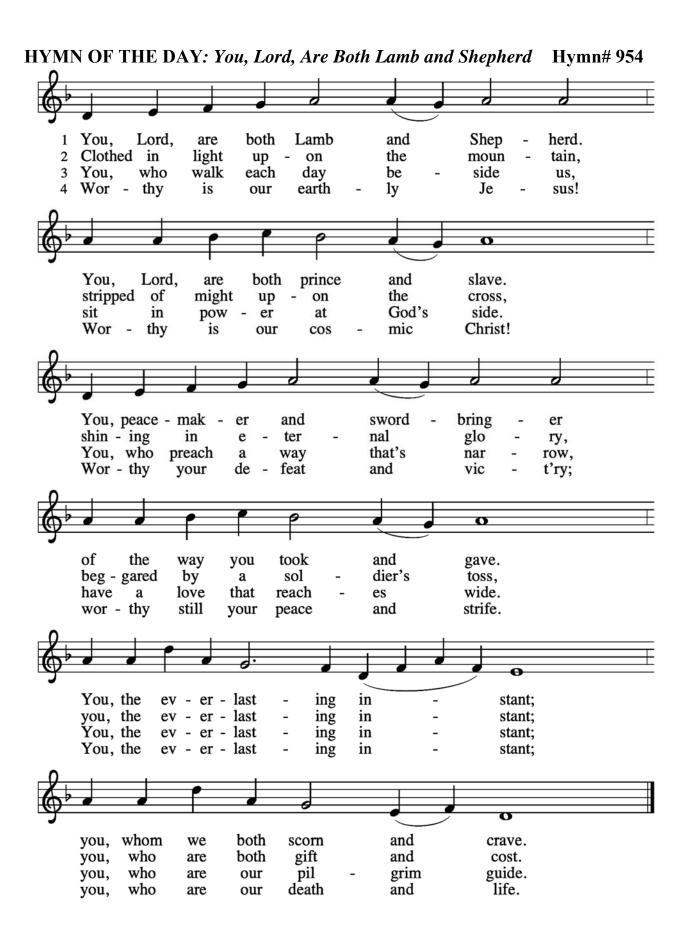
Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

The congregation may stand as comfortable.



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993. Music: Picardy, French folk tune, 17th cent. Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of Martin Luther, taken from the small catechism, the explanation of the second article of the Apostles' creed.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity, and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

THE PRAYERS

AM: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

AM: ... God of grace,

hear our prayer.

P: 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.

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also, with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.**

The congregation is seated.

MEAL

THE OFFERING: The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

MUSICAL OFFERING: Good Shepherd May I Sing Thy Praise arr. David S. Walker

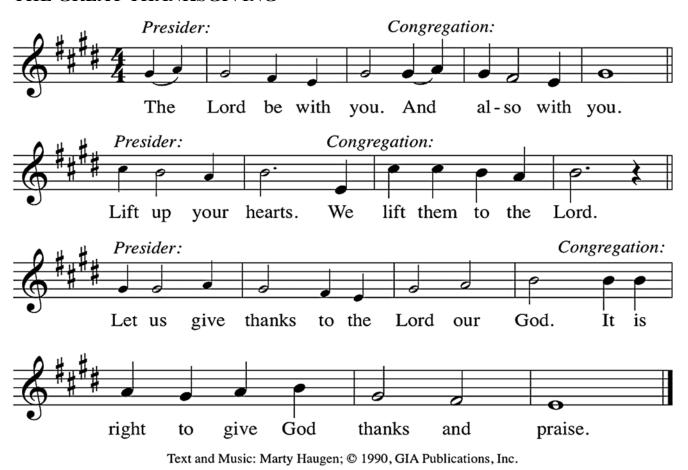
The congregation may stand as comfortable.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is our duty and delight... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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.

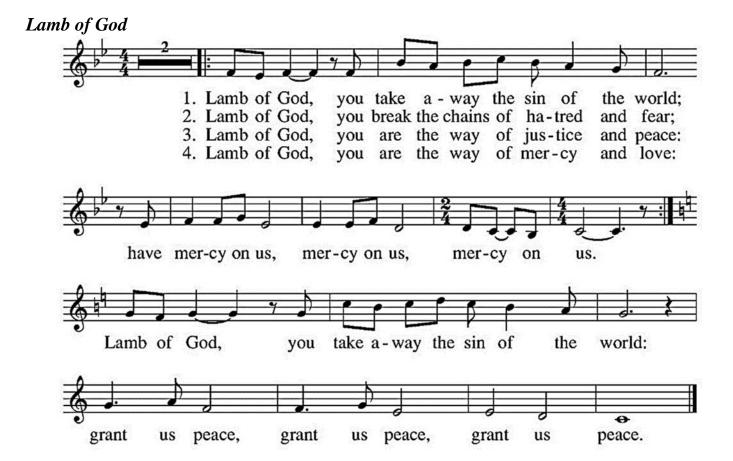
COMMUNION

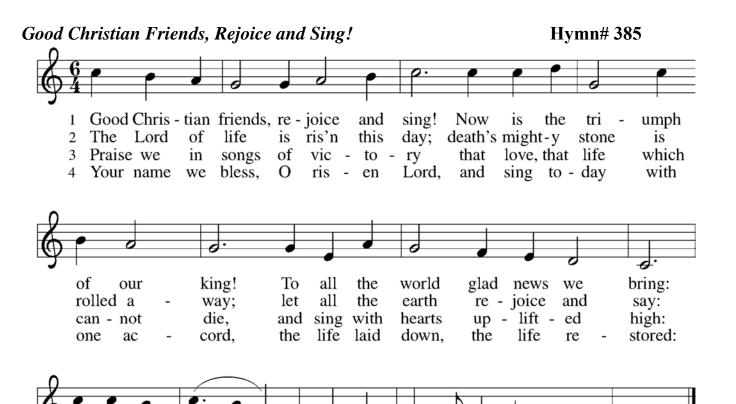
P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

The congregation is seated.

All who seek the Lord are welcome at Christ's table to receive the gift of God's grace! Those not receiving the bread and wine are welcome to come for a blessing. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:





Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt. Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, VULPIUS, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615. Text © 1952, ren. 1980 Hymns Ancient & Modern (admin. Hope Publishing Co.). All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

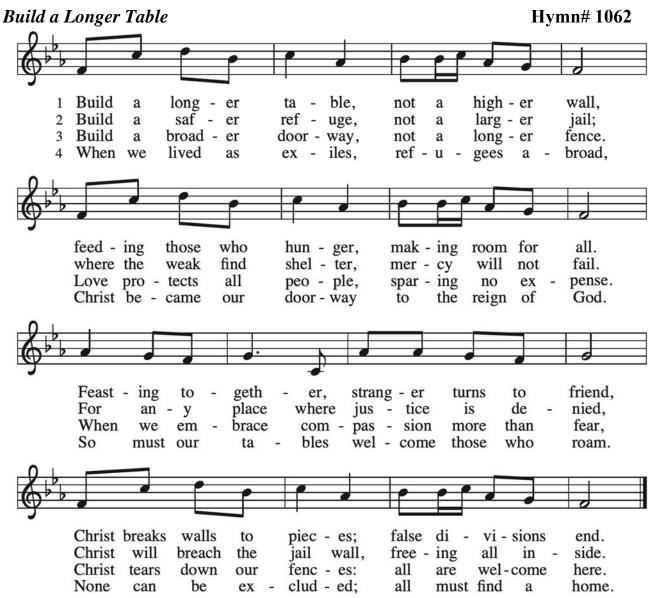
al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu

ia!

-



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984. Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol. Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

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

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923. Music: ENVIADO, Anonymous, Central America. English text © 1998 and arr © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

AM: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

These are ways we welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

Amen



Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere. All rights reserved. ASCAP. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

DISMISSAL

AM: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: *Spring* from the Four Seasons

Antonio Vivaldi,
Arr. Hal Hopson

Text: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953. From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS007854. Worship songs are reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953. Used by permission. Copyright ©2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. These materials have been prepared by Augsburg Fortress for provisional use. Citations from Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations based on Readings for the Assembly © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress; NRSV Bible © 1989 and NRSV Bible © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Adapted and edited by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw. May be reproduced with a SundaysAndSeasons.com subscription for non-sale local use by worship leaders from September 1, 2022, through November 30, 2025.

We invite all **members**, **guests**, and **visitors** to join us for coffee and refreshments between services in the Walter Eckman Fellowship Hall downstairs.



Today's flowers were given by the Elliott family in celebration of life and its many blessings.

| WORSHIP LEADERS | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| | 8:30am | 11:00am | | |
| GREETER | Lois Wind | Deb Schaller | | |
| USHER | Richard Lima | Nancy Lubke | | |
| USHER | John Sandberg | Peggy Lewis | | |
| ASSISTING MINISTER | Rick Schuessler | Natalie Fontana | | |
| LECTOR | Elizabeth Penny | Steve Walentik | | |
| CHILDREN'S SERMON | Lindsay Schuessler | | | |
| ALTAR GUILD | Melissa DeVore | | | |
| CAMERA | Gretchen Jenson | N/A | | |
| BREAD BAKER | Richardson Family | | | |
| WINE | Steve Brown | | | |
| BP PERSON | Melissa Tepe | | | |
| FELLOWSHIP HOST | Walentik Family | | | |
| DONUT DRIVER | Keith Paulson | | | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Request of the Month: This month, we continue collecting toilet paper and menstrual pads for our Food Pantry Partners: Isaiah 58 and St. Anthony's. Items may be placed on the shelves of the collection unit located in the main hall next to the Council corkboard and family mailboxes. Items placed in the grocery cart will be placed in Gethsemane's Little Free Pantry.

Volunteer Appreciation Day: There is only one service next Sunday, April 28th. Worship will be at **10:00am** followed by a volunteer appreciation potluck. The Church Council will provide fried chicken. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please note there will be **NO Sunday School** on this day.

Do you have a high school or college student in your household who will graduate this spring? We want to shout them out! Please send a picture and a brief paragraph about your graduate and their future plans to the office by 2pm tomorrow, Monday, April 22nd, to be included in the May issue of the *Messenger*.

Women's Luncheon: The next Women's Luncheon is tomorrow, Monday, April 22nd at 11:30am. We will gather at Favazza's on the Hill.

Attention Church Mice: We have updated the available church repair options. A complete list is available in the hallway outside of the kitchen in the basement. There you will find pictures of the work that needs to be completed and instructions. Simply select a job you are interested in by taking the sheet and following the steps on the instruction sheet to learn more about the specific job, the equipment needed, and to schedule a time to complete the job.

Vacation Bible School RETURNS! All potty-trained four-year-olds to those currently in the 5th grade are welcome to join us for the return of Vacation Bible School at Gethsemane, July 29-August 2, 2024! VBS will run from 9am-noon, and we are once again offering after care (aka VBS+) from 12pm-5:30pm! The VBS+ will be run and supervised by Anja Walentik, a professional 1st grade teacher. Cost for VBS only (9am-12pm) is \$30/child or \$60/two or more children. Cost is \$100/child or \$200/two or more children for VBS+ (9am-12pm PLUS 12-5:30pm) See the Friday e-newsletter or church website for more information.

Lost Necklace: Did you lose a necklace over Easter? A necklace was recently turned into the church office. It features a shape, a flower, and a letter. If you can describe your missing necklace, we would be happy to return it to you.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar April 21 - 28, 2024

| Today | 8:30 am | Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube | |
|----------------|----------|---|--|
| | 9:45 am | Sunday School and Fellowship | |
| | 10:00 am | Committee Meetings | |
| | 11:00 am | Worship Service | |
| | 5:00 pm | Vocal Choir Rehearsal | |
| | | | |
| 4/22 Monday | 6:00 pm | Bell Choir | |
| | | | |
| 4/23 Tuesday | 10:00 am | Bible Study | |
| | | | |
| 4/24 Wednesday | 10:00 am | Staff Meeting | |
| | | | |
| 4/28 Sunday | 10:00 am | Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube | |
| | 11:00 am | Volunteer Appreciation Potluck | |
| | 12:00 pm | Youth Gathering Meeting | |
| | 5:00 pm | Vocal Choir Rehearsal | |

Upcoming Dates to Consider

| Date | Time | Event |
|----------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Friday, May 17 | | June Messenger Information Due |
| Sunday, May 26 | 9:30 am | Return to Summer Single Services |

Blood Pressure (BP): First and third Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall.

Women's Luncheon: Fourth Monday of every month.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Deanna Brooker: healing and strength Stephen Brown: healing and strength Sue Flaxbart: healing after hip surgery

Mike Fenton: health management, patience, understanding

Damien and Neil Gustafson: healing and strength

Barb Johnson: increase in mobility and decrease in pain

Lilie Niebuhr: healing and patience Sharon Salerno: healing and strength

Kate Schejbal: recovery after hospitalization

Tatum Family

William Unsicker: recovery from surgery

| Request for: | On Behalf of: |
|---|---------------------|
| My brother, Sam (grieving the passing of his dog, Calvin) | Lily Bennett |
| Ami's dad (full and speedy recovery from surgery) | Boehlje Family |
| Understanding upon the death of Austin and Crystal | Amy Crousore |
| People of Haiti | DeVore Family |
| Family of Christy Scheidt upon the death of her father | Elliott Family |
| Celeste, Jeff, Judy, Sr. Pat (comfort, peace, healing, strength); new parents: Nate and Danielle (patience, rest, peace) | Garrett Finazzo |
| My sister Maripat (recovering from infection) | Sue Hackmann |
| Parents (continued health); Sheila (health); Jami (healing); Alex (healing); Daron (happiness); Cindy (healing); Farmers of the world | Cat Leonard |
| Darlene's mom (comfort, strength) | McElwee Family |
| Friend Jennifer W. (health) | Judy Miller |
| My mom, Donna (healing after surgery) | Cayce Morice |
| Pat Fulton (healing, strength); Ginny Olson (healing, strength); safe travel; those impacted by disasters; the people of Gaza and Occupied Territories; for peace with justice in our world | Olson-Fulton Family |
| Michelle Stewart (healing, courage) | Penny Family |
| Mary's brother Carl (healing) | Scanlan Family |
| Trish and family (tragic loss of son) | Schaller Family |
| Courage for family members | Kate Schejbal |
| Paula in Zambia (help with post-COVID breathing) | Schmidt Family |
| Thank you, Jesus, for teaching to love all God's creations! | Star-Hunter Family |

Gethsemane is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation Affirmation of Welcome

Christ's welcome knows no boundaries! Therefore, our welcome knows no boundaries and we invite all people to full participation in the life of the congregation.

We at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saint Louis embrace...

People of any race or ethnicity...

People who are male, female, transgender, or any other gender identity...

People of any age...

People wherever they are, or wherever they have been, on their faith journeys...

People who are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated or partnered...

People who are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or any other sexual orientation...

People with a variety of political perspectives...

People who have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record...

People who are homeowners, renters, living with parents, or homeless...

People who are fully-abled, disabled, or of differing abilities...

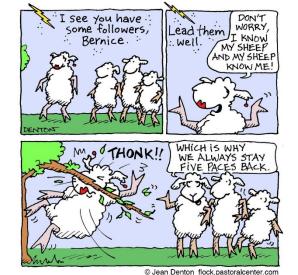
People of differing educational backgrounds...

People of any socio-economic condition...

People not mentioned above, all of whom are created and loved by God!

As we celebrate and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation, we pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. We are committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith.

Sunday Funnies: The Sunday Flock is printed with permission through Pastoral Center.



This Bulletin is 100% recyclable. If you would like to keep your copy, please do so. If you are done with your copy, please place it in the basket provided as you exit the sanctuary.