

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11th, 2025



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 Šakówiŋ, 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
Connections Coordinator: Gretchen Jenson
Music Director: Dr. Aria Thomé
Organist: Amy Crousore
Council President: Gary Borkowski
Office Manager: Eve Cooney

pastor@gethsemanestl.org
glcstlsocialmedia@gmail.com
gethsemane.choirs@gmail.com
amycrousore@gmail.com
gvborkowski@gmail.com
office@gethsemanestl.org

Office Hours: Vary. Please call before coming to the church to ensure someone will be here to let you in.

Church Office – (314) 352-8050

office@gethsemanestl.org

www.gethsemanestl.org

Holy Communion, Now the Feast and Celebration

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Ancient Irish Melody arr. by John Carter

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (ELW p.97)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN: *The Day of Resurrection!*

HYMN# 361

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Now the Feast and Celebration*

HYMN# 167

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

The congregation is seated.

WORD

THE FIRST READING: ACTS 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 23

A cantor will lead the singing of the Psalm with the congregation singing the bolded lines.

¹ The Lord [|] is my shepherd;
I shall not [|] be in want.

² **The Lord makes me lie down [|] in green pastures
and leads me be- [|] side still waters.**

³ You restore my [|] soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways [|] for your name’s sake.

⁴ **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.**

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

⁶ **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: REVELATION 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

²² At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

HYMN# 789

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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR PARENTS AND ANCESTORS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

AM: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

AM: . . . Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

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, using the words of the risen Lord:
Peace be with you.

*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: *The Good Shepherd*

Richard Leach and Carl Schalk

The congregation rises in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

THE 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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation:

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

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

COMMUNION

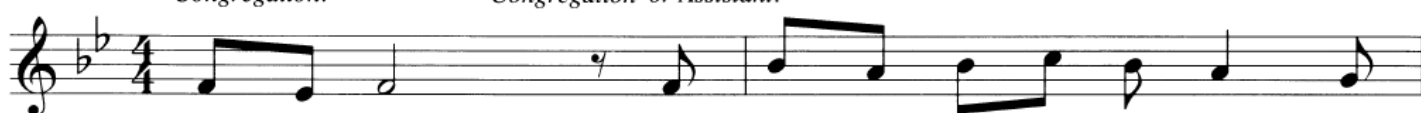
P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

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: *Lamb of God*

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you broke the bonds of sin and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



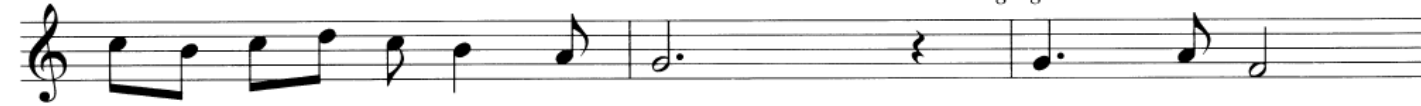
world:
death; have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
peace:
love:

Final time Cong. or assistant:




mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

HYMN# 843

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

HYMN# 502

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 PRAYER

AM: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After making this time to worship God, these are ways we welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

HYMN# 768

DISMISSAL

AM: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

AM: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

African-American Spiritual
arr. by Kurt Kaiser

“The earliest known performance of the song was attested by a woman named “Aunt” Mary Dines, an escaped slave from Maryland who for a time served as the Lincoln family’s private cook and also cooked for displaced slaves at Camp Barker, which was along one of Abraham Lincoln’s routes into and out of Washington, D.C.” – Hymnodyarchive.com

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The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Barb Johnson
in memory of her mom, Ruth M. Johnson, on Mother's Day.



WORSHIP LEADERS		
PRESIDER	Rev. Cheryl Walenta Gorvie	
GREETER	Kate Hartz	Deb Schaller
USHERS	Cayce Morice John Sandberg	Denise Buehrer Rob Schainker
ASSISTING MINISTER	Natalie T. Fontana	Maryn Olson
LECTOR	Mike Schmidt	Barb Johnson
CHILDREN'S SERMON	Pastor Cheryl	
BREAD BAKER	Sarah Bohnert	
FELLOWSHIP HOST	<i>Available</i>	
DONUT DRIVER	Adam Rentchler	
ALTAR GUILD	Bauer Family	
CAMERA	Gretchen Jenson	
WINE SPONSOR	<i>Available</i>	

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Cindy Breed: patience and acceptance

Barb Johnson: healing and strength

Jessica Freiburger and Phil: healthy pregnancy and good recovery from surgery (Phil)

Dell Roth: healing from eye surgery

Marjorie Thome': healing

Sue Hackman: in rehab for her legs

Request for:	<i>On Behalf of:</i>
Matt Spicer (terminal cancer)	<i>Pastor Cheryl</i>
Melissa and Mary (employment), Farmers of the World, friends who experienced flooding, parents continued health	<i>Cat Leonard</i>
The people of Gaza and the Occupied Territories of Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Ukraine, Sudan and Myanmar; Ginny Olson (healing and strength); Sister Marie Orf (healing and strength); Marcelle (successful treatment); Jojo (healing and courage); all impacted by disasters; for peace with justice in our world.	<i>Maryn Olson and Angie Fulton</i>
The Hoppe Family (continued health and love), Mama Jackie (healing after her recent fall)	<i>Penny Family</i>
Mary's brother, Carl (healing)	<i>Mary Scanlan</i>
Healing in the family	<i>Kate Schejbal</i>
Michael R. & Chris (faith, healing)	<i>Schaller Family</i>
Shirley Wadell, Mary's sister (hospitalized)	<i>Wolfsberger Family</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SUMMER 9:30 AM WORSHIP begins Memorial Day weekend, Sunday, May 25. Mark your summer calendars! We return to 2 worship services the Sunday after Labor Day, September 7.

The **May Big Ask** is deodorant and bar soap. Please place donations for Big Ask items in the wooden cabinets near the shopping cart. Items placed **IN** the shopping cart go to our Free Food Pantry.

Love to shop? The Social Action Team buys in bulk to supply the Little Free Pantry and get the most out of folks' financial donations to the Pantry fund. But not all of our thrifty volunteers have a way to get that 50-pack of Vienna Sausages from the store to the church basement. Would you be our shopping buddy? We'd let you know what's needed and where it's cheapest, and you'd place and/or pick up the order (covered by the Pantry fund) and bring it to church whenever you usually come. Even occasional help is great! Email Leah Morrell for more info.

Blessing of Graduates will be included at both Worship services on May 18, with a special treat to honor graduates during Fellowship Hour. Graduating from Kindergarten, Elementary or Middle School, High School, College, Grad School, Trade School, or any other educational endeavor? Let us know and come and be celebrated for your learning, growth and accomplishment! (and Congratulations!)

The **Social Action Committee** will meet next week in-between services, and **Worship and Music** will meet following the 11 am worship.

Vacation Bible School! VBS will be held at Gethsemane on July 28-August 1, 9 am-5 pm with half day and full day options. Registration for volunteers and campers is on Gethsemane's website. VBS is open to kids four-years-old through 5th grade, and volunteer opportunities are available for 6th graders to adults.

Free NorthHampton Neighbors/SouthHampton Neighborhood Association Directories can be found on the table in the parking lot foyer. Look for our advertisement in the Directory this year! This publication is distributed to all residents in NOHA/SOHA.

Worship Leaders! It is time to fill out the Summer Availability Form. The link is in the eNews. If you don't like forms, you can also email any summer vacation plans or conflicts to Eve at office@gethsemanestl.org.



The Messenger has a digital format! If you have any items to include for the June newsletter, please send them to Gretchen at glcstlsocialmedia@gmail.org by **May 27**. If you have a high school or college graduate, please send a short paragraph so we can share the news with everyone!



Thursday e-newsletter! Gethsemane uses Constant Contact to send the weekly e-news on Thursdays. If you would like to be included, please click this QR code to be added to the list. Also, be sure to check your spam or junk folders!

*Thank you Mothers,
Caregivers and
Ancestors*



**Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
May 11 - 18, 2025**

5/11 Sunday 4th Sunday of Easter	8:30 am 9:45 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and Livestream Fellowship Hour (No Sunday School) Worship Service: In Person Vocal Choir Rehearsal
5/12 Monday	6:00 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
5/13 Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
5/14 Wednesday	10-noon	Church Office Staff Meeting, phones unanswered
5/18 Sunday 5th Sunday of Easter	8:30 am 9:45 am 11 am Noonish 5:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and Livestream Fellowship Hour, Graduate Celebration , Social Action Committee Meeting Worship Service: In Person Worship and Music Committee Meeting Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Upcoming Dates to Consider

Date	Time	Event
Mon, May 19	11:30 am 6:00 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, May 20	10:00 am 6:30 pm	Bible Study Church Council Meeting
Wednesdays	10 am - noon	Church Office Staff Meeting, phones unanswered
Sat, May 24	7-9 pm	Synoptic Frequencies Concert at Gethsemane! <i>Synoptic Frequencies is a quarterly music series featuring experimental music performed in sacred spaces</i>
Sun, May 25	9:30 am	Summer 9:30 am Worship begins
Sun, June 8	10:30 am	Fellowship and Adult Forum about the Asylum Process in the US

Blood Pressure (BP): First Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall.
Women's Luncheon: Fourth Monday of every month. *Except for Holidays.

SUMMER
service

SUNDAYS @ 9:30am 

Memorial Day through Labor Day

IN TWO WEEKS - MAY 25TH!



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, intersex 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 gay, lesbian, straight, 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...

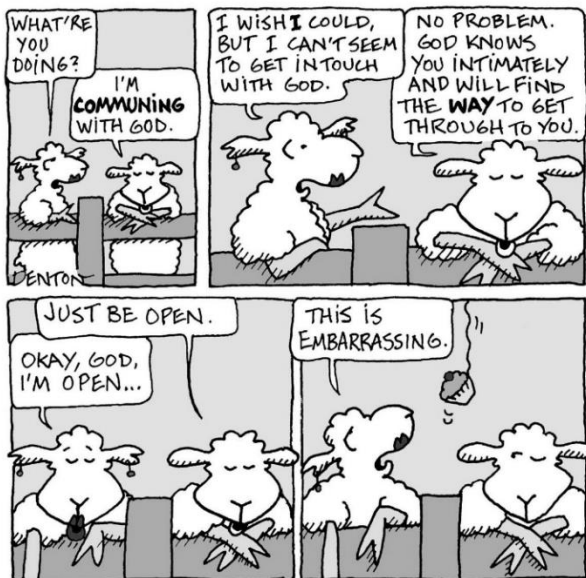
People of differing educational backgrounds...

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.


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