

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26th, 2026



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
Office Manager: Eve Cooney
Minister of Music: Amy Crousore
Council President: Cayce Morice, 314-574-0850

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Office Hours: Vary, but include Tues-Thurs, 10 am – 3 pm.

Outside of these hours, please call before coming to the church to ensure someone will be here to let you in.

Church Office – (314) 352-8050

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Holy Communion, Now the Feast and Celebration

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation..

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

John Carter

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

HYMN# 789

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

Cantor: In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Refrain



Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Refrain

Cantor: For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Refrain

Cantor: Help, save, and defend us, O God.



CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Now the Feast and Celebration*

HYMN# 167

PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us pray. O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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.

MISSION MOMENT

Nicole Matlock, Council Update

WORD

THE FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 34:7-15

God will shepherd Israel.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 100

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

¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, | all you lands!

² Serve 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.

⁴ Enter 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

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

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.

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 Luke, the 24th chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

[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.

The congregation is seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*

HYMN# 782

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

AM: Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

AM: . . . Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: **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: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Arr. by Carl Schalk

The congregation rises in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C: **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 new life. Receive the risen Lord.

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*

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:

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.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

HYMN# 484

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

HYMN# 774

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: Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

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: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

HYMN# 883

DISMISSAL

AM: Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *All People Who on Earth Do Dwell/Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*
Arr. by Johann Christoph Bach

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The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Marilyn McGuire
in memory of Aurora Catherine Sass, now thirty years in the arms of God.



WORSHIP LEADERS		
PRESIDER	Rev. Cheryl Walenta Gorvie	
GREETER	Joan Williams	Mary Scanlan
USHERS	Cayce Morice	Steve and Ben Walentik
ASSISTING MINISTER	Phyllis Saathoff	T. Edwards Breed
LECTOR	Chris Schmidt	Willow Gorvie
CANTOR	Robyn Wolfsberger	
CHILDREN'S SERMON	Chris Schmidt	
FELLOWSHIP HOST	<i>needed</i>	
DONUT DRIVER	Price/Fricke	
ALTAR GUILD	Denise Buehrer	
CAMERA	Gary Borkowski	
WINE SPONSOR	Kate Hartz	

**VBS at
Gethsemane!**

JULY 6-10

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Register Now!

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Kate Hartz: courage and trust

Barb Johnson: healing and strength

Fred Lenhart: comfort and peace

Margaret Lenhart: comfort and peace

Dell Roth: healing, strength and joy

Sharon Salerno: healing and strength

Peace and comfort for the **Gustafson/Drikow/Salerno** families during this difficult time.

Peace and comfort for the family and friends of **David Lauber**, Gethsemane member, who died on April 19.

Request for:	<i>On Behalf of:</i>
Melissa (employment); Charlie (remission); Mom and Dad (health); City of St. Louis	<i>Cat Leonard</i>
The people of Gaza and the Occupied Territories of Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Ukraine, Sudan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Venezuela; Pat Fulton (healing, strength); Ginny Olson (healing, strength); Sister Marie Orf; Jojo (encouragement); the family of Jacob Carlson (comfort as they grieve); those who do not feel safe in their communities; all impacted by disasters; for peace with justice in our world.	<i>Maryn Olson and Angie Fulton</i>
Jim B., Lisa McL and Pam M., (healing)	<i>Richardson Family</i>
Sister Angela on her upcoming surgery and hope for relief from her pain.	<i>Cathy White</i>

LIVING YOUR FAITH

GIVE

The April Big Ask is for toilet paper and paper towels. **May's Big Ask** will be laundry detergent (50 oz and smaller) and toothpaste. Place donation items in the cabinet located in the hallway leading to the Narthex.

The **Little Free Pantry and Comfort Cabinet** needs are canned fruit, fresh fruit, mashed potatoes, rice packets, jelly in plastic containers, nutrigrain/fruit/granola bars, shaving cream, sunscreen and small tissue packets. Place donations in the shopping cart in the hallway.

We are still collecting socks (through April) to donate for **Maundy Thursday's** sock collection! Socks will be split between St. Anthony's, Isaiah 58 and Blessing bags.

⚡ ACT

Sponsor Altar Flowers (\$30) or Wine (\$10) Flowers may be given in honor or memory of a loved one, to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or just because. Several summer – winter dates are open. Thank you for helping make our worship space beautiful and for sharing your celebrations and remembrances with the Gethsemane community. Sign up near the bulletin board, pay via envelope or online, and send flower dedications to Eve in the office.

Lutheran Disaster Response is urgently seeking support to aid families affected by escalating conflict in the Middle East, where over a million people have been displaced in Lebanon alone, and are in critical need of food, water, shelter, and emotional care. Check out the eNews for a link to donate or scan the QR code to the right.



Spread kindness! Blessing bags are in the Narthex - take and share with those in need.

Share your voice! Send June newsletter items to Gretchen by May 26.

♡ JOIN

The next GLC **Women's Luncheon** will be held, **Tomorrow, Monday, April 27** at 11:30 am at Chris's Pancakes on Watson and Southwest. RSVP to Mary Scanlan, Kathleen Moe or Online.

Adult Forum! On **May 3**, between services, join fellow Gethsemane members to hear about how they have been ministering to the unhoused in our community.

Be Recognized! On **May 10** between services, the church staff will celebrate YOU (all of our many volunteers) by serving delicious bagels and schmears at fellowship hour. No volunteers are needed to help because this is YOUR day! If you can bring a toaster, please contact the office.

Congrats 2026 Graduates! We will celebrate you with a special cake and well wishes during fellowship hour on **May 17**. Please come and be recognized.

Sign-up now for **Vacation Bible School** on Gethsemane's website. We need volunteers and campers! July 6-10, 9 am - 12:30 pm or 5 pm. Registration deadline June 1.

🔔 ANNOUNCEMENT

We extend our prayers and the comfort of the resurrection to the family and friends of David Lauber. Gethsemane member David Lauber died on Sunday, April 19, 2026. His funeral will take place at Gethsemane on **Wednesday, April 29 at 10:00 a.m.** Arrangements are being handled by [Bopp Chapel](#) in Kirkwood.

Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
April 26 – May 3, 2026

Today 4/26 Sunday	8:30 am 9:45 am 9:45 am 11:00 am	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube Sunday School and Fellowship Trivia event planning meeting Worship Service
4/27 Monday	11:30 am 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	Women's Luncheon at Chris' Pancakes Handbell Choir Rehearsal NorthHampton Neighbors Meeting
4/28 Tuesday	10 am	Bible Study
4/29 Wednesday	10 am 1:00 – 3:00 pm 6:30 – 8 pm	David Lauber funeral at Gethsemane Staff Meeting (phones unanswered) Choir Rehearsal
5/3 Sunday	8:30 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube Fellowship Hour Adult Forum: Unhoused neighbors - Chapel LAST DAY Sunday School Worship Service

Upcoming Dates to Consider

Date	Time	Event
Mondays	6:00 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Tuesdays	10:00 am	Bible Study
Wednesdays	6:30 – 8 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun, May 10	All Day Between Services	Mother's Day Volunteer Appreciation - Bagels and Schmeear
Tues, May 12	7 pm	Worship and Music Committee Meeting
Sun, May 17	Between Services	Celebrate our Graduates with cake
Mon, May 18	11:30 am	Women's Luncheon (week early to avoid Mem. Day)
Tues, May 19	6:30 pm	Council Meeting
Sun, May 24	9:30 am	Single Summer Worship begins
Mon, June 1	All Day	Registration deadline for VBS

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

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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