

# PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 25

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!




### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.  
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.  
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.  
Make us one, risen Christ.  
Cleanse our hearts.  
Shower us with life.  
To you be given all praise,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice 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 - joice 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!

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## **OPENING DIALOGUE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen, Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

## FIRST READING: ACTS 4: 5-12

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let 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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>There 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 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

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

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

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

<sup>6</sup>**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: 1 JOHN 3:16-24

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

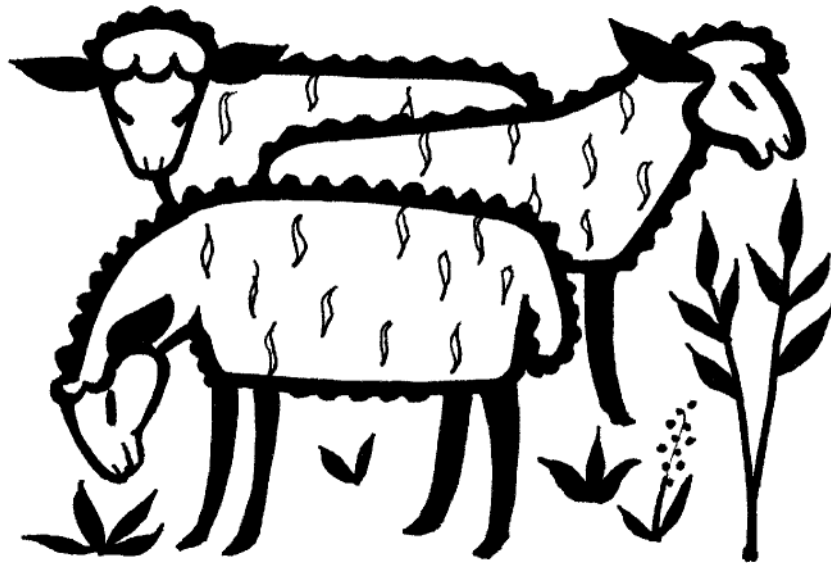
<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

<sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks*

*Refrain* F Dm Gm C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;

F Dm Gm C F

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

F Dm B<sup>b</sup> C

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

F Dm B<sup>b</sup> C *Refrain*

Je - sus has died and has ris - en.

## **GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18**

The Gospel according to St. John the tenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

## **CHILDRENS MESSAGE**



## **MESSAGE**

### **PEACE**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*Refrain*  
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I  
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you  
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I  
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my  
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

*Refrain*



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.  
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.  
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

*Refrain*



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

*Final refrain*  
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.



## NICENE CREED

Let us profess our faith with the words of 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 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need (*especially*). Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities (*specific concerns may be named*), fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you (*especially the evangelist Mark*). Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of love,  
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.  
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.  
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;  
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## COMMUNION

*Communion is received at the very end of the worship service.*

*The Pastor will come to your seat.*

*Worshippers are encouraged to receive the bread and wine, to eat and drink,  
and leave as you are comfortable.*

*Elements at in-person worship are wine & juice made with grapes and gluten free bread.*

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise**

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.

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.  
With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

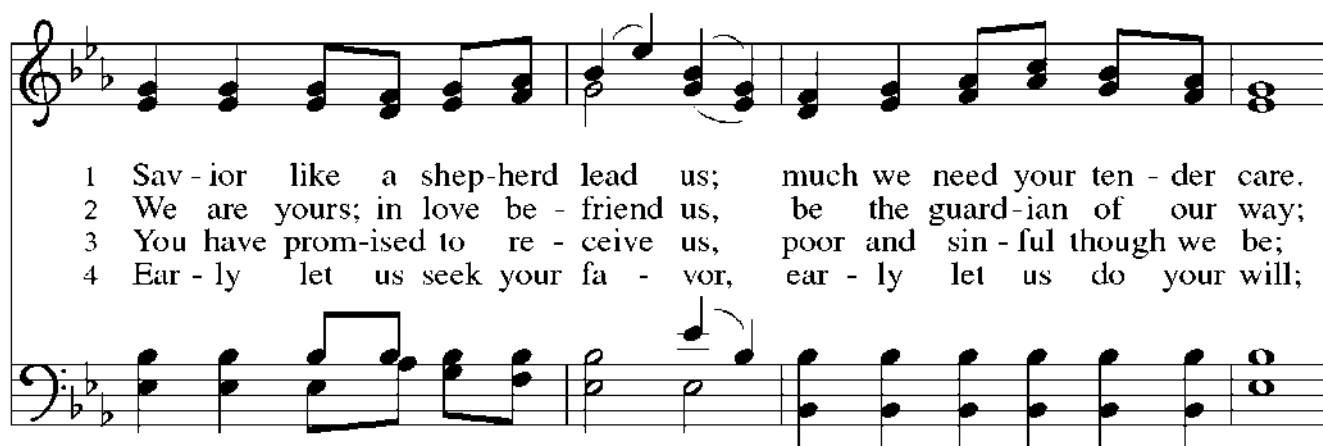
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

## **BLESSING**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.  
The God of life, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



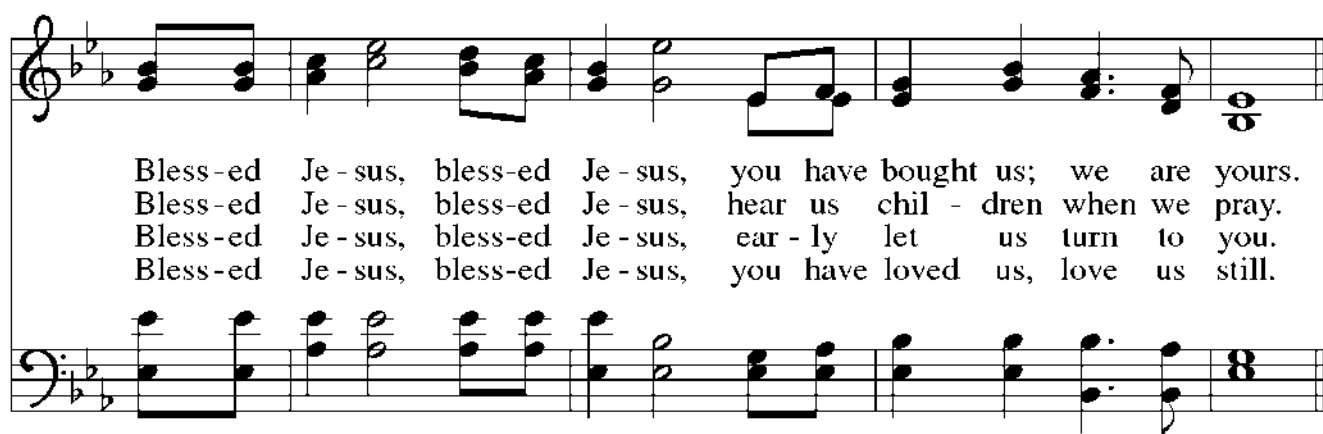
1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.  
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;  
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.  
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

## **Prayers for Week of April 25**

### **TODAY we pray for:**

Joan Snyder and family as they mourn the death of Russ Snyder  
Mary—cousin of Mandy Munson  
Vera Wagenfuhr  
Ron Walker  
Ed Nagy  
Chris Benz and family  
Debbie  
Ben  
Nancy Miller  
Brian  
Allen Whitley  
Roger Camp  
Krisida Alberto

- all in our hearts and minds today.

### **WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:**

Stacy Dambaugh; Pat Kizuka; Polly Gillis; Louise Ench, Kathy Long; Gener Ernst, Barbara Hewlett, Scott; Barbara Lynn Grabher, daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke; Kyle; Bill Smith, step-father of Rebecca Koreck; Lena; Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow; Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Scott & Lia Wycoff; The Fenner family; John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur; Mike Goyda; Lis Verbeck; Lois Snyder; David & Angie Wasgatt; John Deaton; Joan Sandstorm; Delores Sipe; Doug Price; Bob Waller; Kent Hardel; Gretchen Platz; Ellen Hall; Nanci Hunsinger, Claire Schoening; Tyler, Bill Howerin; Marcia Burton; Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl  
For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Pastor Paige Evers  
For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Wells Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones  
For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference  
For all pastors and church leaders  
For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.  
For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the corvid-19 virus.

**To request a prayer, or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)  
or email [office@glcde.org](mailto:office@glcde.org).**

# Grace TOWN HALL MEETING

Sunday, April 25 at 9:00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?>

on Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007 Passcode: Connect

## SAVE THE DATE — VBS 2021

Save the Date: Grace VBS will take place in the **evening**,  
during the week of **July 19-23**.

While we don't know exactly what Grace VBS will look like this year in the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, we do know that we can TRUST JESUS in our “Rocky Railways” adventure for Pre-K and Elementary School age kids.

**Mark your calendars!**

Interested in volunteering this year? Email or text Kevin and Laura at [kevmackiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:kevmackiewicz@gmail.com) or (302) 545-3731.





## Grace is worshipping in-person Sunday at 11:00am

As we move into warmer weather, Grace will have a single service outdoors that will be livestreamed so that folks can worship from home if that is their comfort level. We will be singing and celebrating Holy Communion at this service. All are welcome to attend.

Please keep in mind that if it is raining, in-person worship will be cancelled and participants are welcome to watch worship livestreamed via our website ([www.glcde.org](http://www.glcde.org)) or our Facebook page.

Worshippers are asked to wear a mask; you are also asked to bring your own seating for the parking lot or the grassy bank across from the portico. Worshippers can bring up the bulletin on their phones or print a copy to use and limited copies will be available. Parking in Grace's lot will be limited, please leave those spots to those who have limited mobility, however Cooke Elementary school will be opening their bus lot for our use. (The bus lot can be accessed through Grace's parking lot.) Registration for this worship service is not needed but you will be asked to check-in as you arrive and to provide contact information as needed as this is a requirement of the State of Delaware for contact tracing purposes if necessary.

I look forward to seeing y'all in worship again.

In Christ, Pastor Tara Magoon



## Adult Ed on Sunday Mornings at 9:30am

Please join us on Sunday at 9:30 AM on Zoom for Adult Ed as we continue with Session 2 Bible Study of **Songs of the Faithful: Studies in Psalms.**

Session 2 Topic: I have sunk so low.....is there help for me? Psalm 51: 1-10.

*Encountering the Grace of God, even in despair, is our greatest gift and source for hopefulness.*

- Please note that the 1-hour meeting time has changed to 9:30 AM for the remaining 5 sessions to accommodate attendees who will be joining the Grace Lutheran Church service at 11:00 AM in person.
- Also please note that Adult Ed will not meet on April 25<sup>th</sup> Town Hall meeting date.

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdjdRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09>

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007      Passcode: Connect (5655226)