



**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 26, A+D 2026**



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 4 – Page 203

Lutheran Service Book

## **The Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus Christ Is Our Good Shepherd**

Although we “were straying like sheep,” the Lord Jesus Christ has willingly suffered and died for us, bearing our sins “in his body on the tree” (1 Peter 2:24–25). We are healed by His wounds (1 Peter 2:24), and in His resurrection He gathers us to Himself as our Good Shepherd, by whose righteousness we “have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Now through other shepherds whom He calls and sends in His name, He guards and keeps us in the green pastures of His Church, leading us beside the quiet waters of our Baptism and spreading the feast of His table before us. Since He has called us by the Gospel to be His own dear sheep, we also “hear his voice” and “know his voice” (John 10:3–4) in the faithful preaching of His Gospel, and we follow Him by faith. When we receive His Gospel, we have the abundant life and common unity of the entire flock under one Good Shepherd, in “the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship” and in “the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42).

*Ringing of the Bells*

*Welcome*

## **Confession and Absolution**

### **864 Shepherd of Tender Youth**

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

### Exhortation

*LSB 203*

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 203*

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

### Absolution

*LSB 203*

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 95:1–3, 6–7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b*

**P** I am the good shepherd.

**C** **I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.**

**P** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

**C** **let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

**P** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

**C** **let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

**P** For the LORD is a great God,

**C** **and a great King above all gods.**

**P** Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

**C** **let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

**P** For he is our God,

**C** **and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

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

**P** I am the good shepherd.

**C** **I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.**

## Kyrie

*LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 204*



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Acts 2:42–47*

**A** The First Reading for The Fourth Sunday of Easter is from the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup>And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup>And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup>And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle

*1 Peter 2:19–25*

**A** The Second Reading is from the second chapter of the First Epistle of Peter.

<sup>19</sup>This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

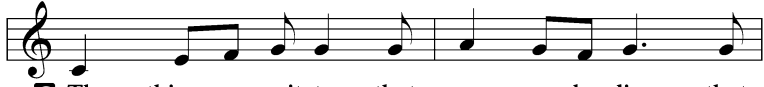
*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 10:1–10

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup>But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Nicene Creed**

**☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

**709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

**Sermon**

**Gathering of Tithes & Offerings**

*Stand*

## 806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the  
 Ho - ly One, Give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ be - cause He's giv - en\_\_ Je - sus  
 Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give  
 thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ be - cause He's giv - en\_\_  
 Je - sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am  
 strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," \_\_\_\_\_ Be - cause of  
 what the Lord has done for us. And now let the  
 weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am  
 rich," \_\_\_\_\_ Be - cause of what the Lord has done for us.  
 Give thanks, \_\_\_\_\_ give thanks. \_\_\_\_\_

Text and tune: Henry Smith, 1952

Text and tune: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001510

## Prayer of the Church

*Ektene Form***P** ... let us pray to the Lord:**C** Lord, have mercy.

# Service of the Sacrament

*Stand*

## Preface

*LSB 208*

**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 Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 208*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;  
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

### Lord's Prayer

- C** **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.**

### The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to

the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 210



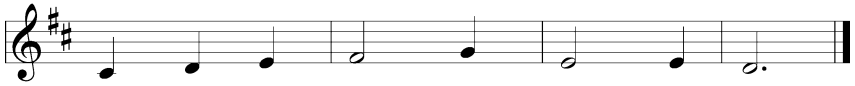
**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

## Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

*Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.*

**Silent Prayer Just Before Communing:** *Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Silent Prayer Just After Communing:** *Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

## 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

### 711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

*Stand*

### The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** **Amen.**

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Benedicamus**

**A** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

**740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

*Silent Prayer*

*Announcements*

**Acknowledgments**

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Prayer of the church is adapted from "Let us Pray" a service of the Commission on Worship of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

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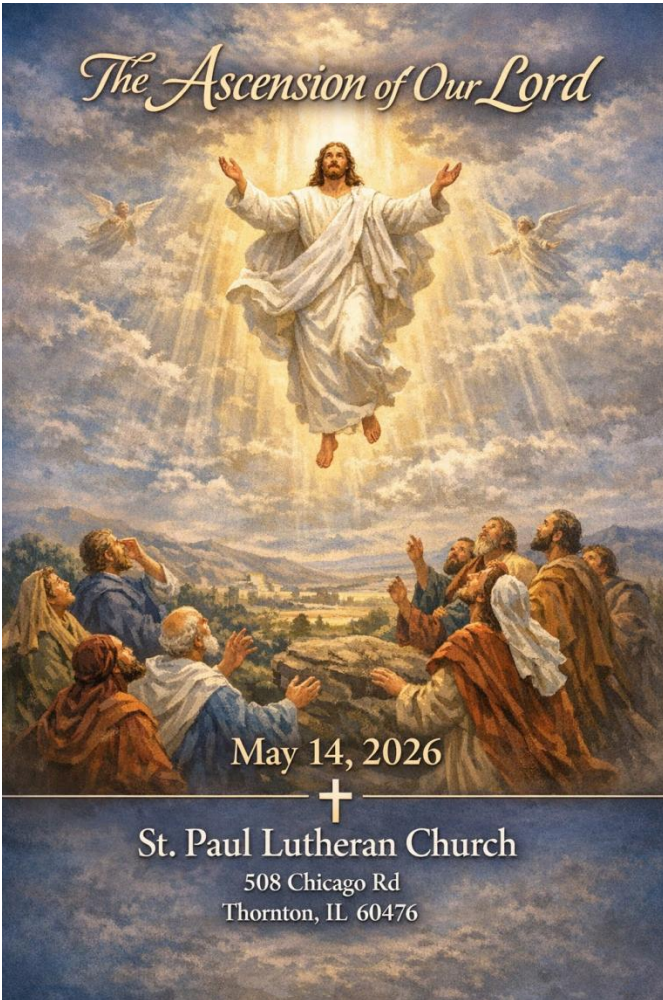
**WEBSITES**

SPLCMS.ORG



THE GLAD SPIRIT

*The Ascension of Our Lord*



May 14, 2026



St. Paul Lutheran Church

508 Chicago Rd  
Thornton, IL 60476

**Ascension Worship Service**  
**7:00 PM**



# The Glad Spirit

## St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

April 26, 2026

### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

#### ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Tina Morse  
 Bev Oaks  
 Jennifer Olson  
 Micci & Brian Orth  
 Payton Vandommelen



#### BIRTHDAYS

Gene Wiltjer, 5/1

#### CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Edward Hoeksema Jr., 5/2

#### SPECIAL CONCERNS

**Pray for** Sandy Bodza, Sondra Budde, Pastor Collins, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Shirley Emerick, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Beverly Oaks, Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Bill Sommer, Dolly Tagenhorst, Warren & Chris Van Mynen, Jean and Gene Wiltjer, Ray & Madelaine Zander.

**Serving in the Military** – Austin Brandy, Dakota Gaut and Nathan Lopez.

**Serving as First Responders** – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Harrison & Arianna Cromey, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.



## NEWS UPDATE



St. Paul Book Club will meet on Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am, to review *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. We always welcome new members. We enjoy fellowship and lunch following the discussion.

**Christ For You the week of April 26<sup>th</sup> on KFUE.org:** Sharathon 2026 is finally here, and you don't want to miss out on the fun! Join us from Thursday, April 30th-Saturday, May 2nd for live programming, giveaways, and more! To learn more or to make a gift to KFUE Radio, visit [kfue.org/sharathon](http://kfue.org/sharathon). It is your support that makes our work possible!

**The Week of April 26<sup>th</sup> Weekly Bach Cantatas....** Lutheran Public Radio streams an appointed Bach Cantata uninterrupted at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Central on Sundays. This week's cantata will be BWV 103, "You Will Weep and Wail." You can listen at [lutheranpublicradio.org](http://lutheranpublicradio.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn and with the LPR mobile app.

"Sin and shame and guilt are taken away by one thing only—the blood of Jesus Christ—which cleanses us from all sin. Our sins have already been punished in Him, on that cross. Jesus bodily rose from the tomb so that we would know that now even death itself cannot harm those who belong to Jesus and trust in Him alone, for as He lives, so we live as well." Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

### Let's Discuss



### ZOOM ROOM

#### MONDAY – FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

Portals of Prayer 8:00am to 8:15am

Lutheran Hour 8:00pm to 8:15pm

For the Link:

Call or Text Church Cell: 312-533-1896

Email: [letsdiscuss@splcms.org](mailto:letsdiscuss@splcms.org)

## The Shepherd's Voice

When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. John 10:4 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 10:1-10 (NIV)

H	I	G	K	T	G	V	L	F	T	Z	Z	T	E	Z
F	O	L	L	O	W	R	E	A	L	I	M	S	F	T
V	E	S	H	E	E	P	A	X	I	J	M	T	L	U
R	Z	S	A	V	E	D	D	E	F	N	U	H	I	J
A	Y	O	E	N	H	X	S	D	E	D	E	I	S	R
T	C	S	Q	A						I	N	E	T	D
A	L	H	E	M						G	O	F	E	M
F	K	E	E	E						P	B	G	N	R
P	E	P	L	V						N	E	A	H	O
F	A	H	M	K						Y	C	T	G	B
P	W	E	F	Y	R	Q	K	Q	S	Y	B	E	L	B
E	H	R	S	O	J	Y	J	H	N	B	H	X	E	E
N	D	D	O	T	A	V	A	X	C	R	B	E	Y	R
M	L	V	O	I	C	E	J	G	K	N	O	W	I	W
M	S	T	R	A	N	G	E	R	J	E	O	F	R	H



LIFE  
KNOW  
SHEEP

LEADS  
STRANGER  
ROBBER

NAME  
THIEF  
GATE

PEN  
LISTEN  
SHEPHERD

VOICE  
FOLLOW  
SAVED

# GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS



April 19<sup>th</sup> Attendance 17, 14 Communed, 2 Online

Envelopes	\$1,070.00	Weekly Missions	\$20.00
		Luth. Church Charity	10.00
		Church Maint	10.00
		Social Ministry	41.00
		T-shirts	160.00
		Flowers	622.00
<b>Budgeted Total</b>	<b>1070.00</b>	<b>Non-budgeted Total</b>	<b>\$863.00</b>
Offering Needed	1,342.00		
<b>Short</b>	<b>\$-272.00</b>		



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...

## SERVANT SCHEDULE

	<b>Sun, Apr 26, 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Sun, May 3, 9:30 AM</b>
Pastor	Pastor Klein	Pastor Klein
Lay Reader		Tracy Middleton

### DONATIONS



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