

# OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, Greeley, CO

[www.greeleylutheran.org](http://www.greeleylutheran.org)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – April 21, 2024 – 8:30 A.M.

*We rejoice in your presence with us today at this service of Holy Communion.*

*Please silence cell phones and pagers during worship.*

*ELW = red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP hymnal  
Hymn numbers (#) refer to the main hymn section  
The congregation's response is printed in **BOLD type***

---

## GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

arr. Robert Hobby

\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
creator of darkness and light, word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge,

**we pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.**

**Remember your covenant. Renew your creation.**

**Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

**Amen.**

\*HYMN

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

ELW # 380

\*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Let us pray. 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.**

## WORD

READING

1 John 3:16-24

Roger Hill

<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.**

PSALM 23 (*read responsively with leader*) [ELW translation]

Cindy Ververs

<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.**

\*GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

*Response after the announcement: "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."

*Response after the reading: "Praise to you, O Christ!"*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

"Hired or Inspired?"

Pastor John Knutson

*Silence for reflection*

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

ELW # 502

\*APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS (each petition concludes:)

... God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Prayers for healing and strength for:* Scotty Hontz, Bob Hummels (son of Ken & Letha Hummels), Donna Henry

*Prayers of sympathy for the families of:* Brynlee Cowan (infant granddaughter of Jim & Kathy Cowan)

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE” MOMENT

\*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

\*OFFERING / PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:  
our selves, our time, and our possessions.**

**Use us, and what we have gathered,  
in feeding the world with your love,  
through the one who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

You may text your offerings to  
833-931-1874 or through this  
link. Thanks for your generosity.



\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*Communion is open to all who receive it as the presence of Christ. Come forward by the center aisle  
and return to your seat by the side aisles. For those who wish, white grape juice is available in the  
center cups. Gluten-free wafers are available by mentioning your preference to the pastor or server.  
Adults and children who are not communing may come forward for a blessing.*

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC: “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

ELW # 778

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

**SENDING**

\*BLESSING (response: “Amen!”)

\*SENDING HYMN

“Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”

ELW # 544

\*ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL (response: “Thanks be to God!”)

\*POSTLUDE

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

arr. David Cherwien

*Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for complimentary  
coffee and cookies following worship.*

**Please contact the church office at 970-352-4816 if you have specific needs  
or prayer requests, or if you can help in any way.**

Assisting in worship

Pastors: Rev. John Knutson  
Rev. Deb Abbott  
Minister of Music: Dennis Larson  
Sound technician: John Rulla  
Projection: Holden Packard

Video production: Joshua Matthews  
Communion assistants: Steve Hendricks, Michelle Weymouth, Meg Spencer,  
Cindy Ververs  
Ushers: Len & Bev Westerkamp

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Liturgical texts from *Sundays and Seasons.com*. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS003605.

*New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

*New Living Translation (NLT) Holy Bible*, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007, 2013 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Every attempt has been made to legally live-stream the service and music: ONE LICENSE #A-705834; CCLI #764235; CCS #10884.

Scripture readings next Sunday: Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

**Gather in Grace, Grow in Faith, Serve in Community, Glorify Christ!**