



**GOOD
SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

800 W. McCarthy Rd,
Palos Heights, IL
60463
708-448-4170

April 26, 2026

**Fourth
Sunday of
Easter**

**9:00 am
Service of the
Word**

**11:00 am
Service of Holy
Communion**

**The Pastor:
Rev. Chris
Buresh**

**The Associate
Pastor:
Rev. Andrew Bell**

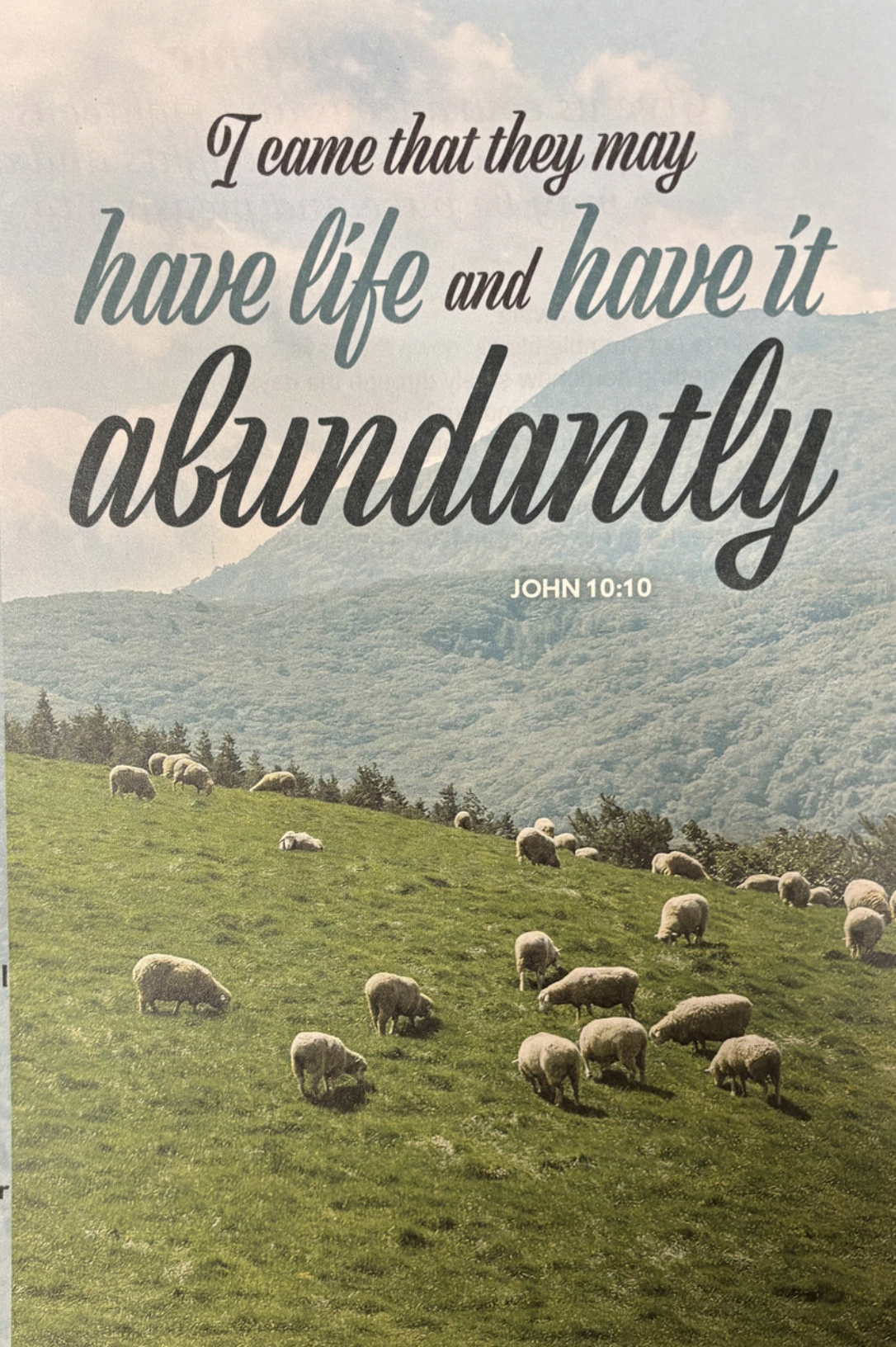
**The Intern:
Immanuel
Karunakaran**

**The Director of
Children's &
Family Ministry:
Lori Puttkammer**

**The Pastor
Emeritus:
Rev. Dr. Wayne
A. Basch**

*I came that they may
have life and have it
abundantly*

JOHN 10:10



Welcome

*Give us courageous and righteous hearts,
O God, so that our thoughts and actions
may be pure and pleasing to you.*

A Wakeup Call

God — let me be aware.

Let me not stumble blindly down the ways,
Just getting somehow safely through the days,
Not even groping for another hand,
Not even wondering why it all was planned,
Eyes to the ground unseeking for the light,
Soul never aching for a wild-winged flight,
Please, keep me eager just to do my share.

God — let me be aware.

God — let me be aware.

Stab my soul fiercely with others' pain,
Let me walk seeing horror and stain.
Let my hands, groping, find other hands.
Give me the heart that divines, understands.
Give me the courage, wounded, to fight.
Flood me with knowledge, drench me in light.
Please — keep me eager just to do my share.
God — let me be aware. —Miriam Teichner



Gratitude, all year long

It's not Thanksgiving time. But what if we made a point to practice gratitude all year long? In her book *Grateful*, theologian Diana Butler Bass writes: "As human beings, we possess an intuitive awareness that we depend on others to survive. We are safer and happier when we care for each other in community, when we do things for each other. ...How we live together in and with gratitude makes all the difference in the world. Indeed, living gratefully makes the world different."

GATHERING

The Prelude: "Sheep May Safely Graze" Bach

The Call to Worship (11 am): "**God Loves a Cheerful Giver**" Winter

+The Opening Hymn: "GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS" No. 385

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.**

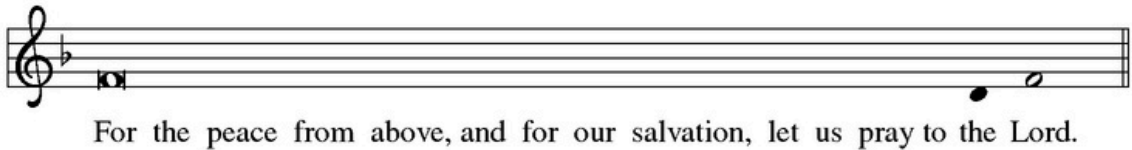
////////////////////

The Service of Holy Communion - 11 am

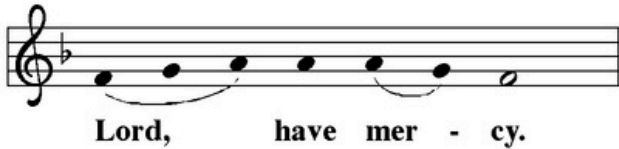
+ The Kyrie:



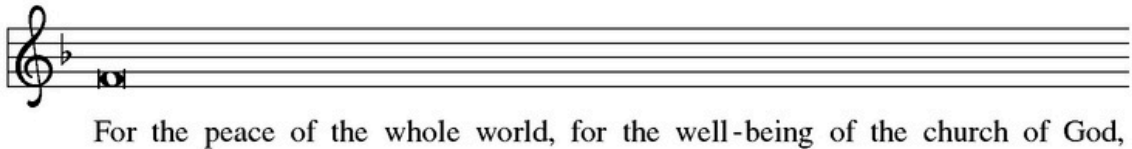
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



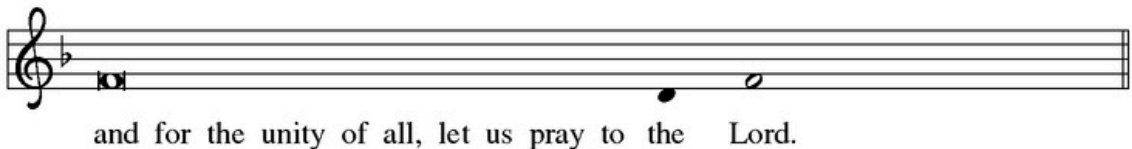
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



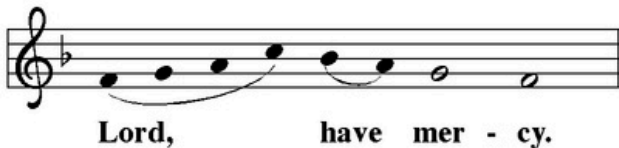
Lord, have mer - cy.



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 mer - cy.

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

////////////////////

The Service of the Word - 9 am

+The Kyrie:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:

Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**
Christ, have mer - cy:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:

+The Canticle of Praise:

Refrain



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - migh - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Sing Refrain



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Sing Refrain



3 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Final refrain



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on



earth, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



+ The Prayer of the Day

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 to the joyous and eternal feast through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

+ The Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

¹⁴² [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 Anthem: ***"Sometimes, My Prayer" Crane***

L: The Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 10:1-10

[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."

L: This is the Word of God, the Word of life.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon: **“Straight Off a Cliff”**

+The Hymn of the Day: “THE LORD’S MY SHEPHERD”

No. 778

+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.

+The Prayers

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.

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church here, at our partner parish in Coronationville, and for all those serving near and far. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to warfare and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured (*especially*). Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to your heavenly home. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

+ Sharing the Peace of Christ

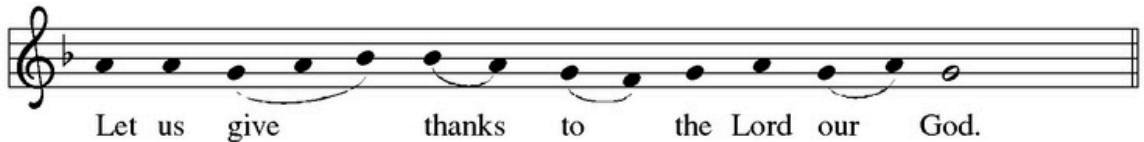
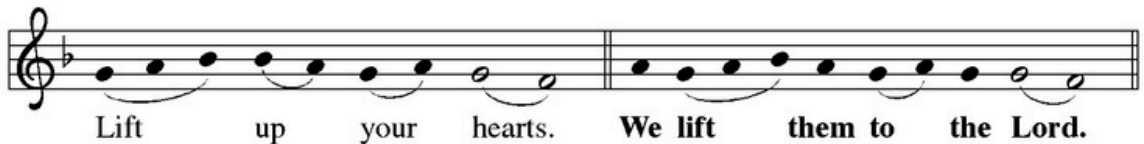
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The Voluntary: "*Arioso*" *Bach*

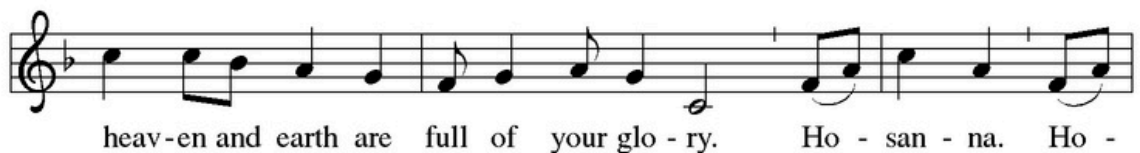
~~~~~  
Service of Holy Communion - 11 am

**MEAL**

+The Great Thanksgiving:



+The Preface is sung by the pastor.



+The Words of Institution are spoken by the pastor.

+The Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**THE COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:**

*Please use this time for quiet reflection on the tremendous gifts of love and forgiveness that Jesus offers to all.*

+ The Prayer after Communion



Service of the Word - 9 am

+The Canticle of Thanksgiving:

*Refrain*  
Sal - va - tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -



ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O



God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O



Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and



sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va - tion be - longs to our



God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



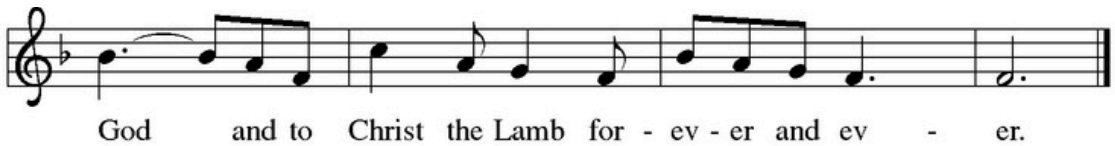
2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and



bles - ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All



praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va - tion be - longs to our



- + The Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Word
- + The Lord's Prayer



## SENDING

- +The Benediction
- +The Dismissal is spoken by the pastor.  
Response: **Thanks be to God**
- +SENDING HYMN: "PRAISE THE LORD, RISE UP REJOICING" No. 544
- The Postlude: "*My Heart Ever Faithful*" Bach

*From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.*



### SERVING TODAY:

The Organist - *Beth Ridderhoff*

The Director of the Cherub Choir - *Angie Pope*

The Director of the Junior Choir - *Michelle Podewell*

The Readers - 9:00 - *Susan Mish*

11:00 - *CJ Muller*

The Acolytes - 9:00 - *Ron Krapf*

11:00 - *Henry Lindgren and Ruth Lindren*

*Today's chancel flowers are given by Sherry Williams in loving memory of her father, Darwin Blake.*



### ***Our Mission Statement***

*A caring fellowship of all God's people empowered by grace to proclaim the gospel and lovingly serve as Jesus teaches.*

### ***Our Vision Statement***

*Transforming lives by making the hope of God real through bold faith, service, outreach, discipleship and helping all people discover their God-given value.*

### ***Core Values***

*Encouraging each other in our lifelong journey of faith through our core values of:*

- Drawing nearer to God
- Prioritizing Love over Judgment
- Practicing Grace
- Welcoming All
- Generously Serving
- Fostering Community

### ***Our intercessions include:***

**The hospitalized:** Jamie Ekhardt (Palos)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***The garage sale is here! This week we're busy collecting, sorting and pricing items for the sale*** on Friday, May 1 from 8 am to 3:00 pm and Saturday, May 2, from 8 am to Noon. We need many volunteers so be sure to stop by the bulletin board and see how you may be able to help. or contact Pastor Bell. Thank you!

**We could use some help setting out tables and materials for the garage sale after the 11 am service TODAY. Please join us in the Family Life Center to help. *Many hands make light work!***

***Thank you to everyone that came out to "spring clean" our church gardens. We are ready for flower planting!*** Dates are: Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00 pm and Saturday, May 16 at 9:00 am. (Note: rain dates are May 21 and 23.) Bring your garden gloves and shovel and let's plant our favorite flowers around the church and make our gardens beautiful together! Upcoming dates will be scheduled to gather and conquer the weeds and continue to make our gardens beautiful.

***The spring blood drive*** is scheduled for Sunday, May 17 in the Life Center. Sign up in the narthex today to give the gift of life!

***Planning for Rainforest Falls VBS*** is underway! We NEED volunteers to run a successful week of Vacation Bible School. Please check the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board to see where you may like to help. Service hours can be earned. VBS is July 6-10.

***VBS Registration begins May 3***. Know your child's t-shirt size for registration. The fee is \$15 per child.

***If you would be willing to donate any of the following items for VBS,*** it would be greatly appreciated. **Items include:** pkgs. of baby wipes, paper towels, empty gallon WATER jugs with caps, rolls of clear packaging tape, zipper close baggies (snack and sandwich sizes), paper drink cold cups (8 or 9 oz. size), parchment baking paper, paper cupcake liners and napkins.

***Please also help us gather empty paper towel cardboard tubes*** for a VBS craft. We will need over 150, so please save them and bring them to Mrs. Lori's office.

## The calendar for the week of April 26

|            |                                                         |                                                                                                                                      |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SUN</b> | 9:00 am<br>10:30 am<br>11:00 am<br>11:00 am<br>12:00 pm | Service of the Word/Online Service<br>Cherub Choir<br>Service of Holy Communion<br>Sunday School<br>Garage Sale Table Setup          |
| <b>MON</b> | 4:00 pm<br>6:00 pm<br>7:00 pm                           | "Just a Quick Word" - YouTube/Facebook<br>Junior Choir<br>6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation                       |
| <b>TUE</b> | 9:30 am<br>10:30 am<br>6:30 pm                          | Faith, Prayer & Joy Group<br>Bible Study<br>Discovering the Bible                                                                    |
| <b>WED</b> | 6:00 pm                                                 | Adult Choir                                                                                                                          |
| <b>THU</b> | 6:30 pm<br>9:00 pm                                      | Carillon Choir<br>Prayer Walk                                                                                                        |
| <b>FRI</b> | 8:00 am                                                 | CHURCH GARAGE SALE                                                                                                                   |
| <b>SAT</b> | 8:00 am                                                 | CHURCH GARAGE SALE                                                                                                                   |
| <b>SUN</b> | 9:00 am<br>10:30 am<br>11:00 am<br>11:00 am<br>2:00 pm  | Service of the Holy Communion/ <i>Online Service</i><br>Cherub Choir<br>Service of the Word<br>Sunday School<br>Confirmation Service |

**SPECIAL UPCOMING  
SERVICES & EVENTS:**



**GOOD SHEPHERD'S ANNUAL  
GARAGE SALE**

**FRIDAY, MAY 1  
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**SATURDAY, MAY 2  
8:00 AM - NOON**



**CONFIRMATION SERVICE  
*Sunday, May 3 - 2:00 PM***

**FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE  
*Sunday, May 10 - 11:00 AM***

**MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY  
*Sunday, May 17 - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM***

# PRAYER LIST

## Members of the Congregation

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jamie Ekhart    | Lynn Evers      |
| Chris Yazumbek  | Liam Garr       |
| Christine Ricca | Tom Kozlowski   |
| Joanne Borner   | Jim Srbeny      |
| Carole Peterson | Larri Lyn Rauch |
| Carol Miller    | Bill Innocenti  |
| Judy Oster      |                 |

## Friends of the Congregation

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Dave Kosvick          | Jason Dzialec        |
| Jason Julien          | Roland Lyon          |
| Julius Ragel          | Laura Nicholson      |
| Adrienne Manley       | Bill Kimball         |
| Ron Warnke            | Walter Smola         |
| Craig Chismarick      | Arlene Guard         |
| Marilyn Veselack      | Brian O'Connell      |
| Carol Margaret Miller | Tom Elsner           |
| Jim Peele             | Debra Casey          |
| Unicy Karunakaran     | Laura Reynolds       |
| Ken Karlson           | Ronald Held          |
| Walter Kroll          | Joe Kaderabek        |
| Dorothy Koopman       | Louise Sims          |
| Trent Wiltshire       | Jason Randall Glugla |
| Gail Orris            | Tim Hennessey        |
| Dolores Wrzesinski    | Katy Peterman        |
| Mary Kirkner          | Erin Olson           |
| Kaylee Wynn           | Dave Furtak          |
| Andre Swanson         | Dale Koch            |
| Sara Bogosh           | Maryanne Campbell    |
| Chuck Singleton       | Alex Gersic          |
| Karunakaran Balraj    | Silvia Guijarro      |

Our prayer list was recently updated and our sincere apologies if someone was removed who is still in need of prayer. Please let us know if there is someone you need added or removed from the prayer list by contacting the church office by 9 am on Friday. Thank You!

Pictures may be taken at our service to use on our updated website.  
Please contact us if you desire we not use any photograph including your image.