

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:30 AM

May 10, 2026

100 W Luray Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301

Office 703-548-8608

admin@gslutheran.net

www.gslutheran.net



Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister

Marlene Koenig

Reader

Ann Stone

Ushers

Babs Tomlinson

Virtual Tech Assistant

Olivia Brandt

Altar Guild

Kristin McCall & Cooper Slack

Flowers

Andrea Ponsor

Communion Assistants

Bruce Purdy & Charlotte Hicks

Greeters

Jenna Wirkus & Deacon David Lewis



Welcome to Good Shepherd!

- You are in the right place! If you have any questions or need anything, please feel free to ask an usher or the pastor and we will be glad to help.
- Please sign in. Pew Pads are located at the end of each pew. Please sign in and pass them down to the end of the row. If you are a visitor, please include contact information - you will receive a single email/note from Pastor Kate but don't worry - we won't send you further emails unless you wish!
- You are invited to write a prayer request on the white podium situated at the entrance to the worship space which will be included and spoken in worship today, or share a prayer request inside the pew pads.
- There is one gender-neutral bathroom located on this level. Additional restrooms are located downstairs.

Children in Worship

Children (and their noise and wiggles) are always welcome in worship and are an important part of our church. But, if you need a break, the service audio is played in the lounge, and there is a staffed nursery located downstairs.

Changing rooms are located in the downstairs bathrooms. There are worship bags and books for children located in the back of the sanctuary. During the school year, Sunday School is held during the 10:45 AM worship service, for ages 3 - 12th grade. If you have questions about Sunday School, First Communion, or Confirmation classes, please contact Denise Steene at education@gslutheran.net

Good Shepherd's Statement of Welcome

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites you on a journey of faith. We welcome the participation of all ages, races, religious backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, socioeconomic, marital, and family statuses, abilities, political affiliations, and national origins. Ministry is strengthened by diversity, and we welcome all in worship, fellowship, learning, and service. You are a child of God; you are welcome here.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book (ELW) – Holy Communion Setting 2

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

This Joyful Eastertide

Tom Birchwood

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

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.

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.

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.

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.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG


This Joyful Eastertide

ELW 391

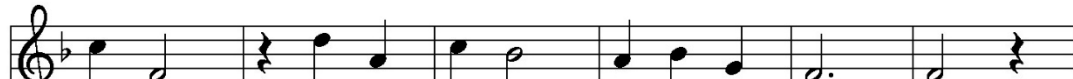
GREETING

Beloved of God, called to be saints:
Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
And also with you.


HYMN OF PRAISE



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



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



! Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. 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.

2 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.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the pew pad and pass it down so that all in your pew can sign in. Before or after the service, and during the sharing of the peace, we invite you to get to know those near you in worship.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

A reading from Acts.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way.

²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image

formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, Word of life,

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20

We will read from Psalm 66 responsively.

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from 1 Peter.

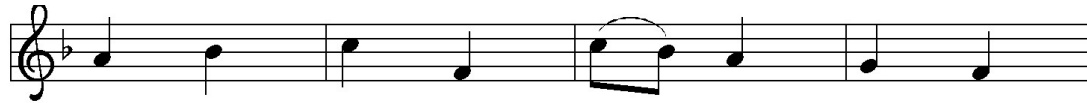
¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or in spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



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

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Kate Costa

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let All Things Now Living

ELW 881

NICENE CREED

We confess our faith using 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

Each petition will end with "Merciful God," with the response "Receive our prayer."

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING INSTRUCTIONS


The offering is a gift of thanks which is used to support the ministries of the church locally and globally. Please feel free to put cash/checks/online giving cards in the offering plate or donate here: www.gslutheran.net/give

CHOIR ANTHEM

Christ has Arisen, Alleluia

Tr. Howard S. Olson

OFFERING SONG

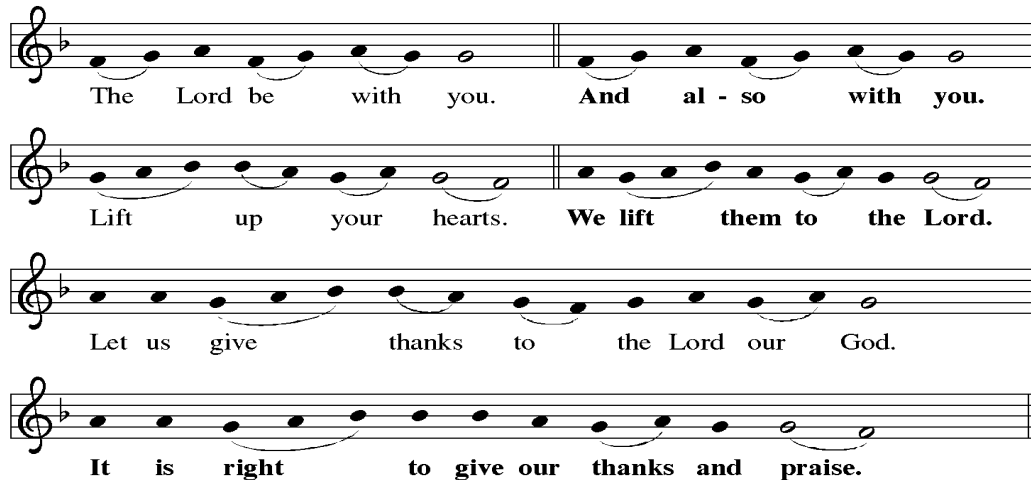


Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERING PRAYER

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, **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. **And al-so 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.

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. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

This is Christ's table, and all are welcome here! An usher will direct you to the communion rail where you may kneel or stand. You will first receive the bread (gluten-free wafers are available) and then take a glass of wine or grape juice from the tray. Please remain at the rail until the blessing is said and then return to your seat by the outside aisle. If you (or your child) do not yet commune, please let the pastor know and they will share a blessing. Children may commune at any age; we offer communion instruction for those in the second grade or older.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Children of the Heavenly Father
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (sing 3 x)

ELW 781
ELW 172

COMMUNION PRAYER

Please rise in body or in spirit.

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, **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

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. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

ELW 383

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Postlude in F Major

Johann Ludwig Krebs

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Ministers

All the people of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Staff

Director of Educational Ministries: Denise Steene
Bookkeeper: Paul Lund
Administrative Secretary: Karen Madigan
Organist: Alex Gray
Custodian: Hector Hernandez
Pastor: The Rev. Kate Costa
Pastoral Intern: Carrie Pritts
Choir Director: Liz Waterbury
Deacon for Engagement: David Lewis

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