



“YOU ARE WITNESSES
OF
THESE
THINGS.”

LUKE 24:48

April 14, 2024 ~ 9:30 a.m.
Third Sunday of Easter



Welcome to everyone worshipping with us today!

All are welcome at Shepherd of the Hills. We are a place where all people can receive wholeness and share God's blessings, so we echo Jesus' welcome to all persons – **every one** –

to the devout, the seeker and the skeptic;

to single, married, widowed and divorced;

to young and old, child and parent;

to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities;

to people of all lands, cultures and colors;

to people with disabilities, those ill and well;

to poor, middling and wealthy;

to all who seek hope, peace, comfort, strength, love, forgiveness and grace.

We invite everyone to worship, learn, serve and care with us

Our Mission:

To love God and love neighbor in the spirit of Jesus.

Who we are becoming:

A connected family of faith inspired by God to positively impact our community and our world.



GATHERING

PRELUDE “Build Your Kingdom Here”

arr. Victor Labenske

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW page 94

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

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

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”**

ELW 377 (v. 1, 3 & 5)

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain

5 City of God, Easter forever, golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain

***GREETING**

ELW page 184

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

People: And also with you.

***KYRIE**

ELW page 184

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

*CANCTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW page 188

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

FIRST READING Psalm 4

Lector: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

People: **"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

Lector: Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;
the Lord will hear me when I call.

People: **Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

Lector: Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.

People: **Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"**

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

Lector: You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

People: **In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Alleluia”

ELW page 188

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

***GOSPEL** Luke 24:36b-48

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”

⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Sherri Otto

***HYMN OF THE DAY** “Touch That Soothes and Heals”

See page 7 of bulletin
(v. 1 choir; v. 2-4 choir and congregation)

Touch That Soothes and Heals

See My Hands and Feet



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
 2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
 3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
 4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
 ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
 peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
 wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
 shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
 kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
 tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

Refrain



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972

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***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 THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *(A brief silence)*

(After each petition, the following is said.)

Pastor: God of grace, **People: hear our prayer.**

*PEACE

ELW page 189

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

MEAL

MISSION MOMENT

Melanie Sadecki, Sojourner

OFFERING & SPECIAL MUSIC "Mighty to Save"

R. Morgan & B. Fielding
One Voice Choir

*OFFERING PRAYER

ELW page 190

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: 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, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW page 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The 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

Communion Music: "Lamb of God"

ELW page 191

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

"As We Gather at Your Table"

ELW 522

***Prayer after communion:**

ELW page 191

Pastor: Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

Pastor: Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, as God works among us that which is pleasing in God's sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever.

People: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

ELW 674

1 Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain: Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

2 Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. Refrain

3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! Refrain

***DISMISSAL**

ELW page 192

Pastor: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

reprise

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS

For more information on all these events, go to our website sothchurch.com

HOLY COMMUNION Like a family gathering for Sunday dinner, all are welcome at this table where God is our holy parent and host. Taking simple bread and simple wine we remember that all of life comes as a gift from God, and we remember that just as we are nourished by food, we are also nourished by God's love. (Grape juice is available in the center of the serving tray and a rice alternative is available for those with wheat allergies.)

ARE YOU NEW HERE? To our first-time visitors welcome! Please join us immediately after church for coffee hour in the fellowship lounge. Your children and their noise are always welcome. There are two gender neutral and single stall restrooms across from - and just beyond - the church nursery, as well as two more upstairs as well! If you have questions, please ask any of our members. We are here to help.

Name Tags Help Build Community: All who regularly participate at Shepherd are encouraged to wear a name tag as we strive to be a welcoming community of disciples!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME in worship every Sunday but, should you need it, the nursery is located on the north side of the building. Ask an usher if you need help finding it.

SOTH BOOK CLUB: will meet on Sunday, April 14 at 11:00 am.

Book: "Miss Benson's Beetle" by Rachel Joyce

WORD ON WEDNESDAY – Spring 2024 "Creation Care in the Bible"

To wrap up WoW for Spring 2024 our plan will be to read and study some of the ways Scripture speaks to us about creation and its care. Genesis tells us that we humans are to "have dominion" – what should we understand "dominion" to mean? When God speaks to Job about the "foundations of the earth" how does that inform how we related to creation? What do the Psalms say about how the earth is to be cared for? What connections might there be between our faithfulness to God and how creation will be affected by our actions? Is the earth resilient? Resilient enough to withstand human actions? Resilient enough to wait on the Lord?

Join us at 6:30 pm Wednesdays from April 10 to May 15 and let's see what we can learn together!

SHEPHERD / CALVARY NEW MINISTRIES: From the Calvary-Shepherd Team we say Thank You! We received a bunch of responses to our recent invitation to "dream" about future ministries for our congregations – so many faithful, heartfelt and genuine ideas we shared and as a group we were gladdened by the Spirit's promptings in all the responses. The Team met mid-March to

review and discuss all the responses and to begin to narrow the focus a bit, so that we could research additional information, develop some more detail, and work out ways to gather additional input.

Let's keep the conversation going. Let us know what you think. What questions do you have? What excites you about any of these ideas? What do you feel called to? Who should we be talking to?

You can email Pastors Yolanda, Sherri or Wade, or reach out to any of the committee members (Becky Rorke, Bruce Nelson, Cindy Morris, Julia Buteyn, Steve Manacek, Adam Driscoll and Alyson Purdy) or leave a note in the basket on the Welcome Desk. Thank you again!

BISHOP CANDIDATES FORUM: Tuesday, April 16 from 7:00-8:30 pm: We will be hosting a ZOOM "Viewing Party" at Shepherd of the Hills for the Bishop's Candidate Forum on April 16th from 7-8:30pm. Please join us as we hear from the candidates who are running for Bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod. Snacks will be provided!"

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Sunday, April 28 at 10:30 am

Make a plan to attend our upcoming Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 28 in person or by Zoom. During that time, we will reflect on 2023, hear exciting updates on various ministries, elect new leaders for our congregational council, and recognize outgoing leaders. It is an important date on our shared calendar together, and I hope to see you there.

If you are interested in serving in a leadership role on our congregational council, it's not too late! We are looking for a Communications liaison and positions are open on the SOTH Foundation. Please contact Pastors Yolanda or Sherri, or Chris Polston, Council President, and we can add you to the ballot. We can also take nominations from the floor.

VBS 2024 CAMP FIRELIGHT JUNE 10—13 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

A Summer Camp Adventure with God!

Join first-time camp counselor Sam and Lu (short for Lumen), the lightning bug, and learn to face your fears while trusting in God. Kids will learn ways they can connect with and put their trust in God whenever they are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work in the world and share the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ. Registrations available online (www.sothchurch.com/)

THE DIVINE SPARK Wednesday, April 24th, 2024 6:00pm – Dinner /6:30pm - Program

"When you (or your loved one) hear a lawmaker speak against you, experience a classmate's rude joke, feel parental or church disapproval, you might feel afraid and alone. The writers in this book want you to find emotional, social and spiritual health and wholeness.

You are not alone. We believe in you."

Please join us on April 24th as we hear from Rev. Nancy Hanson about her new book, The Divine

SPARK, Personal Stories of LGBTQ Discover, 2nd Edition.

We thank both Brian Henning and Pastor Yolanda for contributing their stories to this book.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES: Twin Cities Benefit for Youth at Quincy Hall

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

Hosted each spring by Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS), the Benefit for Youth event series supports the work of LSS Youth & Family Services. Together, we will ensure children and families have safe, stable homes and the opportunity to thrive in community. As a trusted statewide leader, LSS is continually reaching out to understand the unique needs of our young neighbors; reaching beyond the status quo to offer innovative services; and reaching across communities to help more Minnesotans thrive. For more information or to register, go to <https://events.lssmn.org/page/63541/data/1>

PUBLIC ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT: Make electronics and small appliance recycling easy this Earth Day. The entire community is invited to stop by Edina Community Lutheran Church's east parking lot on Saturday, April 20th between 10am-2pm with your electronics and small appliances to be recycled at this public event. Many accepted items are free. Check Electronics Recycling of Minnesota's website for a full list of accepted items and fees. <https://ecyclemn.com/>

Hennepin County District 6 Commissioner Candidate Forum - Please join ISIAAH as we hear six candidates' positions on affordable housing, climate action, and youth programming. The forum will be Sunday, April 21, at 2:30 PM–4:00 PM at St. David's Episcopal Church, 13000 St David's Rd, Minnetonka, MN 55305.

There is an April 30 Primary and the May 14 Special Election. Hennepin County District 6 includes Edina, Hopkins, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, and the cities around Lake Minnetonka.

This forum is sponsored by ISIAAH, a multi-faith, multi-racial, inter-generational and statewide non-partisan organization striving for racial and economic justice in Minnesota.

For information contact Joan Dillon 952.457.4037



GIVING: Thank you for your generosity to SOTH! There are many ways to give:

TEXT "GIVE" to 844-503-1571

MAIL: 500 Blake Road South, Edina, MN 55343

Place your gift in the offering plate at church.

SCAN the QR Code

Sunday, April 14

9:30 am Worship
 Shepherds of Light (Sun School)
 10:40 am Alleluia Singers
 11:00 am Book Club
 6:30 pm Apollo Chorus rehearsal

Monday, April 15

6:30 pm SMART Recovery
 7:00 pm Troop Meetings

Tuesday, April 16

8:30 am Men's Coffee
 9:00 am Quilting
 1:00 pm Staff Meeting
 5:30 pm Serve Team
 5:30-7:00 pm Council Meeting
 7:00 pm Bishop's Forum
 7:00 pm Eagle Board of Review

Wednesday, April 17

10:00 am WoW
 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
 6:30 pm Confirmation
 6:30 pm WoW
 7:30 pm Sr. High meets

Thursday, April 18

2:00 pm Crosstown Conf Pastors
 4:30 pm Personnel Committee
 5:00 pm TOPS Meeting
 6:30 pm SMART Recovery

Friday, April 19

12:00 noon Church Office closed

Saturday, April 20

9:00 am Women's Breakfast

Sunday, April 21

9:30 am Worship
 Shepherds of Light (Sun School)
 10:40 am Alleluia Singers
 6:30 pm Apollo Chorus Rehearsal

Monday, April 22

6:30 pm SMART Recovery
 7:00 pm Troop Meetings

Tuesday, April 23

8:30 am Men's Coffee
 9:00 am Quilting
 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 24

10:00 am WoW
 5:30-6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p m Dinner / Speaker event
 7:30 pm Sr. High meets

Thursday, April 25

4:30 pm Personnel Committee
 5:00 pm TOPS Mtg.
 6:30 pm SMART Recovery

Friday, April 26

12:00 noon Church office closes at noon

Saturday, April 27

2:00 pm Funeral: Mimi Drangeid

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Ask an usher for assistance. Large print bulletins are also available. You can request one from an usher.

Persons unfamiliar with our Service may find the following explanation of abbreviations helpful.

✳ indicates "Stand as able."

ELW refers to the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP** with the **cranberry cover**.

Hymn selections are listed as "**ELW ###.**"

Liturgy selections are listed as **ELW page ###.**

GATHER refers to the **GATHER** hymnbook with the **teal blue cover**.

Hymn selections are listed as "**Gather ###.**"

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
500 Blake Road South • Edina, MN 55343
Phone: (952) 935-3457
Web Site: www.sothchurch.com

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Yolanda Denson-Byers

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Sherri Otto

CALVARY PASTOR: Rev. Wade Wacholz

MINISTERS: The Congregation

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Patti Arntz

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Shawn Wacholz

CUSTODIAN: Blair Prax

LECTOR: Dick Schulze

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Jodi Rogness & Tom Sheldon

MISSION PARTNERSHIP: Tapestry Ministries, Minneapolis, MN 55423

Rev. Melissa Melnick Gonzalez

OFFICE HOURS: Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Fridays 9:00-12:00 pm

Pastor Yolanda: Monday 9:30-5:30 (home office); Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-5:30 (SOTH);

Friday in Sabbath.

Pastor Sherri: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am -5:00 pm (SOTH); Friday in Sabbath

Pastor Wade: Tuesdays 12:00 pm– 5:00 pm; Wednesdays 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm

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