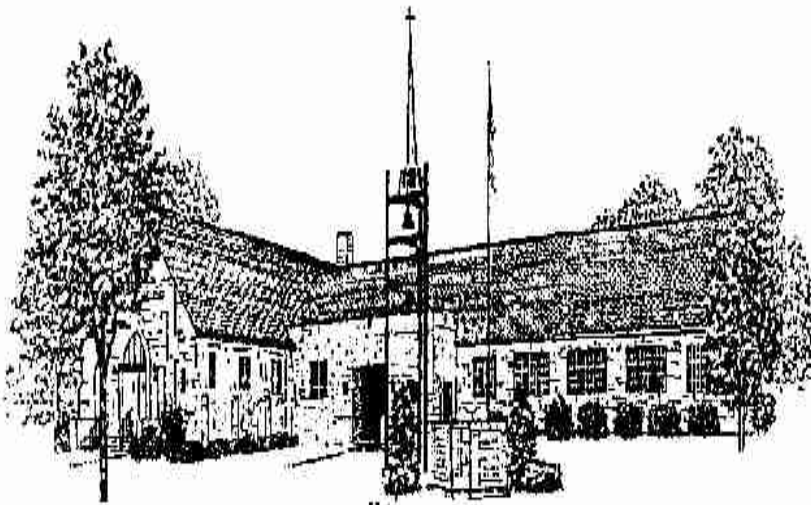


WELCOME TO WORSHIP
at
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 26TH, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

CALL TO WORSHIP *362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing Vs 3*

Where the paschal blood is poured death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God has given to all nations the repentance that leads to life. Let us come with repentant hearts to the God who makes all things new.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: We confess to you all the ways in which we dismiss the resurrection news. We are slow of heart to believe. We turn from others and retreat in fear. Come into our locked rooms and breathe into us your forgiving Spirit. Reawaken our trust and strengthen our hope, that we may be witnesses to your saving power. Amen.

P: Peace be with you, sisters and brothers. In baptism you have received a spirit of adoption; you are God's beloved children. In the name of Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Rejoice, and welcome the freedom of this gift.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN *807 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.

- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God; he,
to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bid my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE *WOV Setting 5 Pg 28*

Cantor: Kyrie eleison:

All: Lord, Have mercy.

Cantor: Christe eleison:

All: Christ, Have mercy.

Cantor: Kyrie eleison:

All: Lord, Have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE *WOV Setting 5 Pg 30*

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God and peace to God's people on earth.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God and peace to God's people on earth,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . 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 and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST READING ~ a reading from Acts 2:24-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [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. This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM ~ 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **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.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Peter 2:19-25*

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ALLELUIA, LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO WOV PG 31 SETTING 5*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of Eternal Life.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel *according to John 10:1-10*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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."

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 782 *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*

- 1 My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name.
In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.
You bring my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake your ways,
and lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
- 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.
- 3 The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
oh, may your house be my abode and all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR HEALING *Laying on of Hands and Anointing*

*Those who wish to come forward for a time of personal prayer and
laying on of hands, please come forward at this time.*

HYMN DURING HEALING 790 *Day By Day*

APOSTLE'S 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 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 OF INTERCESSION

A: 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.

A: Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: 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

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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 our heavenly home.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERATORY HYMN *WOV 35 Setting 5 Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray

C: 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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name,
and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *WOV Setting 5 Pg 36*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able;

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all the honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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

THE BODY OF CHRIST, GIVEN FOR YOU. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, SHED FOR YOU.

As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or by intinction in the fullness of faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements. We receive the Lord in our seats and share in this holy meal at the same time; One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God Wov Pg 39 Setting 5*

**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.**

COMMUNION HYMNS

789 Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

484 You Satisfy The Hungry Heart

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *WOV Pg 40 Setting 5 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's Holy Name.

Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . Mighty and compassionate God, you have brought us over from death to life through your Son, our risen Savior, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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.

SENDING HYMN *544 Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing*

- 1 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing:
glory be to God on high! Christ, your cross and passion sharing,
by this eucharist declaring yours the final victory.
- 2 Scattered flock, one shepherd sharing, lost and lonely, one voice hearing,
ears attentive to your word; by your blood new life receiving,
in your body, firm believing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
- 3 Sins forgiven, wrongs forgiving, we go forth alert and living
in your Spirit, strong and free. Partners in your new creation,
seeking peace in ev'ry nation, may we faithful foll'wers be.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the Good News! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

