

† **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER** †
April 26, 2026

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

PRELUDE Old Hundredth Macheimer/Lovelace

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*) LSB Hymn 791
All People That On Earth Do Dwell

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE (LSB Page 155)

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Almighty God, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that, when we hear the voice of our Shepherd, we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day 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, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If 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. ²¹For 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." ²³When 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. ²⁴He 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. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY (*Congregation rising*)

(Psalm 23)

A The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

C He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.

A He leads me in right paths for His name's sake.

C Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for You are with me;

A Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
C You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
A You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
**C Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

(LSB Page 156)

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

GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said,] "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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers."
⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise and Thanksgiving

LSB **Hymn 789**

SERMON

Rev. Mark Budenholzer

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third
day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at
the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to
judge the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Morning Prayer (Bunessan)

Nicholas Palmer

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who gave Himself to take away our sin, who by His death has destroyed death, and by His rising has brought us to eternal life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♪SANCTUS

(LSB Page 161)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

(LSB Page 163)

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

LSB **Hymn 641**

The Lord's My Shepherd

LSB **Hymn 710**

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand (please ask for "gluten-free" if desired); then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A Almighty God, we thank You for feeding us with spiritual food, the body and blood of Christ. All who come to You will not hunger, and all who believe in You will not thirst. Send us back into the world to share the gospel and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

LSB **Hymn 851**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol

Flor Peeters

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Service:

Rev. Mark Budenholzer, Associate Pastor/Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Deborah Reiss, Minister of Music

Lector/AM	9:00 Chris Gleason	10:45 Philip Auman Godlewski
Youth/Comm. Asst.	Gianna Miro	Joan Condon
Altar Care	Maria Gitter	
Usher Team	Richard Graham Joe Wilkinson	Ralph Schoene
Sexton	Esther Linn	
Refreshments	Schell Podoll Family	

News and Notes:

Commitment Sunday – The Stewardship Committee has been encouraging us to consider our gifts of time, talent and treasure. Today is the day to focus on our financial commitments as faithful stewards, giving back to God the “firstfruits” of what He has given us. Please fill out the pledge card (extra copies available in the narthex) and put it in the offering plate or hand to one of the ushers.

Prayer Conference Call – All are welcome to our service of evening prayer by phone on the last Tuesday of the month, led by Pastoral Assistant Morris Mayer. A printed copy of the liturgy is available in the tract rack at the back of the sanctuary. Simply dial (1) 732-434-3982. The next service is **Tuesday, April 28, at 6:00 p.m.**

The Chosen – Season 2: Viewing sessions are on **Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Since the session on April 22 was postponed, the series will continue through May 13. New participants are welcome – please RSVP to the church office using the pew card, email to Krapillo@VLC-NY.org, or call 914-337-0207, x1003. For more info, contact Deacon Janet George or Deacon Tony DeRosa.

Voter’s Meeting – The Board of Trustees will provide updates on church business, including financial matters and pastoral care. Please join us on **Sunday, May 3, at 12:00 p.m.** in the MPR.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS are needed for our special Mother’s Day breakfast (May 10) and open Sundays in May and June. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR or speak to Warren Wong.

VLC Crafting Day – Join us for a day of creativity and fellowship on **Saturday, May 9, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** in the Friendship Room. You can bring a craft from home to work on (knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, etc.) and also find out more about our Prayer Shawl Ministry. All skill levels are welcome as we enjoy light refreshments and friendly conversation. Hosted by Ruth DeRosa and Miriam Mathew.

Soup Kitchen – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. The next date is **Wednesday, May 20**. Sign up through our web site or contact Katie Bukofzer directly at etakwhit@aol.com.

Pastoral Update – Pastor Budenholzer has accepted the call to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Midwood-Brooklyn. His final Sunday at VLC will be **May 31**, when we will wish the Budenholzers Farewell and Godspeed. Please plan to be here for a special coffee hour between services.

Church & School Picnic – Save the date for our annual picnic on Baccalaureate **Sunday, June 7**, at noon.

“Sing for Joy” Concordia Choir Alumni Concert – VLC is hosting a concert of music by Ralph Schultz and other favorites from the Concordia tradition on **Saturday, June 27, at 3:00 p.m.** The concert is free and open to the public. Members of the Concordia community are also cordially invited to participate. Rehearsals will begin at 9:00 a.m. on June 27, with optional lunch. If you would like to sing, please **register online by May 25** at Concordia-ny.org/alumni26

Wednesday Bible Study – On April 29 we will continue with John chapter 15 and Jesus’ image of the vine and branches.

Music Ministry: Rehearsals this week are as follows:

- ❖ High School Choir – Sunday, April 26, at 10:15 a.m.
- ❖ Village Bells – Wednesday, April 29, at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ Youth Choir – Thurs., April 30, at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ Chancel Choir – Thurs., April 30, at 7:30 p.m.; Sun., May 3, at 8:40 a.m.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet Thursday, April 30, at 6:00 p.m.; Lifers (Grades 7-8) Confirmation class on Sunday, April 26; Crusaders (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion on Sunday, April 26

Eagle Scout Project – Marco Hernandez, a former Chapel School student and VLC First Communicant, completed his Scouts of America Eagle Award and was recognized at a special Court of Honor on Sunday, April 19. Marco worked with Pastor Hartwell and Director of Facilities Marcello Osso to replace the ceiling tiles in the MPR. Congratulations and many thanks to Marco and his team for the leadership and volunteer spirit in bringing this beautiful facilities upgrade to fruition.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Barbara Accocella, Rebecca Blanco, Giovanna Boniello, Robert & Sara Burriesci, Sue Carl, Barbara Clark, Wayne & Diana Davenport, Teri Eaton, Rhonda Gleason, Betty Lou Held, Sue Kobylach, Kristy Krum, Michelle Liscoe, Robert Magilton, Rosalind Magilton, Gloria Manigault, Lucille McGeough, Jenny Quish, Marie Reilly, Morena Rodriguez, Dot Rupe, Joanne Stellmaszyk, Daphne and Pierre Thompson and Family, Ronnie Walsh, Linda Wolff

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Deacon Rowena del Castillo** passed away on April 12, 2026; a memorial service at VLC will be held on Saturday, May 2, at 11:00 a.m.
- † **James Rapaci**, cousin of Yvonne Palladino, passed away in April 2026
- † **Ruth Recker**, VLC member for many years, passed away on March 25, 2026

WORSHIP NOTES

May 17 – Confirmation at 10:45 a.m.

May 24 – Pentecost/Family Worship at 9:00 a.m.

May 31 – Budenholzer Farewell

June 7 – Baccalaureate Sunday & Picnic

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
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914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG