



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20
Fremont, Ohio 43420
Pastor Tim Miller

Church: 419-332-6820
faithchurch@amplex.net
www.faithfremont.org

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

(8:00) Prelude:

Coming Home

H. Hardy

(10:30) Prelude:

Psalm 23

Michael Burkhardt

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

GATHERING

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

***Invitation to Worship**

P: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C: and also with you.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God’s holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed is the Lord

C: for he has heard the voice of our prayer.

P: Therefore, our hearts dance for joy

C: and in our song will we praise our God.

P: Blessed are you, Lord our God, creator and redeemer of all;
To you be glory and praise for ever. From the waters of chaos, you
drew forth the world and in your great love fashioned us in your
image. Now, through the deep waters of death, you have brought your
people to new birth by raising your Son to life in triumph. May Christ
your light ever dawn in our hearts as we offer you our sacrifice of
thanks and praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Blessed be God for ever.

P: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your
presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and
forever.

C: Amen.

(Above liturgy from “Unfolding The Living Work” by Jim Cotter)

***Gathering Song:**

O Christ Our Hope

ELW 604

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

P: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

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

P: 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.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: 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.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: 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.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: 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. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

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.

R: A reading from Acts, the second chapter.

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.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 23

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:

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.

R: A reading from 1 Peter, the second chapter.

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.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation** *Open Our Eyes*

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

To reach out and touch Him

And say that we love Him.

Open our ears. Lord, help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

***Gospel**

John 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

***Sermon Hymn:**

In Christ Alone

See Insert

***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**

R: 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.

R: 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.

R: 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.

R: 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.

R: Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for 10 seconds for people to be named)*. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

R: 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.

R: 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.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

(10:30) Senior Choir: *In Heavenly Love Abiding* E. Broughton

*Offertory *The Greatest Thing*

The greatest thing in all my life is serving you.

The greatest thing in all my life is serving you.

I want to serve you more; I want to serve you more.

The greatest thing in all my life is serving you.

*Offering Prayer

P: 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,

C: **Amen.**

*The 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,

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.

***Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: 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.

P: With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

*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.**

*Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

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.

Distribution of Communion

Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!". Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer gluten-free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let the Pastor know and he will offer a blessing.

(8:00) Piano/Flute Duet: *Without Love...We Have Nothing*
Joseph M. Martin and James Michael Stevens

(10:30) Communion Hymns:
ELW 778 *The Lord's My Shepherd*
ELW 764 *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

***Post Communion Blessing**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: 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,

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

***Blessing**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

***(8:00) Sending Song:** *You Are Holy* **ELW 525**
***(10:30) Sending Song:** *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us* **ELW 789**

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*(8:00) Postlude:

You Are Holy

Per Harling

*(10:30) Postlude:

In Green Pastures

Lefebure Wely

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THE WELCOME MAT IS OUT FOR YOU! We are happy to have you here today as a partner in prayer, in song and in the hearing of God's word. As we approach the throne of grace, O Lord, help us to receive and reflect on all the words you have for us.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given in honor of Angi LaFave-Miller's Birthday by Pastor Tim.

LEARN FIRST AID & CPR – Hosted by Lindsey Firefighters Association.



Training Highlights: Life saving CPR techniques, Use of Automatic Defibrillator Device (AED), Choking rescue for adults & children, Identifying and managing common injuries, How to handle shock, burns, and fractures and

Hands On practice sessions. Your quick response can save a life. Register for one or both of our sessions: **Saturday, April 25th and Saturday, June 27th.** CPR 9:30 am – 12:00 pm / First Aid 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm at the Lindsey Fire Station, 238 S. Main Street, Lindsey, Ohio.

Register at: lindseyfire.org/cpr-and-first-aid-class-registration. Cost: Free. For more information or questions: jconklin@lindseyfire.org or 419-680-4026.



GRADUATES: Please let the church office know of any upcoming graduates and their plans. We'd like to keep them in our prayers and send them words of congratulations and encouragement. Office Number is 419-332-6820.



EMMA ROSE KAMINSKI, is graduating from the University of Florida with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Design. She will be working at Disney to create new venues. She is the daughter of Jane and Robert Kaminski and the granddaughter of Parm Boyer.

COOPER PERRY HECKMAN, is graduating from Lake High School and Penta Career Center with a major in Electricity. He plans to continue his education at Owens and work on the Data Center in Bowling Green. He is the son of Abby and Greg Heckman and the grandson of Parm Boyer.

BLAKE DYMOND, son of Nick & Becky Dymond, is graduating from two schools in May. The Vanguard Tech Center in Electrical Trades on May 19, 2026, and is a member of the National Technical Honor Society, SkillsUSA, and Drug Free Clubs of America. He will also graduate Cum Laude from Fremont Ross High School on May 31, 2026. Blake is currently working as an Apprentice for Burkett Industries Electric, Inc and plans on continuing his employment with Burkett and is taking his Fire Alarm Certification exam in early May.

ERIK JOSEPH GARLOCK, son of Matthew & Miranda Garlock, has graduated from Terra State Community College in December 2025. He will be walking in the graduation ceremony on May 15th to celebrate achieving his Associate of Applied Science degree in Computer Systems/Systems and Networking Support.

MICHELLE CHRISTINE GARLOCK, daughter of Matthew & Miranda Garlock, is graduating from Fremont Ross High School on May 31st. She is graduating at the top 5% of her class and has been awarded the Governor's Merit Scholarship and BGSU Freshman Merit Scholarship. She will be attending Bowling Green State University this Fall and majoring in Broadcast Journalism.

ALLISON COLLEEN GAZDECKI is graduating Summa Cum Laude with an Associate's Degree in Interactive Media from Terra State Community College on May 15th. She is actively looking for an entry level media marketing/video/advertising position while working at SportsForce. She will also be hanging up her softball cleats after 15 years, finishing her final collegiate softball tournament in May. Allison finished her final years of school with perfect attendance, Dean's List every semester, and All-OCCAC Academic Honors in Softball.

JOIN US FOR A GRAD PARTY held in honor of Michelle Garlock on Saturday, June 6th from 5-8 p.m. at our home located at 1714 Baker Road, Fremont. Matthew & Miranda Garlock.



HEARTBEAT HOPE MEDICAL PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER 5K RUN/WALK FOR LIFE - We would be honored to invite your church to join us for this year's **5K / Walk for Life** on **May 9, 2026 at 9 am.** Day of registration opens at 8 a.m. To register online go to: <https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=31566> For more information go to

www.friendsofheartbeat.org/events Every step taken and every person invited helps extend this life-saving work. Thank you for your heart for this mission and for considering how your church can be part of it. With appreciation, Micella Blymyer, Event Coordinator.



GET ON BOARD!

THE STATE OF THE FAITH FILLED TRAVELERS 2026 TRIPS

This is the latest information:

Adventures in Columbus – has a change in date. A concert has been booked which canceled us, so our new date is **July 22, 2026**. We currently have **16 deposits** and **need 9 more of \$150 per person by May 31st**.

Gardens and Castles – (June 26, 2026) we currently have **18 deposits** and **need 7 more by May 10, 2026** to make this trip happen.

Days on the St. Lawrence River – (Aug. 9-14, 2026) we currently have **9 deposits** and **need 16 more**. **The date for cancellation is May 10th**. **Please make your deposits quickly!**

Joshua & More (Sight and Sound) – (Oct. 12-15, 2026) we currently have **28!!!!** That means I have already secured all the venues, hotel, tours, restaurants and motorcoach for this trip. We can add more passengers at this time with a **deposit of \$300**.

Please send your deposits ASAP so we can have more trips guaranteed. The 1000 Island trip (Days on the St. Lawrence River) is the next one that is in line for '25 or cancel'. So please get your deposits sent soon.

Until we have 25 deposits for each trip (current numbers above), we cannot reserve the venues, restaurants and driver for these trips. If there are not 25 deposits by the cut-off, the above trips will be canceled, and *deposits will be returned **or** can be applied to another trip.*
Sincerely, Yvonne Vogel 419-307-1774.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2026 OHIO SUMMER YOUTH



RETREAT! The Ohio Summer Youth Retreat will take place at Hopewood Pines (Lutheran Memorial Camp) from **Sunday, June 28 to Wednesday, July 1, 2026.** This retreat is for youth from the Northeastern, Northwestern, and Southern Ohio Synods entering 6th grade to 12th grade.

The 2026 Theme will be "Choose Love" based on

1 John 4:19, "We love because He first loved us." During our retreat we will learn what it means to Love God, Love Ourselves, Love Each other, and Love Our World. You can find more information and how to register at this link <https://hopewoodoutdoors.org/.../ohio-synod-youth-summer.../>



LIFT COMMUNITY BBQS – Free Food, Games, and Kid's activities. **Tuesdays at 5 p.m. June 9th – August 11th** in Birchard Park. Menu includes Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Fruit, Cookies, Water and Lemonade. Support the BBQS – Mail checks to LIFT, 705 W. State Street, Fremont, OH 43420. LIFTchurches.org.

MOM 2 MOM SALE – **Saturday, June 6, 2026** from 9 am to 1 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W. State Street, Fremont. Buy, Sell or Trade used Children's toys and clothing. Admission is \$2.00. Concessions available on site. Sell your stuff indoors or outdoors. Outside = 2 parking spots for \$20; Indoor = 10' x 10' space for \$20; Table = \$5. Proceeds to benefit Noah's Ark PreSchool & Grace Lutheran Youth. For more info contact HeatherRHawn@gmail.com

CAMP FIRE SANDUSKY COUNTY WILL HOST THEIR FIRST CHILDREN'S BUSINESS FAIR on Saturday, **May 23, 2026 from 9-2 p.m.** at 2100 Baker Rd., Fremont, (Misty Meadows Camp Glen). This is a free opportunity for youth ages 6-17 to create, launch and run their own small business for the day, everything from crafts to baked goods and more. This event is all about giving kids a chance to step forward, try something new and share their talents with the community. Come out and enjoy Kid-Run Booths! Fun and shopping! Visit us at www.campfiresc.org to register or call 419-332-8641. Thank you for supporting youth in our community! Danielle Wagner, Program/Camp Director.



Grief
Support
Group

A GRIEF GROUP WILL BE MEETING on Thursday nights starting April 9 from 6:00-7:00 in the lounge. The group will meet for 6 weeks through May 14th. If you are interested in attending, please call or text Becky Fox at 419-618-6948.

A REDEMPTIVE LIFE STORY: The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board is excited for our upcoming free community event with Jim Wahlberg on May 20th, hosted in partnership with the Sandusky County HOPE Court! Jim shares a powerful and personal story of redemption, from being an imprisoned, drug addicted adolescent to encountering hope at his lowest point and completely turning his life around. It is a message of resilience, second chances, and the impact of recovery you will not want to miss. **Doors open at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20th**, at the Clyde High School Auditorium, 1015 Race St., Clyde, Ohio. There will be Book Signing and refreshments at 7:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!

PRAYING DAILY

For healing and hope: Joan Bolen, Mary Ann Diekman, Denny Fahle, Millie Fetterman, Pat Forsyth, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Laurie Krynock, Bill Leutenegger, Dean May, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Betty Nielsen, Gary Overmyer,

Sharon Peña, Sandie Reed, Ken & Gloria Root, Bob Schneider, Janet Tressler, Minnie Weber, Linda Woessner. Sharon Cornado, Bruce T. Gazdecki, Peyton Heschel, Al & Judi Krumnow, Jackie Mowry, Eric Paul, Dave Wellington, Vickie Will.

For the Family of: Joan Ameling

For our Military: Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.

For our Bishops: Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Yehiel Curry, and NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff

For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania

And its pastor: Pastor Peter Magasi



Ushers Needed



USHERS NEEDED ON SUNDAY MORNINGS –

I would like to appeal to those of you interested in being ushers to please sign up on the clipboards in the coat room area. Thank you very much! Mike Fought, Deacon.

ASSISTING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Parm Boyer **Pianist:** Becky Fox

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Choir Accompanist:** Amy Wagner

Flautist: Marilyn Ring

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Larry & Donna Leow Gary & Mary Lou Cooper

Lector: Cheryl Paeth Marie Reiselt

Acolyte:

Communion: K. Paeth / C. Paeth M. Reiselt / M. Garlock

Counters: Marie Reiselt* & Randy Brown

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Sarah Wilson, Annie, Allison & Lauren Gazdecki

Ushers:

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Darla Brown

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Choir Accompanist:** Amy Wagner

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Noah Seibert Greyson Tooman

Lector: Jackie Seibert Laurie Krynock

Acolyte: Jackson Fought Braelyn Weiker

Communion: K. Smith / G. Tooman R. Brown / L. Krynock

Counters: Becky Dymond* & Niki Wasserman

Fellowship Time Host: Adult II Sunday School Class

Altar Guild: Margie Roach & Marie Reiselt

Ushers: (8:00) J. Fought & J. Smith

FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – April 26 to May 3

Sunday

Apr. 26-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 6-7:30 p.m. Hall Reserved – 4-H – Brianne Harder

Monday

Apr. 27-----8 a.m. Men’s Group in Fellowship Hall
 10 a.m. Valley View – Tea Time with God

Tuesday **OFFICE CLOSED**

Apr. 28-----2 p.m. Ruth Circle
 7 p.m. Esther Circle – Revelation #3

Wednesday

Apr. 29-----6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
 7:00 p.m. Praise Choir

Thursday

Apr. 30-----3 p.m. Christ Care
 6 p.m. Grief Support Group
 7 p.m. Sr. Choir

Friday **OFFICE OPEN**

May 1-----

Saturday

May 2-----9:15 a.m. Christ Care

Sunday

May 3-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026: ATTENDANCE: 140 – OFFERING: \$3,948.52
NOISY OFFERING: SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026: \$184.66

GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 26, 2026
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Our Good Shepherd

The images in today's texts provide us with much food for thought and action. Psalm 23 tells of a shepherd who leads us to green pastures and refreshing waters, walks alongside us as we face challenging times, takes us to a table already set, and anoints us with oil to mark each of us as chosen. We are heard, seen, known, valued, and loved, and remain in the Shepherd's presence for all time.

Jesus' words in the gospel reading add to the image of a loving and caring shepherd. The shepherd calls each sheep by name, while the sheep follow because they recognize that voice. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows us well and calls each of us by name. Jesus also serves as the gate for the sheep, guarding and protecting us in the sheepfold, while also providing access to pastureland. This protection and access give us the space to be who we are, with no need to play games or pretend to be someone we are not. And when it comes right down to it, the Good Shepherd comes to give us abundant life—new life in relationship with God, others, and all creation.

The reading from Acts 2 provides an image of abundant life among the early Christians, a life with an extravagance of worship, fellowship, prayer, generosity, service to others, and thankfulness.

How does the image of the Good Shepherd sit with you? How do you picture the relationship between you and Jesus—with shepherd and sheep imagery, or something else? Where and how do you recognize the Good Shepherd's voice? Do you know someone who has abundant life in Christ—a life of faith, joy, and love? What would such a life look like for you, and for your faith community?