

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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www.gracelutheranlexington.org

A Congregation of The Lutheran—Church Missouri Synod
Pastor Brian J. Thorson



Misericordias Domini: The Third Sunday of Easter

The Sunday of the Good Shepherd

26 April A+D 2020

Welcome in the name of Christ our Savior!

Thank you for joining us where Christ our Lord has promised to be with his gifts of faith, forgiveness, and everlasting life through His Word and Sacraments!

Today's Service

Divine Service III,
p. 184

Hymns	741
	710
	459
	666
	709

About This Service

This service is intended for our members to hear God's Word while services are suspended. Please sing along and participate in the service. Also, contact Pastor at 816-934-1741 (cell) or 660-259-2932 (church) to schedule Holy Communion. You may also schedule for Communion on our church's website at <https://www.gracelutheranlexington.org/register-for-holy-communion/>. Please send your offerings to the church. If you are mailing them, mark "offering" on the outside of your envelope.

Serving Today at Grace

Pastor	Brian J. Thorson
Organist	Jennifer Thorson
Altar Guild	Marilyn Schelp
Video	Dan Lefholz

Our Response to God's Grace

Present Last Week

No services due to COVID-19.

Offerings Last Sunday

General	\$805
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*"I am the good shepherd. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,
and they follow me. I give them eternal life."*

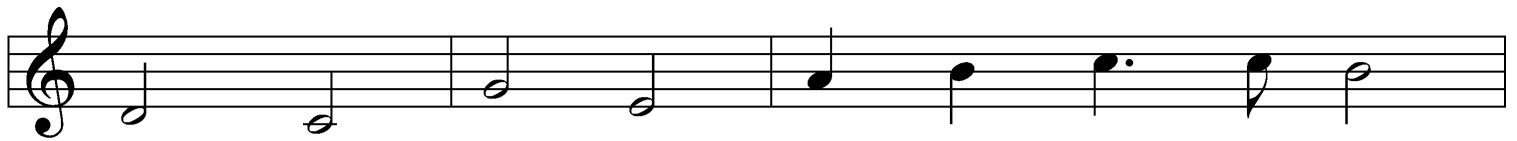
—John 10:11, 27, 28

Opening Hymn

LSB 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall
3 No, too close - ly I am bound By my hope to Christ for -
4 I am flesh and must re - turn To the dust, whence I am



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
wak - en. He will bring me where He is;
ev - er; Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
tak - en; But by faith I now dis - cern



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the
Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
Grasped it, and will leave it nev - er; E - ven
That from death I shall a - wak - en With my



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?
death now can - not part From its Lord the trust - ing heart.
Sav - ior to a - bide In His glo - ry, at His side.

- 5 Glorified, I shall anew
With this flesh then be enshrouded;
In this body I shall view
God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;
In this flesh I then shall see
Jesus Christ eternally.

- 6 Then take comfort and rejoice,
For His members Christ will cherish.
Fear not, they will hear His voice;
Dying, they will never perish;
For the very grave is stirred
When the trumpet's blast is heard.
- 7 Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave
And at death no longer tremble;
He, the Lord, who came to save
Will at last His own assemble.
They will go their Lord to meet,
Treading death beneath their feet.
- 8 O, then, draw away your hearts
From all pleasures base and hollow;
Strive to share what He imparts
While you here His footsteps follow.
As you now still wait to rise,
Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

Tune and text: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 33:1, 18–20; antiphon: vv. 5b, 6a



The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.*

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.

Shout for joy in the LORD, O you | righteous!*

Praise befits the | upright.

Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who | fear him,*

on those who hope in his | steadfast love,
that he may deliver their | soul from death*

and keep them alive in | famine.

Our soul waits | for the LORD;*

he is our help | and our shield.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.*
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–16

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

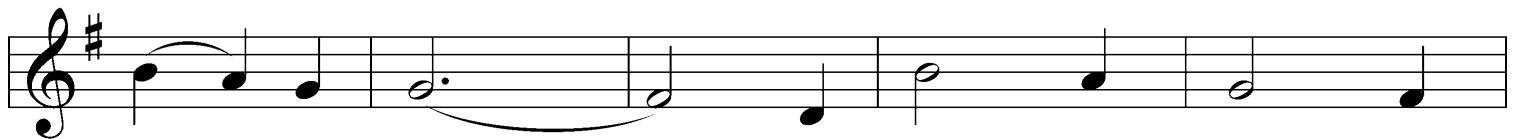
C Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

LSB 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want



1 The Lord's	my shep -	herd,	I'll	not	want;	He	makes	me
2 My soul	He doth	re -	store	a -	gain	And	me	to
3 Yea, though	I walk	in	death's	dark	vale,	Yet	will	I
4 My ta -	ble Thou	hast	fur -	nish -	ed	In	pres -	ence
5 Good-ness	and mer -	cy	all	my	life	Shall	sure -	ly



down	to	lie	In	pas -	tures	green;	He
walk	doth	make	With -	in	the	paths	of
fear	no	ill;	For	Thou	art	with	me,
of	my	foes;	My	head	Thou	dost	with
fol -	low	me;	And	in	God's	house	for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text and tune: Public domain

Epistle

1 Peter 2:21–25

²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

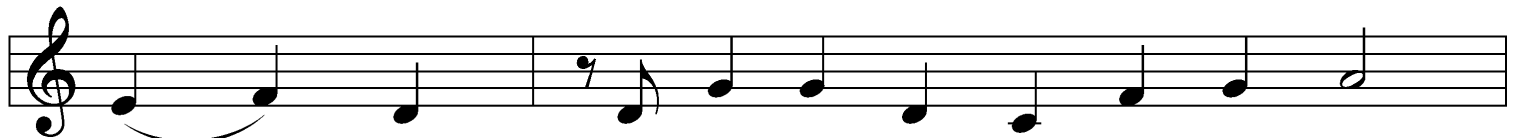
Stand

Sequence Hymn

LSB 459 Christ Is Arisen



1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark



pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;



Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

2 Were Christ not a - ris - en, Then death were still
our pris - on. Now, with Him to life re - stored,
We praise the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;
Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

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Holy Gospel

John 10:11–16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know

the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C 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.**

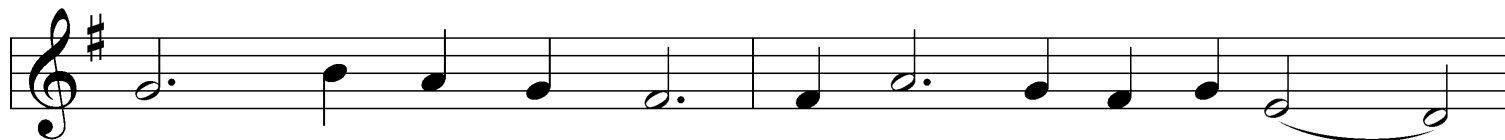
Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

LSB 666 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe



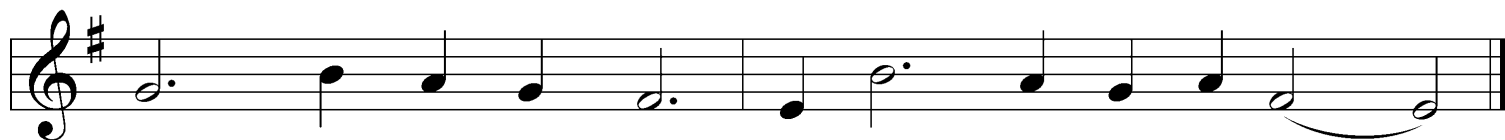
1 O lit - tle flock, fear not the foe Who mad - ly
2 Be of good cheer; your cause be - longs To Him who
3 As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor
4 A - men, Lord Je - sus, grant our prayer; Great Cap - tain,



seeks your o - ver - throw; Dread not his rage and pow'r.
can a - venge your wrongs; Leave it to Him, our Lord.
hell's sa - tan - ic crew A - gainst us shall pre - vail.
now Thine arm make bare, Fight for us once a - gain!



And though your cour - age some-times faints, His seem - ing
Though hid - den yet from mor - tal eyes, His Gid - eon
Their might? A joke, a mere fa - cade! God is with
So shall Thy saints and mar - tyrs raise A might - y



tri - umph o'er God's saints Lasts but a lit - tle hour.
shall for you a - rise, Up - hold you and His Word.
us and we with God— Our vic - t'ry can - not fail.
cho - rus to Thy praise For - ev - er - more. A - men.

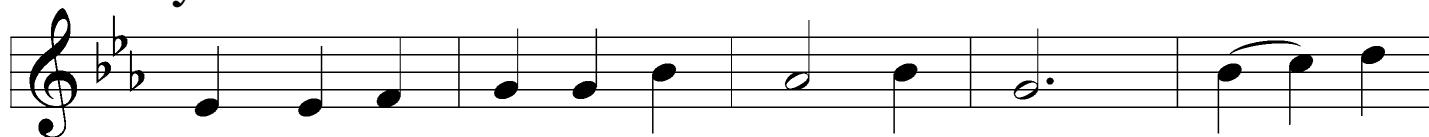
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Sermon

Pastor Brian Thorson

Stand

Offertory



☐ 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Be Seated

The Offering is Received

Please mail your offering to church

Stand

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

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

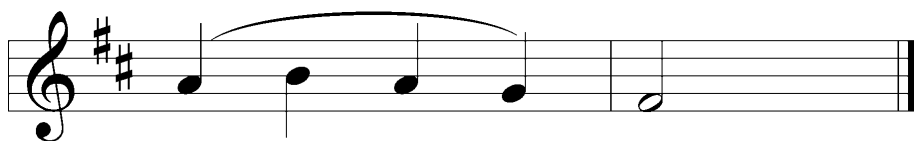
C Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom

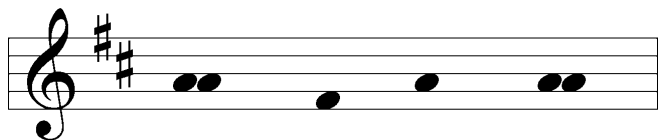
**and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

A Let us pray.

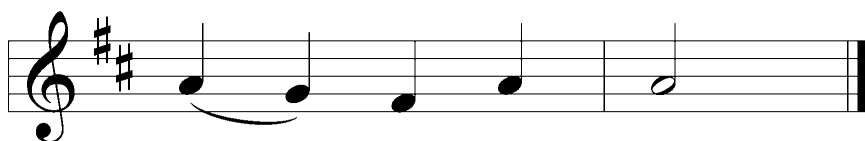
Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

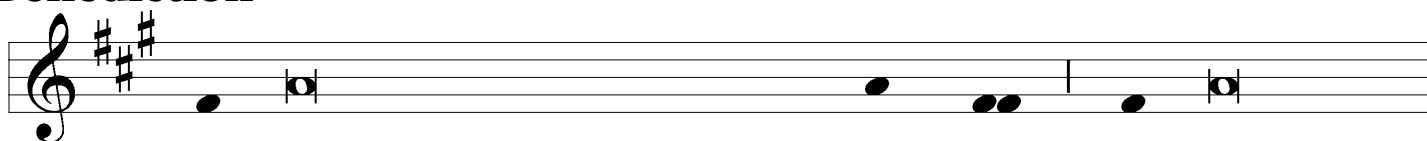


A Bless we the Lord.

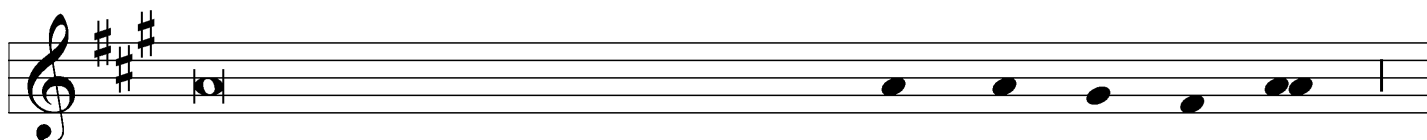


C Thanks be to God.

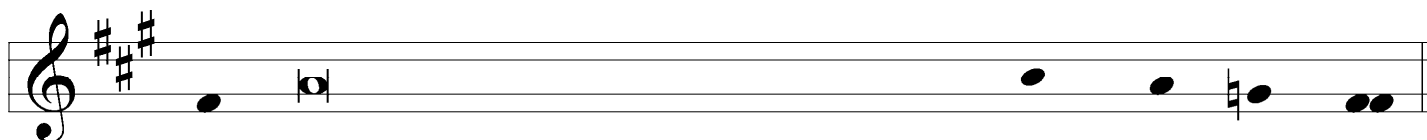
Benediction



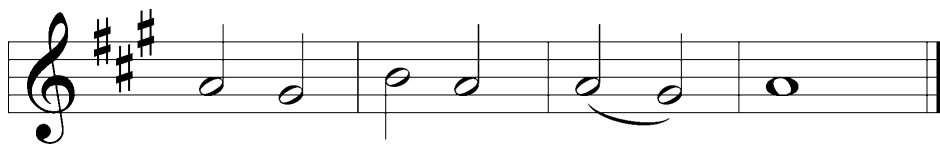
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

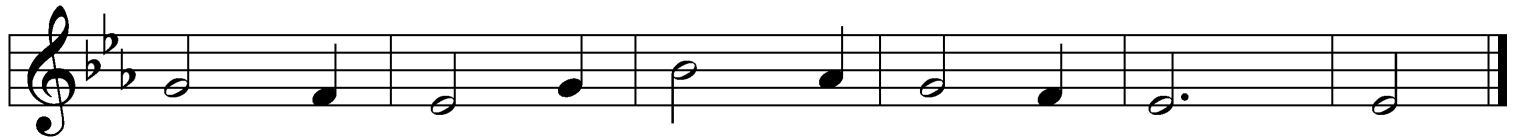
LSB 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;
 And, oh, what transport of delight
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever!

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Acknowledgments

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Announcements

We are glad you are participating in our online service. We are in the Easter season, which continues for five more weeks! We will continue to sing Easter hymns and hear of our Lord's triumphant resurrection throughout the Easter season! We pray that you will join us in-person as soon as we resume regular services.

First Calls and Vicarage Placements take place this week at both seminaries. Concordia Seminary in St. Louis will have their service on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. You may watch it online at <https://www.csl.edu/academics/call-day-services>. Seminarian Michael Fox will receive his call into the ministry. Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne will have their service on Wednesday, April 29 at 6:00 p.m. You may watch it online at <https://callday.ctsfw.edu>.

Would you like to try using Zoom online for Bible class? If so, please contact Pastor.

The following precautions have been implemented at Grace while the coronavirus is spreading across our country (these are recommended by The LCMS and many are aimed to prevent people from touching things that others have touched):

- Services and activities are currently cancelled. Please watch our services at our website or through our YouTube channel. As long as services are cancelled, we will be placing services online. This includes midweek and Sunday services.
- Please mail or drop off your offering.
- Please contact Pastor to receive Holy Communion. Registration is available on our church website.
- Hand sanitizer is available at both entrances to the church and at the bulletin table.

Most activities at church have been cancelled to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Pastoral care is still available from Pastor. He is happy to privately commune our members who desire it. To schedule, call or text him at 816-934-1741 or register on our church website.

The April Voters Meeting has been postponed until May. A date will be announced in late April or early May, depending on stay-at-home guidelines.

Portals of Prayer for April-June are now available in the narthex table.

Parents, while Sunday School and WWW are suspended, it is important to continue teaching your children the Christian faith. In addition to your regular Bible stories, devotions, and prayers that you do with your children, there are now some Sunday School resources available to you for free. Please make use of them. You can find links to them from our church website under "In the Word."

We are now podcasting our sermons. Details are found on our church homepage under "COVID-19 Update" and the sermon listing with audio and video are under "Sermons."

We have a Preschool teacher. If you know of students who are interested in enrolling, please contact the Church Office to receive registration forms.

Volunteers are needed to be trained in using the church's automatic defibrillator (AED). A layperson's CPR class and AED training will be offered at the Lexington Fire Department once a month for the next several months (a free 2-hour class). Please see Kristin Summerlin or Bernice Wagner for additional information.

Plans for Vacation Bible School are beginning. We need a VBS Director or a pair of codirectors. Please prayerfully consider serving this year. If interested, please see Pastor or Education Committee chairman Dan Lefholz.

Bridge of Hope Resource Center has outgrown its current space and purchased the old Bott Radio building on the south side of the square in Richmond. An anonymous donor has come forward to match \$25,000 in donations given by May 22, 2020. If you would like to help, please send your donation to Bridge of Hope, 112 S. College St., Richmond, MO 64085.

Our hymn of the Easter season is LSB 458, "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands," written by Dr. Martin Luther (1483-1546). This hymn speaks of Christ's triumph over death and Satan through His victorious resurrection. Study the words of this hymn and you will find it to clearly proclaim the Gospel.

The Lent/Holy Week offering designations are as follows (please send in your offerings to the Church and clearly mark your designations):

- Midweek Lent 4 (March 25): University Lutheran Chapel in Minneapolis
- Midweek Lent 5 (April 1): KMMO Radio Missions
- Maundy Thursday (April 9): Seminarian Tom Goodroad from Trinity, Kearney
- Good Friday (April 10): Local Lutherans for Life
- Holy Saturday (April 11): Community Charity

An Order for Daily Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

My mouth is filled with Your praise, **And with Your glory all the day.**

O Lord, open my lips, **And my mouth will declare your praise.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn: LSB 458 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

4 It was a strange and dreadful strife

When life and death contended;

The victory remained with life,

The reign of death was ended.

Holy Scripture plainly saith

That death is swallowed up by death,

Its sting is lost forever.

Alleluia!

5 Here our true Paschal Lamb we see,

Whom God so freely gave us;

He died on the accursèd tree—

So strong His love—to save us.

See, His blood now marks our door;

Faith points to it; death passes o'er,

And Satan cannot harm us.

Alleluia!

Catechism Recitation: The Sacrament of the Altar

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking? These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Scripture Recitation: 1 Peter 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The Ten Commandments and the Creed may be confessed. A devotion may be read. The Lord's Prayer may be prayed.

Let us pray. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Special Prayers

Homebound: Kay Alpers, Shirley Bertz, Arnold Viebrock

Sick, injured, recovering or special needs: John Gooden (back injury), Kyle Harrison (motorcycle accident), Erma Hechsel, Terry Thorson, Lyn & Barb Wilkey, and all who are affected by COVID-19

Expecting Parents: Rebecca & Scott Steele

Those in the armed forces: Jared Clapper, Sarah & Tom Seagroatt

Seminary Students: Michael Fox, Dale Krienke, and Tom Goodroad

Missions: Rev. John Fehrmann of CLEF, Rev. Charles Ferry in Southeast Asia, our preschool, and the work of our congregation

Our congregation, as we observe our centennial

To add or remove names from our prayer list, please contact Pastor. Thank you.

This Week at Grace

For hospital visits, private confession and absolution, communion for the homebound or any other pastoral calls, please contact Pastor.

Today, Apr. 26, 2020: Misericordias Domini, the Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday School (materials under “In the Word” at our website)

Divine Service (online at www.gracelutheranlexington.org)

Pastor is available to commune individual families throughout the entire week and on weekends. Please contact him to schedule a time or visit

<https://www.gracelutheranlexington.org/register-for-holy-communion/>.

Next Sunday, May. 3: Jubilate, The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday School (materials under “In the Word” at our website)

Divine Service (online at www.gracelutheranlexington.org)

Looking Ahead

Oct. 4 Centennial Celebration