

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1505 College Avenue, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310-4861

SUNDAY, April 21, 2024

Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr.

E-mail: tchurchlcms@yahoo.com

Bible Classes and Sunday School, 9:00 AM,

Office: 575-437-1482

Website: www.trinityalamogordo.org

Divine Service 10:15 AM

4th Sunday of Easter
Jesus, Our Good Shepherd



April 21, 2024

OPENING HYMN: "I AM JESUS' LITTLE LAMB" (PAGE 740)

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

Congregation: Who raised the Son Jesus from the dead.

P: In the name of the Son,

C: Who broke the chains of death.

P: In the name of the Holy Spirit,

C: Who gives us eternal life in Jesus Christ.

P: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one God.

C: We worship His glorious name!

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

P: The Bible says: "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way." (Isaiah 53:6) Now, at the beginning of our worship, we admit before the Lord how we have gone astray, trusting in His promise of forgiveness.

Personal Confession: We take a few moments for silent prayer and reflection.

Corporate Confession:

(All) Oh Lord, You are our Good Shepherd. However, all too often we don't follow You very closely. Very often we leave Your green pastures to look for pleasures in other places. We leave the paths

of righteousness. We forget that You are by our side, and we do whatever we feel like doing. Forgive us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

P: Jesus Christ says, "I am the good shepherd; I know My sheep and My sheep know Me... and I lay down My life for the sheep." (John 10:14-15) On the cross, our Good Shepherd gave His life for our sins. But afterwards, Jesus rose from the dead. Our Good Shepherd lives and He forgives us! It is my privilege to affirm that you are forgiven and have eternal life in the name of our Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

Song: The Faithful Shepherd (accompanied by Pastor Schlak on guitar)

Traditional Melody and Text – English translation by Dan Mondragon-Williams

1. Once there were one hundred, in the Shepherd's sheepfold,
Whom their faithful Shepherd, lovingly did tend.
Then one fateful evening, anxiously He counted.
One of them was missing, one of them was missing,
Sadly did He cry.

Refrain:

And the ninety nine, He left in the sheepfold,
While along the mountain, searching as He went.
Then at once He found it, lonely, sad, and weeping.
To His heart He pressed it, to its hurts He tended,
Happy Shepherd He!

2. I was once a lost sheep, wandering far from Jesus,
Stubborn and unheeding, lonely, sad and hurt.
But one day He found me, offered me salvation.
In his arms He took me, to my hurts He tended,
Brought me back with love.

Psalm 23

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd;

C.: I shall not want.

P: He makes me lie down in green pastures.

C: He leads me beside still waters.

P: He restores my soul.

C: He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

P: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

C: I will fear no evil.

P: For You are with me.

C: Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

P: You prepare a table before me

C: In the presence of my enemies.

P: You anoint my head with oil.

C: My cup overflows.

P: Surely goodness and mercy

C: Shall follow me all the days of my life.

P: And I shall dwell

C: In the house of the Lord forever.

All: 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!

FIRST READING -- ACTS 4:1-12

(There is salvation in no one else but Jesus, our Good Shepherd, risen from the dead.)

Reader: The first reading for the fourth Sunday of Easter is from the fourth chapter of Acts.

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. ⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE -- 1 JOHN 3:16-24

(The love of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, spurs us to love others.)

Reader: The Epistle reading is from the third chapter of First John.

¹⁶By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. ¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before Him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and He knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him. ²³And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in them. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit Whom He has given us.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Verse

Jesus said, "I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to My voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." (John 10:16)

✠ **ALLELUIA AND VERSE** PAGE 190

✠ THE HOLY GOSPEL -- JOHN 10:11-18

(Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep
and who takes his life up again.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the tenth chapter.

People: ♪ **Glory 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from My Father."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN: "THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'LL NOT WANT" (PAGE 710)

SERMON: THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD (Psalm 23)

✠ THE NICENE CREED PAGE 191

PRAYERS OF PETITION

P: Jesus is alive and is present with us, and so we pray for the whole church, for the world, and for all who are in need. Almighty God, open our hearts. Encourage us and strengthen our faith through Your Word and the Lord's Supper. In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: Hear us, Good Shepherd.

P: Open our hearts to welcome those who are new in the faith or new in the Lutheran Church. Help us, Your sheep, to be one. In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: Hear us, Good Shepherd.

P: Guide the leaders of all nations, particularly our own country, so that evil and divisions may be eliminated and so that peace and justice may flourish. In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: Hear us, Good Shepherd.

P: Open our eyes to the needs around us. Help us to follow Your example and share our daily bread. In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: Hear us, Good Shepherd.

P: In the midst of suffering, help us to know that You are with us, and to trust in You. Strengthen and help those who struggle with pain, sadness, loneliness or sickness, *especially*... In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: Hear us, Good Shepherd.

P: Open our hearts to trust in You, and provide us with what we need to live each day. In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: Hear us, Good Shepherd.

P: Open our lips and help us to give glory to the name of Jesus by what we say and by what we do. In the name of Jesus, risen from the dead:

C: **Hear us, Good Shepherd.**

P: Receive our prayers and fill us with hope through Jesus Christ, risen from the dead.

C: **Amen.**

Offering

The Bible says, “My God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:19) Christ has risen! And God gives us all that we need for this life and to do His work in this world. With joy we set aside part of what God has given us, to do His mission in the world!

Offertory (Prayer of Dedication)

All: Good Shepherd, thank you for everything You have given us. Following Your example, we also give these offerings in order to help other sheep to know You and in order to help provide for their needs. Bless and multiply these gifts, we pray. In Your own name we ask it. Amen.

COMMUNION STATEMENT

The Lord's Supper is celebrated by this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites us to His table as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:29-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, you are asked to **refrain until you** first speak with the Pastor or an elder.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made!

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (Psalm 118:24)

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

C: **His love endures forever!** (Psalm 118:1)

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise!**

P: Oh Lord, almighty God, we thank You because You are our Good Shepherd. How great is Your love for Your sheep! You have sought us and saved us and given us Your peace. Therefore we praise You and glorify You and celebrate this special Communion in Your presence, remembering how You have freed us.

Song: The Faithful Shepherd, verses 3 and 4 (accompanied by Pastor Schlak)

3. This same haunting story echoes without ending.

Many sheep are wandering, lost and sad are they.

But the faithful Shepherd, offers them salvation.

With His life He saves them, with His love He feeds them, Christ the Lord is He.

Refrain:

And the ninety nine, He left in the sheepfold,

While along the mountain, searching as He went.

Then at once He found it, lonely, sad, and weeping.

To His heart He pressed it, to its hurts he tended,

Happy Shepherd He!

4. You are like that lost sheep, though you may not know it,
Wandering far from Jesus, far from faith and love.
But your faithful Shepherd, calls for you and loves you.
On the cross he suffered, from the grave he rose up, All to bring you home.

Refrain:

And the ninety nine, He left in the sheepfold,
While along the mountain, searching as He went.
Then at once He found it, lonely, sad, and weeping.
To His heart He pressed it, to its hurts he tended,
Happy Shepherd He!

The Lord's Prayer

P: When we share this Communion, we are not only forgiven by God; we are also to forgive one another and be one body. If you have anything against anyone here, now is the time to let it go. As a sign of our unity in Christ, please join hands with the people next to you as we pray together the Lord's Prayer.

All: 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.

The Words of Jesus – "Remember Me"

P: On the night You were betrayed, You took the bread.
After giving thanks, You broke it and said,
"This is My body, broken for you,
And as you eat it, remember Me."

**All: This is my body, broken for you,
And as you eat it, remember Me."**

P: On the night you were betrayed, you held the cup.
After giving thanks, you lifted it up.
"This is My blood, poured out for you,
And as you drink it, remember Me."

**All: "This is my blood, poured out for you,
And as you drink it, remember Me."**

P: So we thank you for the wine and for the bread,
For we see the life you gave and the blood you shed.

**All: And we remember Your wondrous love.
You gave Your body, You shed Your blood.
And we remember Your wondrous love.
You gave Your body, You shed Your blood.**

Song: Lamb of God (LSB 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.

We Share the Lord's Supper

Hymns during Communion

"AMAZING GRACE" (LSB, PAGE 744)

"SACIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US" (LSB, PAGE 711)

Prayer After Communion

All: Heavenly Father, You raised up our Good Shepherd Jesus Christ from the dead. Help us to always follow Him faithfully. Make us to be like Jesus, seeking the lost, healing wounds, and proclaiming salvation. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Benediction

Pastor:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Cong.: Amen.

CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

CLOSING HYMN "LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING" PAGE 833

NEXT WEEK'S TEXTS: Psalm 150; Acts 8:26-40; 1 John 4:1-11; John 15:1-8

NEXT WEEK: How can you tell the difference between believers and unbelievers?

THIS WEEK'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 27--32

1. What did god require of the Israelites so that they would be blessed above all peoples?
2. How were the Israelites going to conquer the people in the promised land?

LCMS STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

April 21 – Easter 4 - John 10:14 – "I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." What does it mean to know the Lord? It starts with being known by the Lord: He claims us as His own and calls us by name. Then, once we are His, we learn to know Him, and in knowing Him, we learn to imitate Him. That is how the Christian life of good works and generosity grows from the Lord's grace.

LIFE QUOTES FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

April 21 - "Scripture and prayer are our strongest weapons to change hearts, and we must persist and never give up, no matter how disappointing things get with evil laws being enacted or evil intent coming our way." *Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR

April 21 – Easter IV – The Gracious Savior brings a delightful clarity to life-and-death issues and situations. Killing and destroying belongs entirely to the work of the devil (John 10:11). The people of God advocate and extend abundant, everlasting life to the Lord's every last little lamb. Unto all our neighbors, with both our voice and our goods (1 John 3:17), may we "come that they may have life and have it abundantly!"

2nd THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
<i>SUNDAY</i>	9:00 A.M. 10:15 A.M.	Christian Education Hour Divine worship/Communion Mission Sunday-LHMI Pastor Schlak-guest Pastor
<i>MONDAY</i>	7:00 P.M.	Adult Bible study
<i>TUESDAY</i>	9:30 A.M.	Ruth Bible Study
	4:30 P.M.	Devotions-Betty Dare
<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	9:00 A.M.	Men's Bible Study
	10:30 A.M.	TOPS
	11:30 A.M.	PEO Meeting
<i>THURSDAY</i>	5:30 P.M.	Bell Choir Practice
<i>FRIDAY</i>	9:00 A.M.	Highway Cleanup
<i>SUNDAY</i>	9:00 A.M. 10:15 A.M.	Christian Education Hour Divine Worship

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers adorning the chancel area this morning have been placed to the glory of God by Rick & Nora Sotak in honor of their 51st wedding anniversary and by Bob & Jan Thede in celebration of their grandson Bobby's 27th birthday, and Bobby and Maryel's 2nd anniversary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POTLUCK LUNCHEON: Please join us today after the worship service for a Potluck for our mission Sunday guests Pastor Richard Schlak and his wife Maricita. Pastor Schlak is our guest pastor from the Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute.

HIGHWAY CLEANUP: Next Saturday, April 27th, is our highway cleanup for this spring. We'll meet at our highway sign at 9:00 a.m. just west of White Sands National Park, mile marker 198. Trash grabbers, gloves, orange vests and trash bags will be provided. Please make sure you have water, sun protection and long pants (to keep the nasty weeds from your skin). The event usually only takes sixty to ninety minutes. See you there!

THE MISSION FOR MARCH AND APRIL is the **Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute**. The mission of the LHMI is preparing workers to multiply healthy Hispanic Ministries. The Institute trains men and women as missionaries, lay leaders, and leaders who will go on to serve as called church workers to sow the seed of the Gospel among Hispanics. Pastor Schlak for LHMI is our guest speaker today.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE CLASS is studying lessons from LWML. These are one session lessons, so when you go on vacation you will be able to jump right in again when you return. Join us at church on Tuesday mornings at 9:30.

EGGS: The Dommers' are going to be bringing eggs on Sunday for anyone to take. The only thing is that they ask that the cartons be returned to them when empty. The eggs are on the table in the narthex.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: This year's National Day of Prayer will be Thursday May 2nd. Trinity will again this year commemorate the day with 24 hours of prayer. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the board in the narthex. Please pick the hour you would like to pray and sign up. If you don't think you can do an hour, pray with a friend (each would take half of the same hour.) We will have prayer suggestions available prior to that day to help you with your prayers.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: The sign-up sheet for volunteers for Vacation Bible School is posted on the Sunday School bulletin board. VBS is the week of June 10 through the 14th. Please sign-up to help even if it is not for the full week. Questions, please contact Jill Clark or Sue Kelly.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Study Isaiah 63-66 and Lutheran Service Book 487 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Proverbs 8-12 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear about Love Fulfilling the Law in the Apology of the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (4/27 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org and the KFUE Radio app

THE TRACT OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL: "The Christian life is a wonderful journey but one that can come with many questions. There are numerous parts to the faith that can be difficult to understand. What is the Bible? What other religions are there and how is Christianity different? What is the history of the church? How are Christmas and Easter celebrated?" As of March, we have finished the "A Biblical Response" series. Beginning in April we will start the "**A Simple Explanation Series**". Topics in this series include: "Heaven & Hell, Church Year, Church & State, Lutheranism, Christian Denominations, Angels, Christian Symbols, Gender & Sexual Identity, Prayer, World Religions" and more. Since Easter is fresh in our minds, our first booklet will be "A Simple Explanation of Easter." This book is easy to read and understand. If you or your children or any of your friends have questions or need a refresher course about Easter, this is the book to read.

BACKPACK MINISTRY

We are collecting food items for the Love INC Backpack Ministry for the Tularosa schools. Please leave your donations in the tub in the south hallway. A list of items needed is posted above the tub. You may make a monetary donation if you prefer. Contact me at 575-214-9942 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support. Cheryl Richey.

Back Pack Food Suggestions

Small boxes of Cereal	Cereal Bars
Fruit cups	Shelf stable milk boxes
Cheese Crackers	Small bags of Chips
Soups or stews	Tuna or Chickens salads
Juice Boxes	Fresh Fruits

Other suggestions are welcomed and appreciated!

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OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024: WORSHIPPED: 54 ONLINE: 6

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024, 2024: GENERAL FUND: \$4,420.00

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024: \$2,235.00

DOLLAR PROJECT-YSLETA BACKPACKS, APRIL 7 & 14: \$43.00

LHMI-APRIL 7 & 14: \$58.00

FLOWERS, APRIL 7 & 14: \$36.00

ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

MUSIC: Lisa Cramm

HOSTS:	Jim & Verna Fladhammer	ELDER:	Robert Rentschler
ALTAR GUILD:	Sandra Krueger Stacy Johnson	TELLERS:	Sandy Klose Susan Kelly
ATTENDANCE:	Diane Kline	SOUND TECH:	Matt Anderson
USHERS:	Bob Thede, Tammy Thede Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson		
1ST LESSON:	Bob Klose	2ND LESSON:	Sandy Klose
SUNDAY SCHOOL:	Nora Sotak		

ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH

MUSIC: Cyndi Heithold

HOSTS:	Goldie Gressman Robin Haymes	ELDER:	Jim Wilkes
ALTAR GUILD:	Sandra Krueger Stacy Johnson	TELLERS:	Joyce Macon Bob Klose
ATTENDANCE:	Diane Kline	SOUND TECH:	Jim Kline
USHERS:	Gerald Moore, Irvin Torres Bob & Sandy Klose		
1ST LESSON:	Cheryl Sandenaw	2ND LESSON:	Ruth Wilkes
SUNDAY SCHOOL:	Nora Sotak		

**HEAVENLY FATHER, WE COME TO YOU IN
PRAISE AND PRAYER**

Darrell & Sheila Anderson, Darren Belcher, **Marvin Bunker**, Jerimiah Carr, Ellen Clark, Leroy Copeland, **Pastor Kevin Cramm**, Toni Cullen, **Laurie Di Paolo**, **Valerie & Bill English**, Frank & **Shirley Enyeart**, Donna Holiday, Scout Hughes, **Kristi Humphrey**, A. J. Johnson, Jim Johnson, Laura Klose, Renee' Lambert, Janet Marsh, Dale Murphy, **Evelyn Omey**, Damian Orchard, Chad Parks, Logan Radford, Connie Rogers, Carl Rooker, Jon Scarbough, Jessica Schroeder, Sarah Van Dorn, Eric & Joel Van Duyn, Christine Vertein, Ann Waghorn, Betty Wilkes, **Lee Wood**, Margaret Worley, Karen Zinn, Trinity's Sunday School, Martyrs for the faith, Our Nation's Leaders, Public Safety Personnel

We also pray for those who are on the long-term prayers in the Trinitarian.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY IN THE MILITARY

Tom Bass, Heather Beck, **Zac Collins**, Caleb Jaecks, Aaron Nickell, Kyle Steeby, **Natasha Thomas**, Anthony Uttke, Tanner Wedd, and all troops serving in harms way

LEST WE FORGET

PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING

FOR OUR HOMEBOUND

Kay Burger, Lothar Butzkies, Rodney Greer, **Shirley Hill**, Colleen Sandenaw, **Lee Wood**

AMEN

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

If you wish to place a name on the prayer list, you must complete a **blue prayer request card**. The cards are located on the credenza to the right as you leave the sanctuary. If the individual needs to remain on the prayer list, the requester will have to update the request card every two weeks by calling the church office or completing a new card. If not updated after two weeks on the weekly prayer list, each name will be transferred to the extended prayer list which will be published in the Trinitarian.