

“I came
that they may
have *life*
and have it
abundantly.”

John 10:10, NRSV

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026 9:30 a.m. Worship

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers – ELCA

6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples, FL 34113

Website: www.sotgweb.org email: sotg6020@gmail.com

Telephone: 239-775-0696

Pastor Jeff: 641-529-2479

All Are Welcome!

All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and to one another.

You are encouraged to participate in all that Shepherd of the Glades has to offer and to make Shepherd of the Glades your spiritual home.

If Shepherd of the Glades can be of service to you or if you would like Pastor Jeff to contact you, please so indicate on the pew welcome sheet.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026 9:30 a.m. Worship

Please stand where indicated by +

Congregation is invited to join where indicated by bold type

PRELUDE

Megan Cianflone, *director of music*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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.

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.

+ GATHERING HYMN

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

ELW #807

- A The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

+ THE PRAYER OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A 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.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

⁴²The baptized 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.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (*read responsively*)

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

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

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

⁴Though 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.

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

⁶Surely 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

¹⁹It 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.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

+ THE HOLY GOSPEL according to: **John 10:1-10**

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 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 The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey T. Ungs

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

ELW #789

+ APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us proclaim our trust in the presence and power of God in our lives with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

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

C receive our prayer.

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

C receive our prayer.

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

C receive our prayer.

P Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured especially Anna-Marie Myers, Barbie Harris, Dean Welch, Dede Rowe, Gary Ramsey, Janet Eichler, Matthew Popp, Michelle Hubb, Nick & Anita Lehr, Pastor Bill & Phyllis Stewart, Pat Miller, Patricia Lussky, Rodney Heindel and Susan Schacht. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing and comfort the families of Merlyn Bowers and Joanne Hogan. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P O God, look with favor on your servants Harlo & Karen Peterson and Steve & Diana Snover as they celebrate anniversaries. Bless our friends Lawrence Buettner, Marjorie Oberst, Louise Kalbaugh and Lori Cook on their birthdays this week. Grant that they grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness. Merciful God.

C receive our prayer.

A Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

+ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ OFFERTORY

We give an offering to show thanks for God's blessings, and to support the ministries of God's Church, near and far. Offering collection plates are available upon entry to the sanctuary before worship or as you leave after its conclusion. To give electronically, just scan this code with your phone or visit our website: www.sotgweb.org.



OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C 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, Amen.

PROPER PREFACE

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and the blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER *(spoken)*

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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are invited and welcome to come forward to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please notify an usher. For your safety and convenience, you will have a choice of coming to the altar rail or taking communion in your pew in an individually sealed container.

If, for any reason, you are not comfortable receiving communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms, indicating you wish to receive a blessing.

The Eucharist is celebrated by intinction. Our Altar Guild at all communion services offers grape juice (lighter color), as well as wine (darker color), for intinction, the dipping of the wafer into the wine or juice. One chalice will hold both wine and grape juice. Note: Gluten free wafers are offered, as well, in the Narthex or as you come forward.

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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.**

+ THE 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.**

+ SENDING HYMN

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

ELW #774

+ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

MINISTRIES FOR TODAY

Ushers: Jennifer White, Brenda Charleston and Guy & Pat Cooper

Lector: Penny Morken

Communion Assistants: Mary Winsor, Jennifer White and Brenda Charleston

Altar Guild: Donia Mrozek

A/V Technicians: Abraham Ungs and Kelli Ungs



SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Our mission is "Transforming lives through the Living Word of God."

Pastor	Rev. Jeffrey T. Ungs
Director of Music	Megan Cianflone
Director for Discipleship	Mary Winsor
Congregational President	Penny Morken
Administrative Assistants to the Pastor	Lynn Dickerman
	Deanna Colbert



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are given by Connee Zeman in memory of her husband Tony for their anniversary.

If you or someone you know is hospitalized and would like a visit from Pastor Jeff, please call the church office. Local hospitals do not notify churches when one of their congregants is admitted.

THIS WEEK AT SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES

Friday

Newsletter Mailing

9:00 a.m. Women's AA Group in Hanson Hall

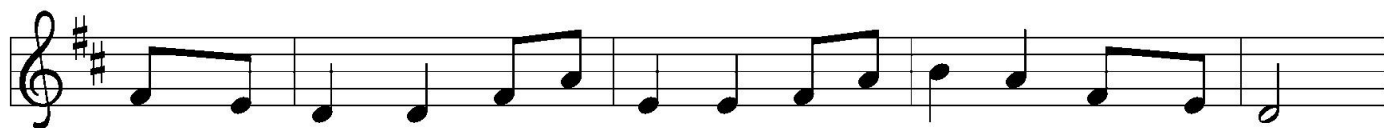
ONGOING WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Mondays	9:00 a.m.	Bone Builders in Hanson Hall
	Noon	AA Group in Hanson Hall
Tuesdays	8:30 a.m.	Sew Sews in Hanson Hall
Wednesdays	9:00 a.m.	Bone Builders in Hanson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study in Hanson Hall
Thursdays	7:30 p.m.	AA Group in Hanson Hall
Saturdays	9:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous Group in Hanson Hall
Sundays	9:30 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary and Online – service is live-streamed on YouTube or can be accessed on our website, www.sotgweb.org/

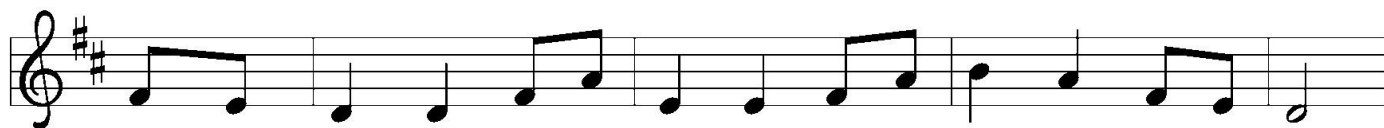
LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday	May 9	Memorial Service for Merlyn Bowers
Tuesday	May 12	Church Council Meeting
Saturday	May 16	Memorial Service for Joanne Hogan

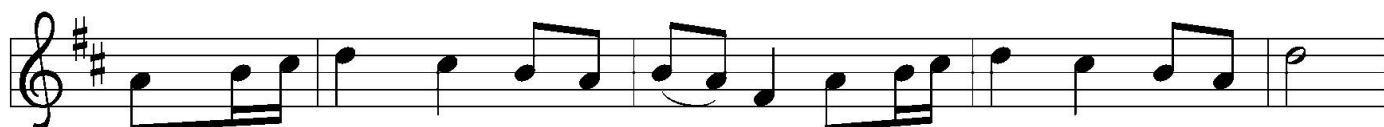
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924