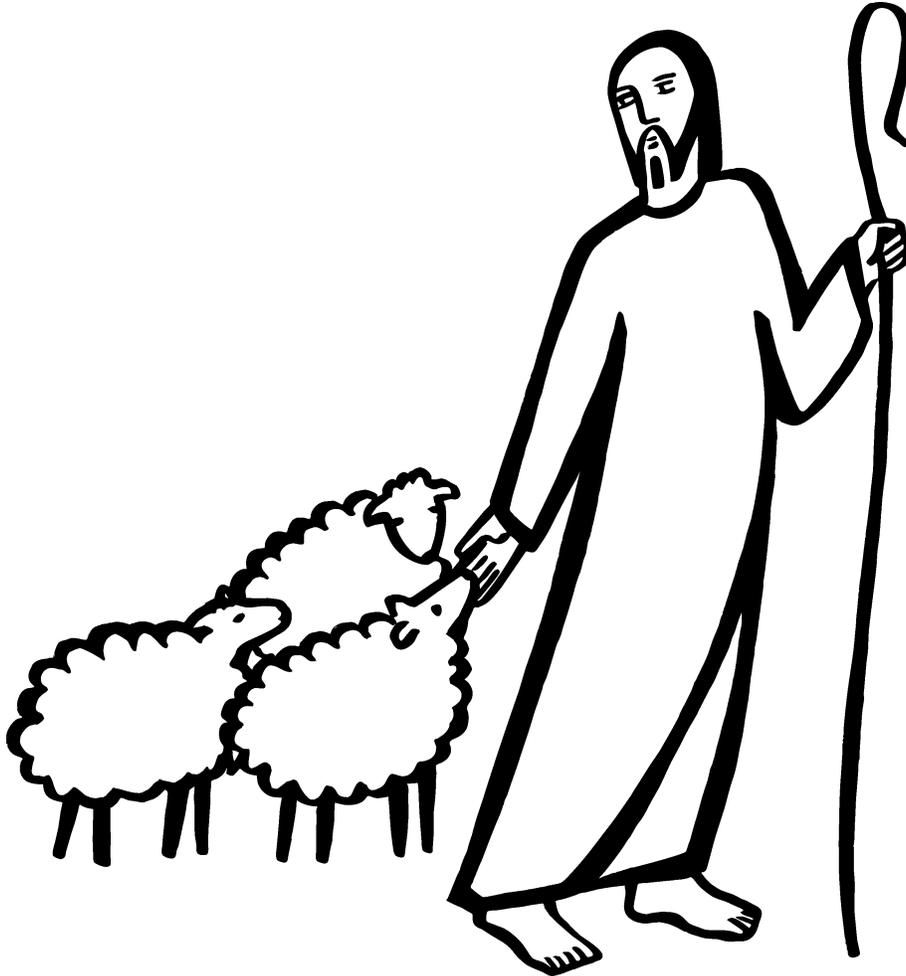


Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022

11:00 a.m.



The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Ascension Lutheran Church

827 Wildwood Ave

Columbia, SC 29203

(803) 786-6429

Ascension.office827@gmail.com

The Reverend Jackie Utley, Pastor

WELCOME VISITORS

We are glad you are here!

- *The Lutheran Liturgical Service is meant to be interactive. You will be able to follow & participate in today's Order of Service using this Bulletin. There are helpful instructions italicized throughout but please ask a neighbor or the Usher if you have any questions.
- *We invite you to partake in the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion.) Juice and gluten free wafers are available.
- *Please fill out the attendance slip and place in the Offering Plate.
- *We welcome and encourage children in the Sanctuary. However, there is a Nursery located at the very end of the main hallway.
- *The Women's Restroom is located through the left door, continuing through The Choir Room, then to the left. A Unisex/Handicap Restroom is located through the right door and is immediately to the left.
- *All activities (choirs, lunch groups, bible study, etc.) are open to all. You do not have to be a member to participate.
- *If you have interest or questions about membership, contact Pastor Jackie Utley at 803-786-6429 or jackie.utley@gmail.com

SAFETY PROCEDURES

- *Masks are optional but **strongly** encouraged if you are unvaccinated.
- *We have a large space and will continue to promote social distancing as we do have members who are immunocompromised.
- *Please sanitize hands upon entering Sanctuary.
- *"Passing the Peace" will be shared verbally, staying in your pew.
- * Continue to social distance when coming up to receive communion.

SERVING ASCENSION TODAY

Parish Pastor: *The Reverend Jackie Utley*
Asst. Minister: *Bridget Whately*
Lector: *Crystal Freie*

Parish Musician: *Gregory Stone*
Usher: *Billy Browder*
Crucifer: *Bridget Whately*

NOTICES

TODAY

Sunday, May 8th – 4th Sunday of Easter

- 11:00 AM Holy Communion Service
 - *This Far by Faith* Hymnal (TFF)

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Clinard Rawls by the Members of Ascension.



THIS WEEK

Monday, May 9th

- 1:00 PM Visitation for Clinard Rawls
- 2:00 PM Funeral Service for Clinard Rawls

Wednesday, May 11th

- 5:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday, May 15th – 4th Sunday of Easter

- 11:00 AM Holy Communion Service

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, now and forever.

All Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN TFF 70 *Lead Me, Guide Me*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.

O God of peace,
you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,
the great shepherd of the sheep.

All By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

Rev. Jackie Utley, Cantor

Refrain: The LORD is my shepherd; There is nothing I shall want.

¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd; I shall not¹ be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹side still waters.

³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.

Refrain

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever.

Refrain

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR THE SEASON OF EASTER

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!
Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 10th chapter

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,
²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.”

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ**

We sit.

SERMON

A brief silence for reflection.

Stand as you are able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY TFF 146 *I Can Hear My Savior Calling*
(Where He Leads Me)**

Stand as you are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

Asst. Min. As the called people of God,
we profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

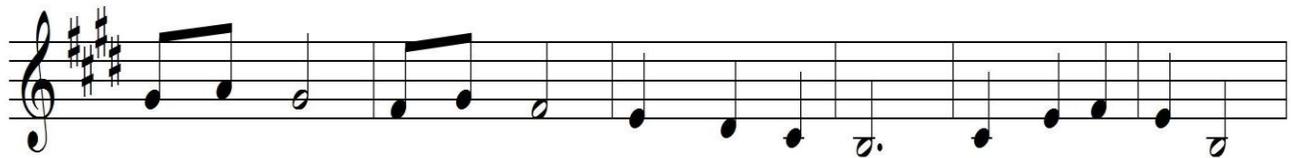
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**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.**

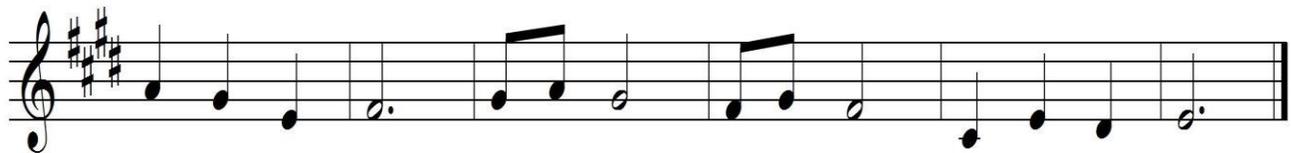
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

SONG OF PETITION

The following will be sung before the Prayers of Intercession.



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole; peace to all peo-ple,



hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

ELW 178, text and music: Paul Andress, b. 1956.
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Prayers of Intercession are “The Prayers of the People.” Therefore, we invite Lay members, visitors, and children to read the prayers marked “Lay Person.” After each petition: Pastor/Lay Person: “God, in your mercy,” All: “hear our prayer.”

Pastor Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Lay Person Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus’ work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

All **hear our prayer.**

Lay Person Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy,

All **hear our prayer.**

Lay Person Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother’s Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives. God, in your mercy,

All **hear our prayer.**

Lay Person Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding. Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

All **hear our prayer.**

(Prayers continue next page)

Pastor Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation. Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. We especially pray for these members of our Church Family who are in the hospital, at home, or in care centers. Comfort their hearts and ours with your powerful presence:

All	Tommy Boozer	Margarie Lever	Gene & Johann Roof
	Donna Clark	Pat Martin	Debbie Shumpert
	Ava Hudson	Lisa Mosely	Charlene Van Patten
	David Lever	Delores Richardson	Dorothy Van Patten

Pastor And for those others we name aloud now on our lips or silently in our hearts... God, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Pastor Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All Amen.

PEACE

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

The people may greet one another verbally with "Peace be with you" or similar words from their pews while social distancing.

We Sit.

OFFERTORY

Feed My Lambs
The Chancel Choir

Natalie Sleeth

Stand as you are able

OFFERING SONG *Crown Him with Many Crowns vs. 5*

5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.

Living God,

you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together

in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table.

All **Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

+ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION +

*This meal is the Lord's Supper of grace and is open to ALL Christians of any background or denomination. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in Christ's true presence in, with, and under the elements. When giving the bread and the cup, the Pastor says, "The body of Christ, given for you." & "The blood of Christ, shed for you." Each person may respond with "Amen." *If you require a gluten-free wafer or prefer grape juice, please let the Pastor know.* Children who have not received communion instruction are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts! We lift them to the Lord!
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
It is right to give our thanks and praise!

PREFACE FOR THE SEASON OF EASTER

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. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

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

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy spirit, in your church, both now and forever.

All Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor The risen Christ dwells with us here.

All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond: "Amen."

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.

COMMUNION HYMN TFF 151 *He Leadeth Me*

Stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
 strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

All Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Asst. Min. Let us pray.

We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven
and earth where hunger and thirst are no more.

**All Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
 that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
 Amen.**

BLESSING

Pastor God, the Author of life,
 Christ, the living Cornerstone,
 and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
 ✠ bless you now and forever.

All Amen.

SENDING HYMN TFF 254 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

DISMISSAL

Pastor Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

All Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE *Christ Lag In Todesbanden*
 *Das Orgelbuchlein***

J.S. Bach

PRAYER LIST – Our members, family, and friends with current needs:

The Family of Clinard Rawls (cards to: The Rawls Family, 5120 Holmes Ave, Columbia, SC 29203)

Frances Jordan, mother of Ruben Jordan

Randy Cooper, cousin of Billy Browder

Debra Butler

<u>Stewardship/Receipts for Easter Sunday May 1, 2022:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>	18
Program	\$1,130.00	
Loose	\$ 22.00	
Music Ministry	\$ 20.00	
Total	\$1,172.00	



Join us as we celebrate

“The Ascension of Our Lord”

**Potluck Fellowship Meal
Thursday, May 26th. at 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall**

Please bring your favorite dish or dessert to share. Potluck sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex or contact the office.

**Baby Bottle Campaign to support
Birthright of Columbia**

From Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 8th to Father’s Day, Sunday, June 19th, you will have the opportunity to participate by taking home a bottle and filling it with coins, cash, or check*. Funds enable Birthright to offer positive assistance and aid to local pregnant girls and women who contact them for help.

***Checks should be made payable to “Birthright of Columbia.”**