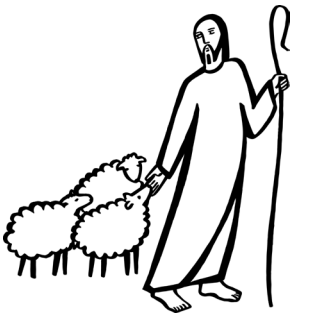
Fourth Sunday of Easter + May 11, 2025 9:00 am

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
2417 Drexel Avenue - Racine, Wisconsin 53403
(262) 634-7998
https://www.facebook.com/LCRRacine



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.

GATHERING

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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ☩ the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

Gathering Song ***"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*** *ELW #789*

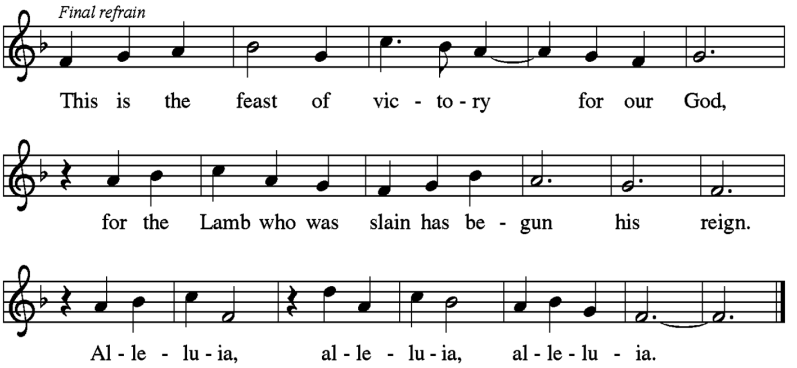
Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Canticle of Praise



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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

WORD

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

First Reading **Acts 9:36-43**

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas). Her life overflowed
with good works and compassionate acts on behalf of those in need. 37 About that time, though,
she became so ill that she died. After they washed her body, they laid her in an upstairs room.
38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two
people to Peter. They urged, "Please come right away!" 39 Peter went with them. Upon his arrival,
he was taken to the upstairs room. All the widows stood beside him, crying as they showed the
tunics and other clothing Dorcas made when she was alive. 40 Peter sent everyone out of the room,
then knelt and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes,
saw Peter, and sat up. 41 He gave her his hand and raised her up. Then he called God's holy people,
including the widows, and presented her alive to them. 42 The news spread throughout Joppa, and
many put their faith in the Lord. 43 Peter stayed for some time in Joppa with a certain tanner
named Simon.

At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

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 be- | side 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 **Revelation 7:9-17**

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

After this I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out with a loud voice:

"Victory belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

11 All the angels stood in a circle around the throne, and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell facedown before the throne and worshipped God, 12 saying,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might be to our God forever and always. Amen."

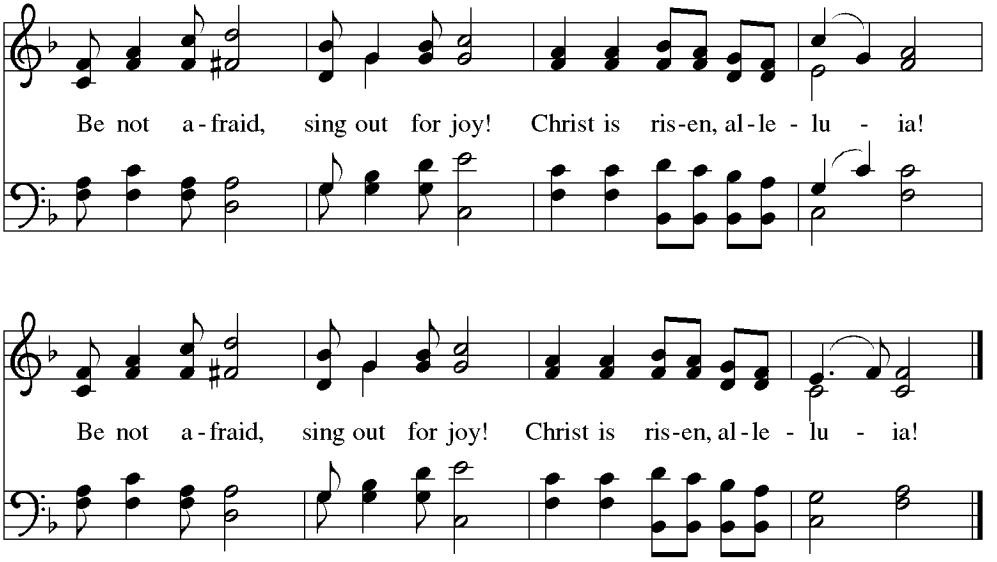
13 Then one of the elders said to me, "Who are these people wearing white robes, and where did they come from?"

14 I said to him, "Sir, you know."

Then he said to me, "These people have come out of great hardship. They have washed their robes and made them white in the Lamb's blood. 15 This is the reason they are before God's throne. They worship him day and night in his temple, and the one seated on the throne will shelter them. 16 They won't hunger or thirst anymore. No sun or scorching heat will beat down on them, 17 because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community
Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel **John 10:22-30**

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

The time came for the Festival of Dedication in Jerusalem. It was winter, [23] and Jesus was in the temple, walking in the covered porch named for Solomon. [24] The Jewish opposition circled around him and asked, "How long will you test our patience? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."
[25] Jesus answered, "I have told you, but you don't believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, [26] but you don't believe because you don't belong to my sheep. [27] My sheep listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me. [28] I give them eternal life. They will never die, and no one will snatch them from my hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them from my Father's hand. [30] I and the Father are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ***"The Lord's My Shepherd"*** *ELW #778*

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

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

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need. Each petition ends with: God of Grace. **receive our prayer.**

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Darlene Sorensen, Erna Joswig Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Marie Miller, Sandy Monefeldt, Pat Quale, Estie Marnell, Tim LaPointe, Michelle Haws, Sheila Fair, Cherie Julius, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Merlin Gandrud, Chuck Julius, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Missy Hoffman, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

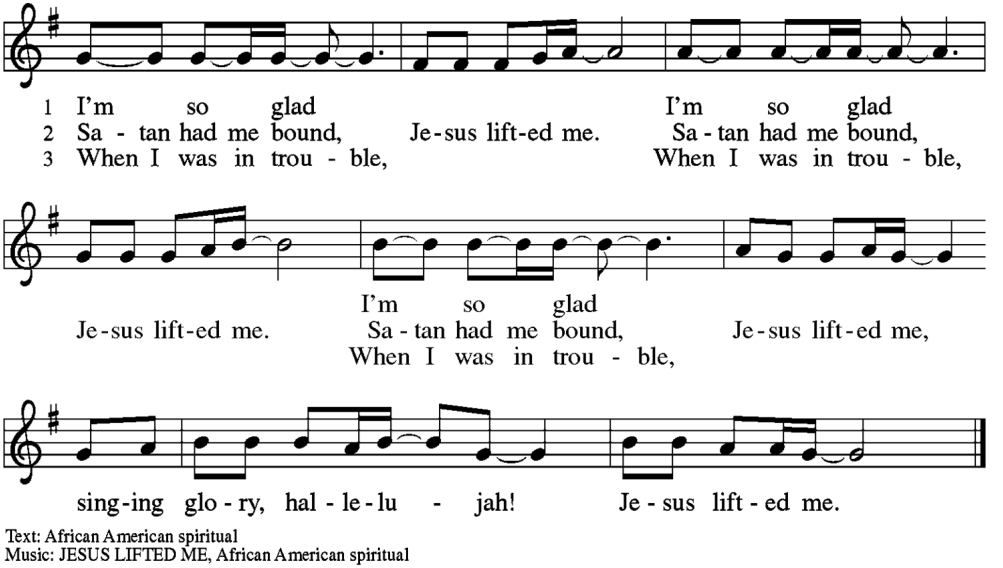
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

There are many ways to give to support Redeemer! You may place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed, you may mail your offering to the church office, you can even text to give by texting the amount you wish to give to 262.592.5757, then follow the prompts. You may also scan the code to the left with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). ***Thank you for your generosity!***

Offering Song



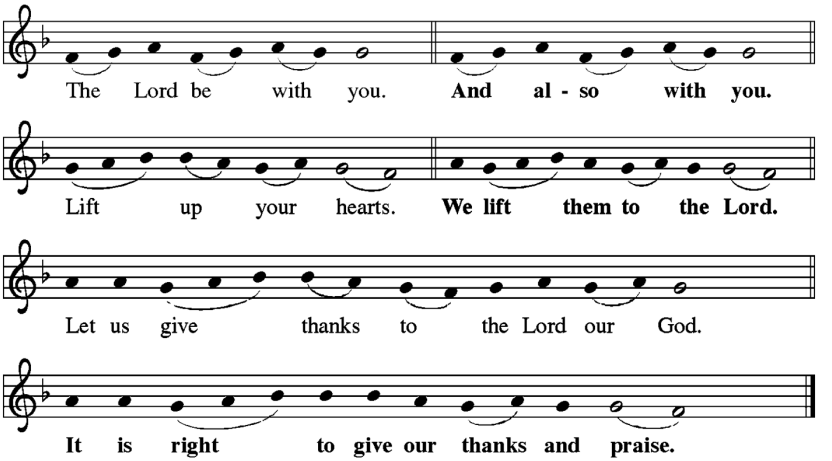
Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again, breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

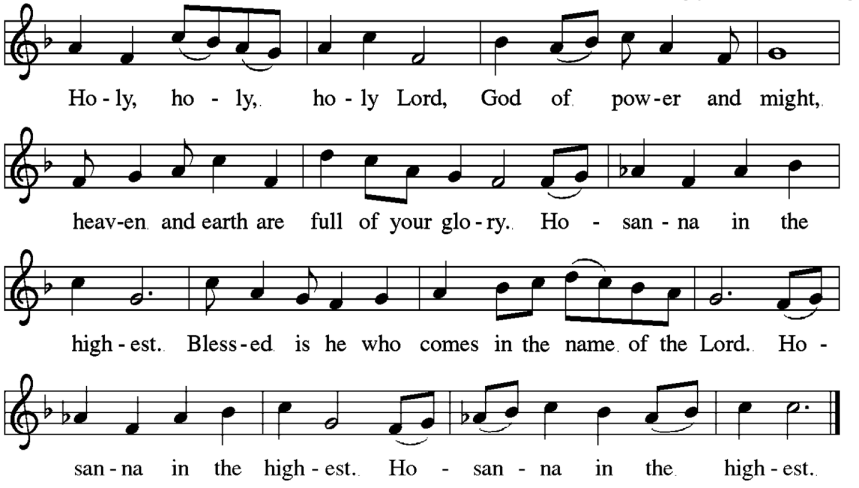


The Presiding Minister continues:

Shepherding God, we praise and thank you ,...

... where angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven,

sing your unending praise.

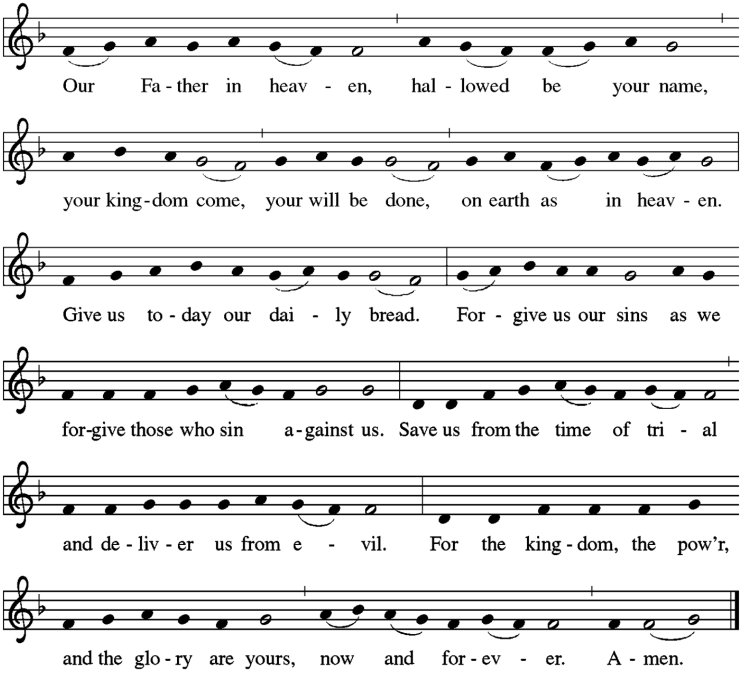


The Presiding Minister prays giving thanks to God, for God's saving work throughout history. The Assembly responds when prompted:

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

The Lord's Prayer

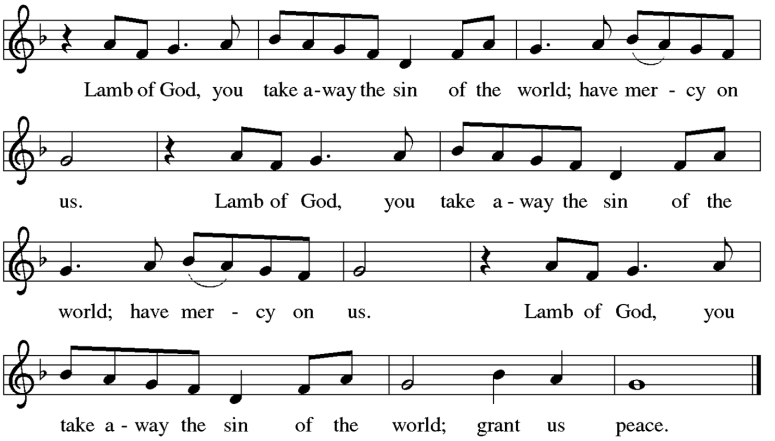


Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Distribution of Communion

If you are worshipping with us at home, you are invited to partake in Communion as well! All you need is bread of any kind and wine or juice of any kind. As you receive the bread: 'This is the Body of Christ given for you.' As you receive the wine or juice: 'This is the Blood of Christ shed for you.' If you are worshipping with more than one person, please serve one another as you able using the above words.



Communion Song ***"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"*** *ELW #502*

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.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877
Music: St. Columba, Irish tune

Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

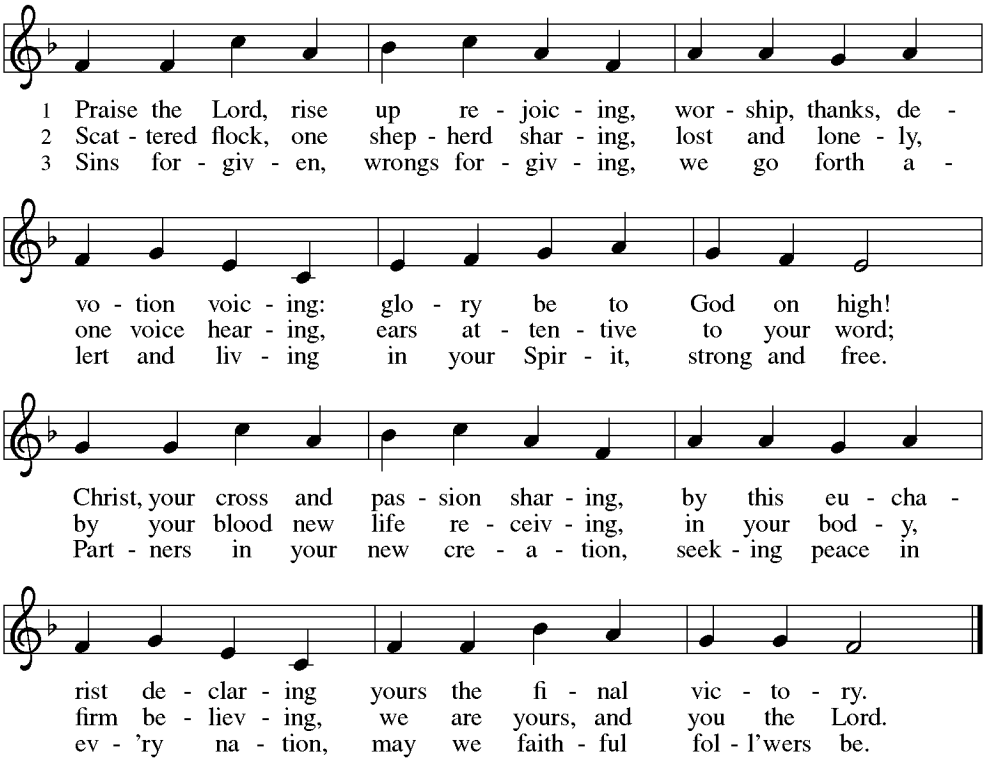
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing" *ELW #544*



Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
Text © Oxford University Press.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Serving Today

Altar Flowers:	Wendy Lail
	In Honor of All Mothers
Usher:	John Wosyk
Assisting Minister:	Nancy Vandewinckel
Readers:	Paul Berge
Altar Guild:	Lori Rennock & Susan Krikau Sorensen
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James

This Week @ Redeemer

Monday:	GriefShare – 10:30am-12pm
Wednesday:	Bible Study – 1pm
Sunday:	Worship – 9am

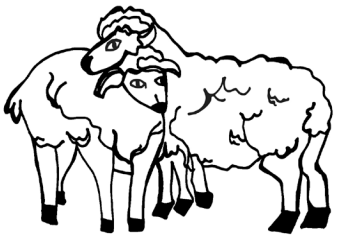
Celebrations this Week

Birthdays: Wendy Lail (5/14); Linda Rattle & John Weit (5/16)

Upcoming Commemorations

Matthias, Apostle
Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.



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