

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 26, 2026

**I AM THE
GOOD
SHEPHERD
I KNOW MY SHEEP
AND MY SHEEP
KNOW
ME.**



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

Amen.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

page 149

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**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.**

please be seated

First Reading

Acts 2: 42-47

⁴²[The 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

²**The 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.

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.**

⁵You 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

1 Peter 2: 19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If 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. ²¹ For 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." ²³ When 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. ²⁴ He 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. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Paul Fuelling

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

"Celtic Alleluia"

#174

Gospel

John 10: 1-10

The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th chapter. **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.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

#502

Apostle's Creed

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering



please stand in body or spirit

Offertory

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

#182

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....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.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

"Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!"

#377

"Have No Fear, Little Flock"

#764

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray....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. **Amen.**

Blessing

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. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

#789

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

“CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!”



and shepherd.

Welcome: Welcome to the Fourth Sunday of Easter. We gather to celebrate our Risen Lord, who knows us by name, calls us, and leads us with love. We are delighted you are here to worship with us as we recognize Christ as our guide

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Ellen Harms, Ken Holland, Mary Haluptzok, Kevin Tatum, Dennis & Claudia Moellman, Gene Beckman, Jerome Goosen, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Jim Kammeyer, Fred John Kreisel and Family (cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel), Junior Garr, Heidi Hopp (grandmother of Nicole Rice), Mike Wingerter (brother of Susan Goosen), Kathy Harms, Deanna Browning, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Joe Campbell, Cliff Eckhoff, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home & Homebound: Vern Dean Bohling, Shirley Cash and Larry & Judy Schlesselman: *Anew*. Eugene Beckman, Florence VonHolten & Arlene Schlesselman: *GSCC*. Earl Bauer: *Windsor Nursing Home*.

Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.





Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (grandson of Dennis Hamilton), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen), J. Phillips Navy Petty Officer E-4 MMN (nephew of Katy Schlesselman), Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.

One Stitch at a Time: The Sewing Group is back at it again. They will meet **every Monday** at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome to join!



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **April 30th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.

Newsletter: The Sunbeam committee will meet on Wednesday, **April 29th** at 3:00pm.



Let's Celebrate!: Join us after worship **Today** for a luncheon to celebrate the music ministry of Lois Viebrock. Lois has retired from playing the organ after 65 years and we want to honor her. This will be a catered luncheon with a short program to give thanks for her service to the church.

Education Scholarship: The Central States Women of the ELCA are offering the Lynn Starr Education Scholarship to the women of any ELCA congregation who are seeking a post-high school education. The scholarship is a one-year non-renewable scholarship (not exceeding \$1,000). Applications must be **postmarked by April 30, 2026**. The applications (containing additional information) can be found at each usher's stand. The following St. Paul's women have been awarded a scholarship over the past three years: Lauren Bailey, Alyssa Fowler, and Jenna Nash. For questions, please see Janice.



Graduates: As the end of the year approaches, we want to be sure we are remembering and honoring everyone who will be graduating. We will honor our high school seniors in worship on Sunday, **May 3rd**. If you or someone in your family is having a graduation this year, please be sure to let the church office know.



"Moving Up" Celebration - The Preschool will hold a "Moving Up" celebration for the preschool children "moving up" to kindergarten in the fall on Saturday afternoon, **May 2** at 3:00 p.m. This year's graduates are Lydia Rodewald and Colton Remington. All preschoolers will present a brief program, followed by the graduation ceremony. Cookies and punch will be served. Our preschool teacher, Annette Vogel, is accepting enrollments for the upcoming 2026-27 school year. Anyone interested or having questions may reach Annette by contacting the church office (660-668-3537).

Celebration: Pastor Kim is celebrating the release of her second book, "Small Steps: Blessings to Lift Your Soul on the Pilgrimage of Life," with a Launch Party on Friday, **May 1**, at WAM in downtown Cole Camp. Stop by anytime between 5:00-8:00 pm. Kim will share a reading from her book at 6:00 pm. You can still preorder a copy yourself or she will have books available for purchase that night. Please join us!



~ * ~ **EVENTS COMING UP** ~ * ~



Calling All Fishermen! We're in need of fish for our upcoming Fish Fry on Sunday, **May 31st**. If you're a fisherman or know someone who can help, we'd love to have your catch to make this event successful. Your support will help us serve delicious meals and raise funds for the mission. Please contact Krista Poe if you're able to contribute. We appreciate your generosity and willingness to help! Thank you and God bless!



Summer Events: Attention youth and families, please mark your calendar for our summer events! Mid-MO Bible Camp: **July 12 - 16** & Vacation Bible School: **July 20 - 24**

~*~ In Our Community ~*~

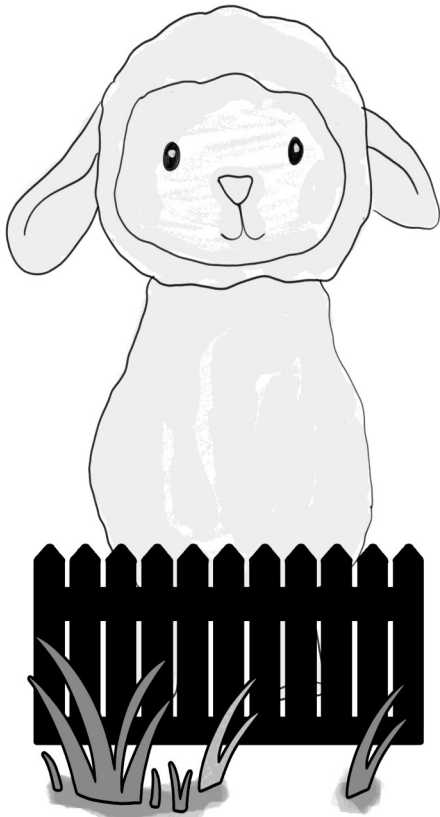
Baccalaureate: The Cole Camp High School Class of 2026 will have Baccalaureate following Senior Scholarship Awards (around 7:45 pm) in the High School Gym on **May 6**. We'd love to see you there!



Can you help? The need is constant at the Cole Camp Food Pantry! This month, in particular, the pantry could use donations of canned fruit. Additionally, the Cole Camp Food Pantry is looking for 2-3 volunteers who are able to fill in when regular volunteers can't be there. Requirements are 18+ years of age, out of high school, and not someone who uses the pantry. Regular pantry hours are: Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, and Thursdays, 3:00-5:00 pm. Please contact Pantry Manager, Sheila Sabala, 816-559-1111, if you are interested. Thank you for your ongoing support in our community!

Concert: The State Fair Community College is hosting its annual President's Concert on Tuesday, **April 28**. A dessert reception begins at 6:15 pm featuring music by the Jazz Ensemble. The concert begins at 7:00 pm and features the concert band and two choir ensembles. This is located at the Stauffacher Theater on the SFCC campus. Admission is free!





**I AM ONE
OF HIS
SHEEP**

Sweet little sheep treats



Create adorable sheep using graham crackers, marshmallows, and a little imagination!

What you need:

- Graham cracker squares
 - White frosting or marshmallow fluff
 - Mini marshmallows
 - Large marshmallows
 - Candy eyes or mini chocolate chips
 - Black gel icing or mini Oreo cookie
- 

What you do:

1. Spread white frosting or marshmallow fluff on each graham cracker square.
2. Stick mini marshmallows all over to make the sheep's wool.
3. Cut a large marshmallow in half and stick it near the top for the head.
4. Add candy eyes and a dot of black gel for the nose. Or use a mini Oreo cookie half for a more defined face.
5. Let kids decorate their sheep however they'd like!

Lesson tie-in

Use this treat to remind kids that Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

John 10:11, KJV

SERMON NOTES **for kids**

AS YOU ATTEND CHURCH SERVICE WITH YOUR FAMILY, USE THIS SHEET TO HELP YOU PAY ATTENTION AND LEARN. WE WANT YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US BY SINGING TO GOD AND LISTENING TO THE MESSAGE!

WHO IS SPEAKING? _____

DATE: _____

MESSAGE TITLE: _____

WHAT IS THE MAIN PASSAGE WE ARE READING TODAY?

BOOK: _____

CHAPTER: _____

VERSE: _____



WHAT ARE YOU LEARNING ABOUT FROM THIS PASSAGE:

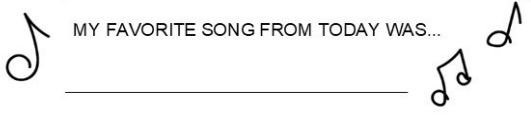
DRAW SOMETHING YOU HEARD IN THE SERMON OR IN A SONG TODAY!

MY QUESTIONS & NOTES

? THINGS I HAVE QUESTIONS ON TODAY:

IMPORTANT POINTS / VERSES FROM TODAY:

MY FAVORITE SONG FROM TODAY WAS...



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 26:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	SS / Adult Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
Monday, April 27:	9:00 am	Sewing Group
Wednesday, April 29:	3:30 pm	Sunbeam Committee
Thursday, April 30:	8:00 am	BCHD
Saturday, May 2:	5:30 pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, May 3:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion at the Altar



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

April 26	Lois Viebrock Retirement Luncheon
April 29	Sunbeam Committee
May 3	Graduate Recognition
May 10	Mother's Day
May 24	Confirmation Sunday
May 25	Memorial Day
May 31	World Hunger Fish Fry

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist Sandy Schlesselman
Pianist Jeannette VonHolten
AV Technicians Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar Guild Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers Melisa Balke, Assistant Head Usher
..... Scott Gerken, Eric Kullman, John Oelrichs & Braden Poe



Fourth Sunday of Easter ~*~ April 26, 2026

Assisting Minister Janice Gerken
Communion Assistants Tara Anderson & Hannah Schweitzer
Reader Tiffinay Nash
Children's Sermon Paul Fuelling
Acolytes Miranda Gerken & Logan Jackson
Flowers Suzanne Lutjen



Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ * ~ May 3, 2026

Assisting Minister Melisa Balke
Communion Assistants At the Altar
Reader Rhonda Schlesselman
Children's Sermon Pastor Stephen Zeller
Acolytes Fred Goosen & Lauren Jackson
Flowers Teresa Viebrock