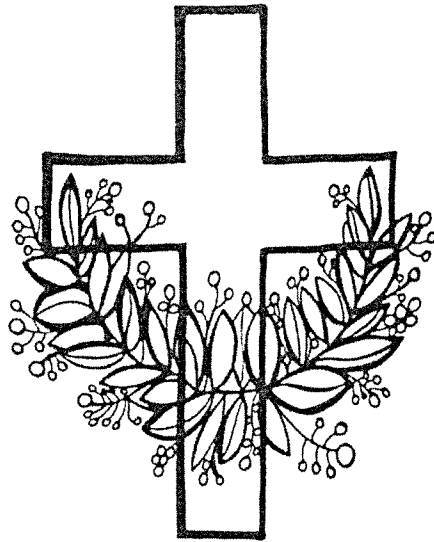


Following the traumatic events of the crucifixion and a terrifying resurrection, the disciples in their confusion and grief had to be

wondering,  
What's next?

The lectionary readings for the Easter season provide the road map ahead as the disciples discover a new post-resurrection life and reality:

Christ is with us. Behind closed doors, in our doubt, on our journey, in water, bread, and wine, the Good Shepherd calls us to follow, going before us to prepare the way, bringing peace, breathing the Spirit on us, so that we may tell this story to people of every land and nation. Jesus' promise to be with us always is the game changer.



# 4th Sunday of Easter

April 26th, 2026  
10:30am

## Welcome to First Lutheran Church, Edinburg, Texas

during the Season of Easter. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us. First Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Southwestern Texas Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

As Lutherans, we confess our belief that the Holy Eucharist (also called the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion) is the place where Our Lord Jesus is truly present (*real presence*). All baptized people, who believe in Christ and share our beliefs concerning this sacrament, are invited and encouraged to participate in the Eucharist. This includes members of other Lutheran churches and members of other denominations. Young children are also invited to share in this celebration and may receive the sacrament if they, with their families, feel it is appropriate. Children who do not wish to receive their First Communion are invited to receive a blessing. Those unable to partake of the wine be assured that the Church affirms our Lord's presence in the bread alone.



**Pastor: Rev. Gabriella Conklin**

**Music Director: Dr. Vivian Munn**

**Cantor: Claudio Esquivel**

**Organist: Marilyn Martin**

First Lutheran Church  
302 S. Sugar Rd.  
Edinburg, TX 78539

Office Hours  
Tues.-Fri.

10:00am-3:00pm

**ALL WORSHIP GUESTS** — We hope that you worship with us again. If you have any questions about First Lutheran Church, please call the office at 956.383.2647.

**Mission Statement: Grace in Action, Mindful of a Changing World, We Seek ALL People.**

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Please remember to

**TURN OFF OR SILENCE ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

We appreciate your help in minimizing any distractions during the liturgy.

## + GATHERING +

### PRELUDE

#### STAND THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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 (local waters may be named).

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.**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Greek for 'LORD have mercy', 'Kyrie eleison' is a very old, even pre-Christian expression, used in the liturgies of the church as a penitential cry to God for mercy and forgiveness.

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

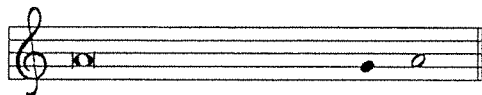
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>5 He lives to bless me with his love;<br/>         he lives to plead for me above;<br/>         he lives my hungry soul to feed;<br/>         he lives to help in time of need.</p>                       | <p>7 He lives and grants me daily breath;<br/>         he lives, and I shall conquer death;<br/>         he lives my mansion to prepare;<br/>         he lives to bring me safely there.</p> |
| <p>6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;<br/>         he lives and loves me to the end;<br/>         he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;<br/>         he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!</p> | <p>8 He lives, all glory to his name!<br/>         He lives, my Savior, still the same;<br/>         what joy this blest assurance gives:<br/>         I know that my Redeemer lives!</p>    |

### APOSTOLIC GREETING

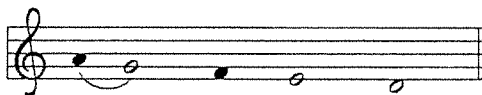
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

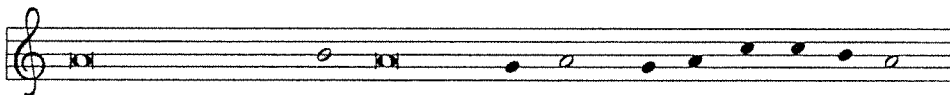
# KYRIE



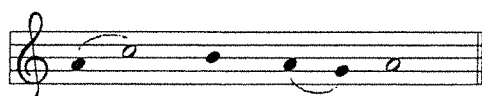
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



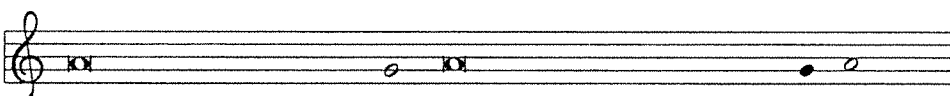
Lord, have mer - cy.



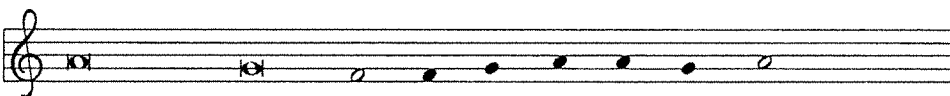
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



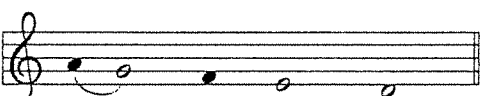
Lord, have mer - cy.



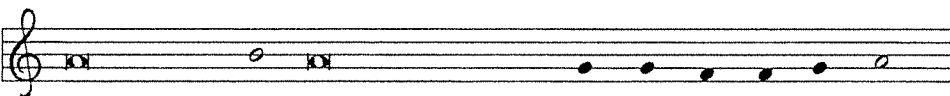
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



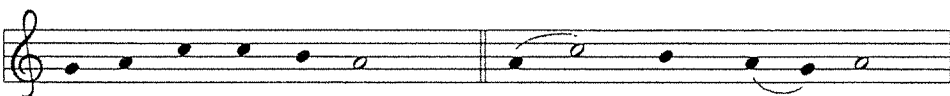
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



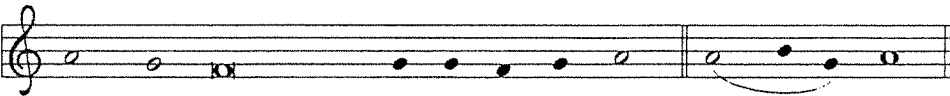
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1) Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2) Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM** *Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us*

**SIT + LITURGY OF THE WORD +**

**FIRST READING - Acts 2:42-47**

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

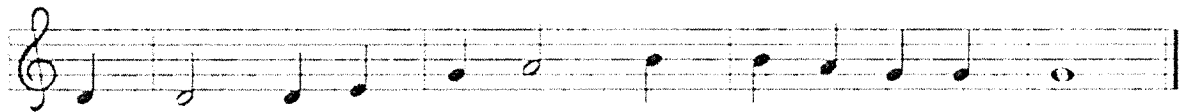
<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day 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, <sup>47</sup> praising 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**

**PSALM 23**



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>1</sup> The LORD <sup>1</sup> is my shepherd;

I shall not <sup>1</sup> be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down <sup>1</sup> in green pastures  
and leads me be- <sup>1</sup> side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my <sup>1</sup> soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways <sup>1</sup> for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I  
shall <sup>1</sup> fear no evil;**

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they <sup>1</sup> comfort me. R**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence <sup>1</sup> of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is <sup>1</sup> running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days <sup>1</sup> of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the <sup>1</sup> LORD forever. R**

## SECOND READING - 1 Peter 2:19-25

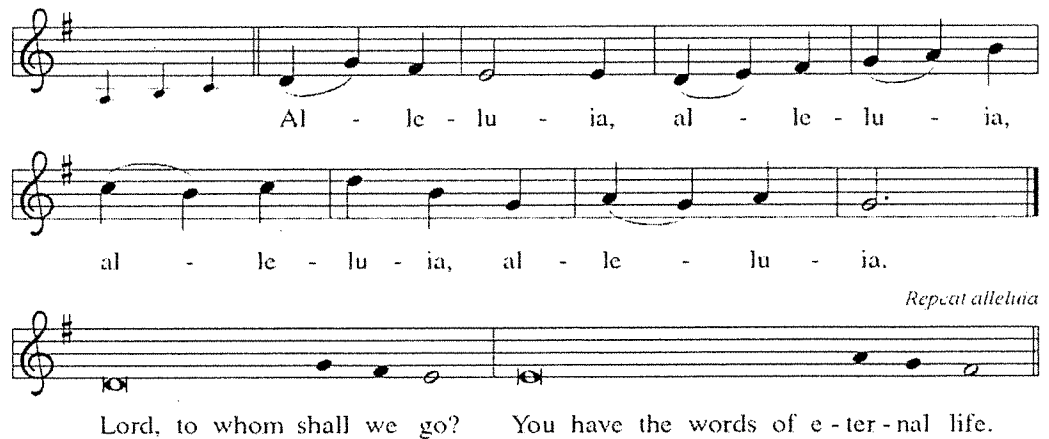
Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> 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

### STAND GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL READING - John 10:1-10**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup> “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. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*SIT* **HOMILY**

*STAND* **HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 782 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need**

### **NICENE 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**

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

*Brief Silence.*

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured (especially). Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

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

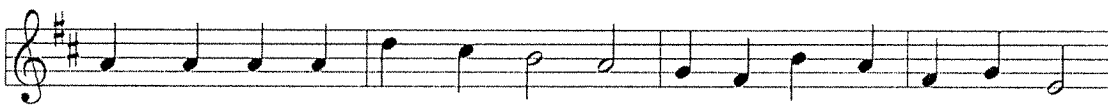
### + LITURGY OF THE MEAL +

SIT  
STAND

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*

ELW 865



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.  
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore - bears in dis - tress.



Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.  
Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!

### OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

## PROPER PREFACE

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:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,', 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes', and 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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, give 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:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

By water and the Holy Spirit we are children of God and thus we have the courage 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,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

## FRACTION

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

## SIT AGNUS DEI

**Receiving Communion**  
*The body of Christ given  
for you. The blood of  
Christ shed for you.  
Amen.*



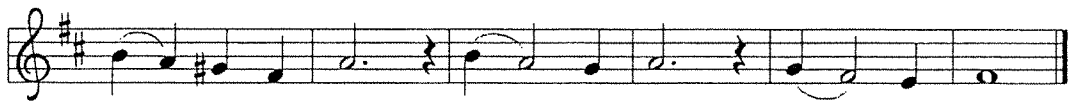
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



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, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 765 Lord of All Hope  
ELW 604 O Christ, Our Hope**

**STAND POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord keep and preserve you to life everlasting.  
**Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (Nunc Dimittis)**



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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.**

**+ SENDING +**

**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.**

**SIT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**STAND RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 774 *What a Fellowship, what a Joy Divine***

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

## *Those for Whom We Pray*

Danny Garza, Irasema Garza, Gloria Trevino, Rene Guajardo, Javier Davila, Lolly Tangen, Veronica L. Esquivel, Amanda Vale, Sandra Flores, Letty Flores, Nicole Paredes, Victoria Trevino, Mary Flores, Belia Paez, Ryan Guajardo, Adela Bustos, Robert Moffitt, Kim LaFleur, Mike Salyers, Hiram Alanis, Amanda Norquest, Herb Nordmeyer & family, Brenda Flores Rodriguez, Blanca Garcia

Prayer request cards are located in the hymn rack. Let us know when God has met your prayer needs! Call the church office at 956.383.2647 or email at [flcedinburg@gmail.com](mailto:flcedinburg@gmail.com), so the requested name can be removed from the prayer list, and we may rejoice with you.

## *Announcements*

- May's lector and altar set up sign-up sheets are available, if anyone would like to volunteer.
- Alt Bible Study is cancelled for this month.
- Please join us for a WELCA Dinner/Bible Study on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in our fellowship hall.
- We are having our Graduation Celebration on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Please let the office know of any and all those that will be graduating or moving from one school to another. There is also a sign-up sheet in narthex on newsletter table. If there are any High school grads, please see Pastor about an application for a scholarship. Scholarship applications must be turned in by Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Pastor will be out of town Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

- **March birthdays & anniversaries**

- Willie Flores' birthday March 4
- Cathy Vale's birthday March 6
- Wyberto Esquivel's birthday March 6
- Lillie Dodd's birthday March 9
- Arabella Esquivel's birthday March 10
- Carol Flores' birthday March 12
- Ron & Margaret Vogt's Wedding anniversary March 17
- Sandra Davis's birthday March 20

- **April birthdays & anniversaries**

- Linda Mercado's birthday April 6
- Amalia Esquivel's birthday April 9
- Mike Rangel's birthday April 12
- Lexi Rangel's Wedding Anniversary April 22
- Elma Gonzalez's birthday April 21
- Vivian Munn's birthday April 28