

Welcome to Shepherd of the Desert Evangelical Lutheran Church Sun City, AZ



Third Week of Easter Sunday April 19, 2026

Mission Statement

"To be a congregation that puts the Love of Christ into action from one generation to another and from our community to our world".

✠ Please stand in body or spirit.

Preludes

Words of Welcome

✠ Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Greeting

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

C **And also with you.**



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

‡ **Prayer of the Day**

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

Choral Anthem “The Next Time He Comes “

Shepherd’s Choir

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

The Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Pew Bible

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”
- ² **All my delight is in the Godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- ³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- ⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names up on my lips.**
- ⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who hold my lot.
- ⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- ⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
- ⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- ⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
- ¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
- ¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

‡ **Gospel Acclamation**

Setting 4



P The Gospel of Our Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

Message

Choral Anthem “When All God’s Singers Get Home “

Shepherd’s Choir

†† Apostles Creed

A With the whole church let us confess our faith

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the Gathered Community

Each petition ends with:

A Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

†† Share the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Offering Music

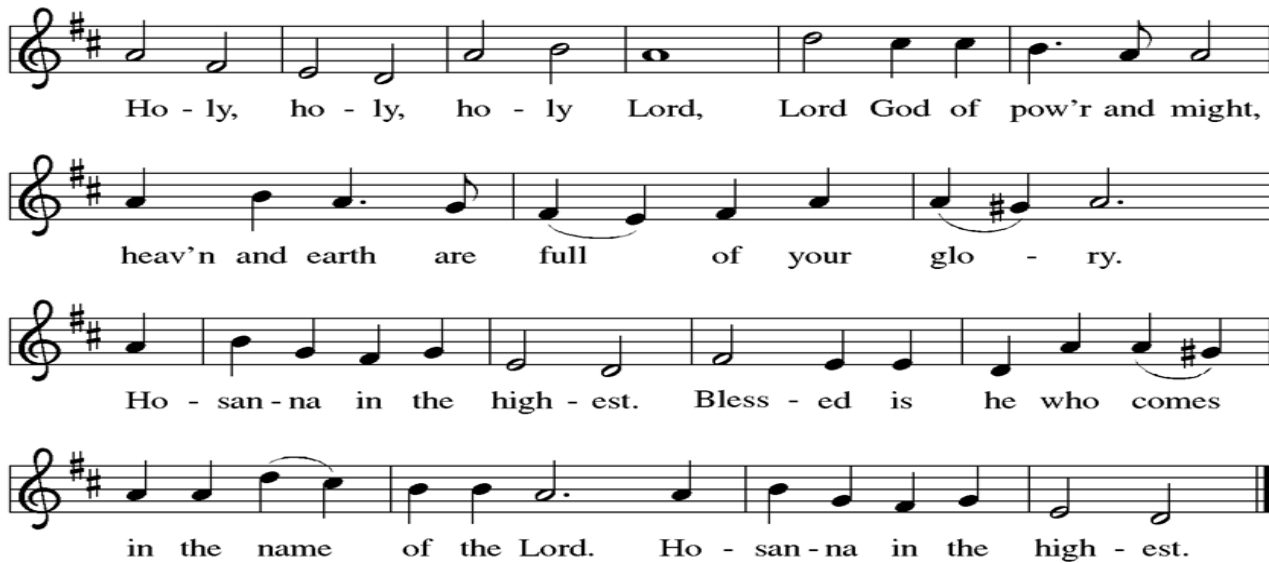
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

‡ Prayer at the Table

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Setting 4



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.

P We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.
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.

P With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup,
remembering the death and resurrection of Christ, and his promise to be with us always
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Gather us into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

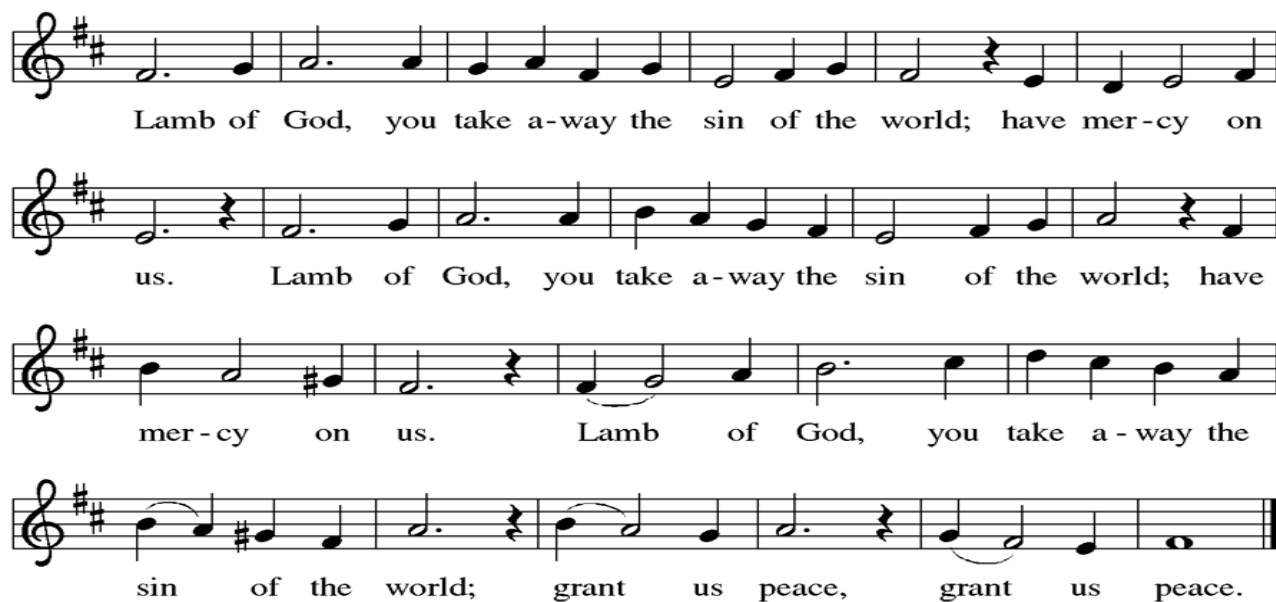
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

P There's a place for everyone at the table. All are welcome here.

† Lamb of God

Setting 4



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.

† Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen

† Post Communion Prayer and Sending of Communion

A Let us pray.
Holy One and God of tender compassion, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. As we have been nourished by the Bread of Life, bless now those who leave this assembly to share these gifts with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. May they be sustained by the love of this community and by the grace of Jesus Christ, who satisfies all hunger.
Send us all now into the world to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray.
C Amen.

Choral Benediction "God Be With You 'til We Meet Again"

Shepherd's Choir

† Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

A Amen



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
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 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

✠ Dismissal

- A Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Shepherd of the Desert Announcements

*Please join us in the Founders Room after service to celebrate our
Shepherd's Choir.*

Monday Morning Bible Study 10:00 a.m. in the Founders Room. Remember to bring your Bible and a beverage. We will be reading the lessons for the upcoming weekend services.

Ladies Book Club *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant cost will be 5\$ per book if you would like a book please contact Nancy Fisher. Ladies Book Club meets Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Founders Room.

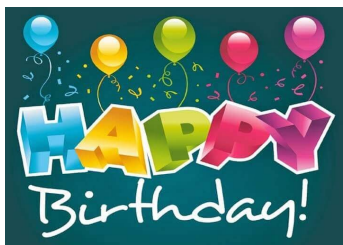
Game Night April 24th at 6:00 p.m. in the Founders Room. We will have Trivia Night for this Game Night. Snacks provided but bring a beverage of your choice.

Pancake Breakfast April 25th 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Walton Hall. The price is right FREE!!! This is a free breakfast for the community and S.O.D.

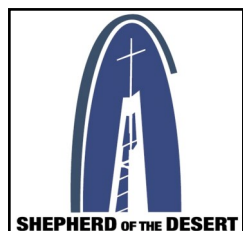
Save the Date! First Wednesday Bingo at Shepherd of the Desert

First Wednesday of **every month** from May through November. Fellowship and Games: Bingo and Prizes; Food and Surprises. The first Bingo Night is May 6th at 5PM in Walton Hall. We will be serving pizza for dinner please make sure to sign up in the Narthex or the church office.

Mission of the Month - April -Shepherd's Youth. Two members of the congregation will receive financial support towards their college tuition and expenses



Nancy Fisher 4/25



Senior Pastor: Rev. John Maroni

Church Address: 11025 N 111th Ave. Sun City, AZ 85351 Phone: 623-933-1359

Musicians: (Sunday) Kevin DeYager (Saturday) Linda McClentic (1&3) Tony Lake (2&4)

Website: www.sdaz.org Email: Office - Kristen Wood Secretary: secretarysod1@gmail.com