

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



## Fourth Week of Easter Sunday April 26, 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 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

‡ **Prayer of the Day**

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

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.

C **Amen**

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord  
C Thanks be to God

The Psalm: Psalm 23

Pew Bible

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD I is my shepherd;  
I shall not I be in want.
- <sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down I in green pastures  
and leads me be- I side still waters.**
- <sup>3</sup> You restore my I soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways I for your name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall I fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they I comfort me.**
- <sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence I of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is I running over.
- <sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days I of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the I LORD forever.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord  
C Thanks be to God

‡ Gospel Acclamation

Setting 4

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Gospel of Our Lord  
C Thanks be to God

**Message**

**Hymn of the Day** The Lord's My Shepherd

ELW # 778



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;  
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;  
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

## **‡ 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**

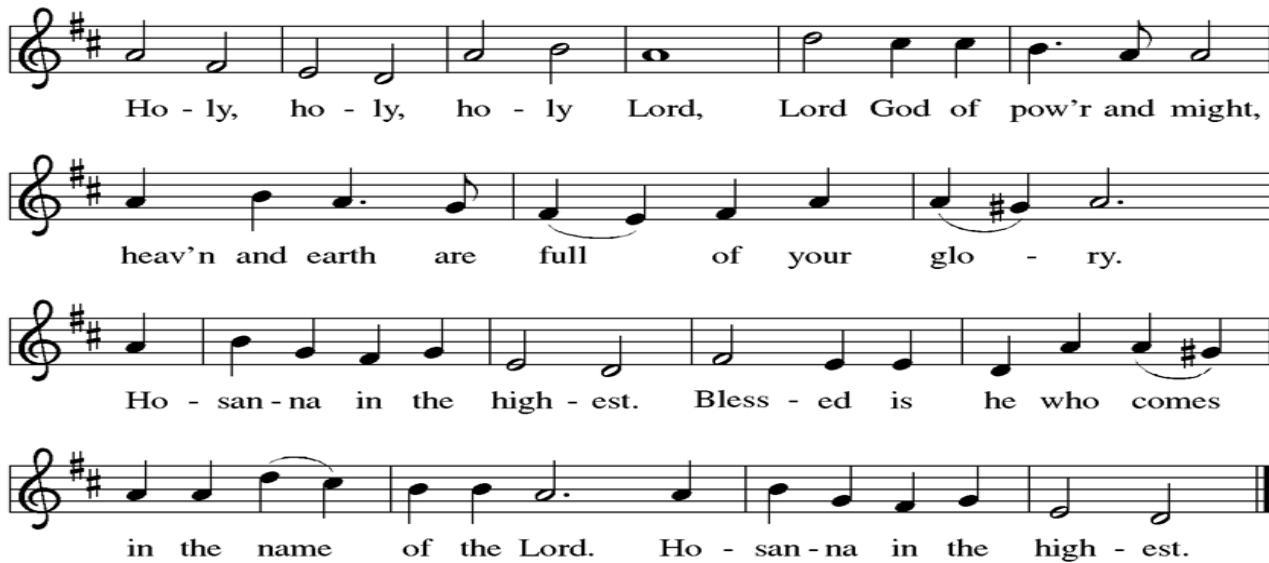
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble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

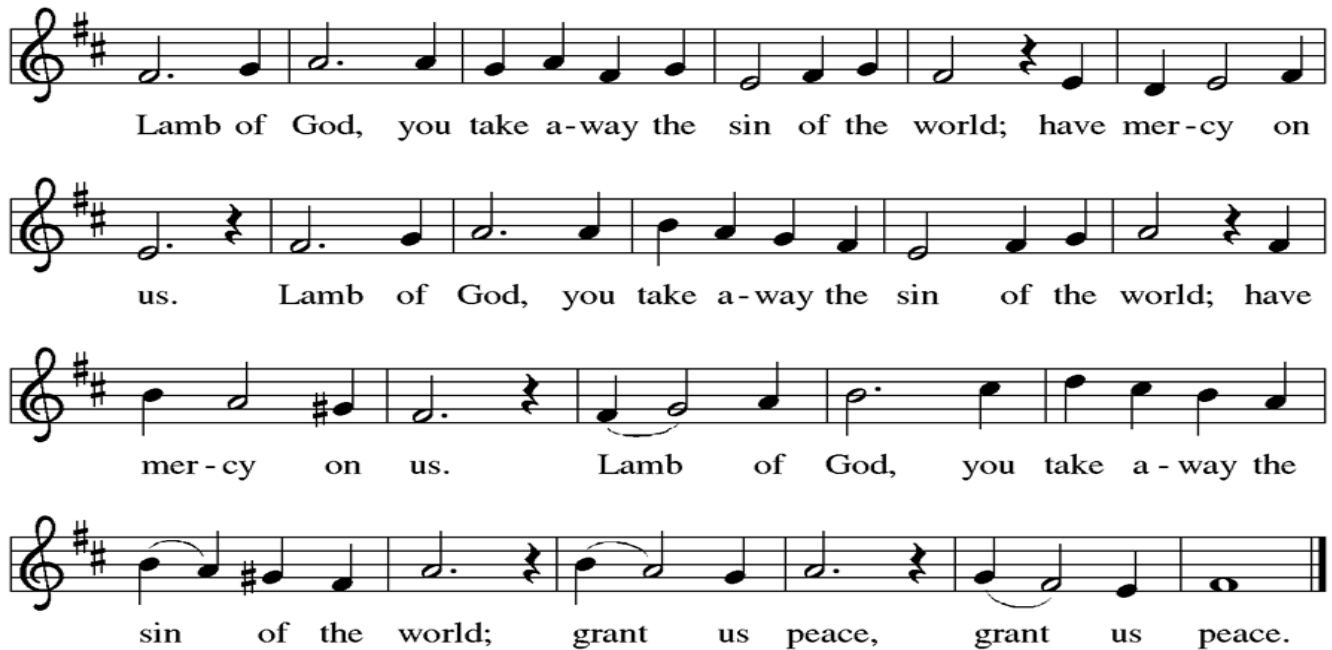
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.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

**‡ 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 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,  
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,

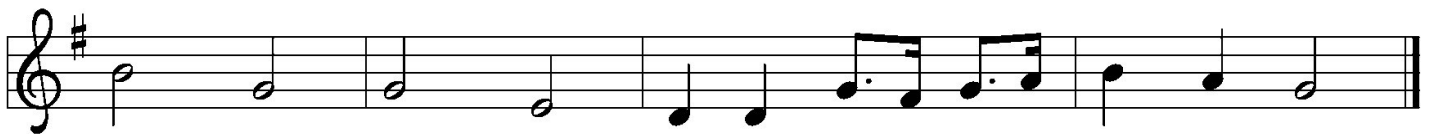


lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*Refrain*



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

⌘ 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

**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.

**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.

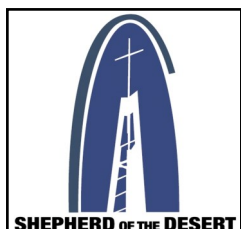
## **Paint Night**

**May 13th at 5:30 p.m.** Please make sure to sign up so we can plan on snacks and supplies. Bring a beverage there is snacks provided.

**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
Jeff Hansen	4/29
Tricia Latiolait	4/30



**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](http://www.sdaz.org) **Email:** Office - Kristen Wood Secretary: [secretarysod1@gmail.com](mailto:secretarysod1@gmail.com)