

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



## Seventh Week of Easter May 16,17, 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 **Amen.**

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 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,  
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—  
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
 on this terrestrial ball  
 to him all majesty ascribe  
 and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
 we at his feet may fall!  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 and crown him Lord of all.

‡ **Prayer of the Day**

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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 1:6-14**

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

Pew Bible

<sup>8</sup> Bless our | God, you peoples;

let the sound of | praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us a- | mong the living  
and has not allowed our | feet to slip.**

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have | tested us;  
you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.

<sup>11</sup> **You brought us in- | to the net;  
you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.**

<sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.

<sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house | with burnt offerings  
and will pay | you my vows—**

<sup>14</sup> those that I promised | with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup> **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;  
I will give you ox- | en and goats.**

<sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you | who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has | done for me.

<sup>17</sup> **I called out to God | with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord | with my tongue.**

<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil | in my heart,  
the Lord would | not have heard me;

<sup>19</sup> **but in truth | God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.**

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing | love from me.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

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.

**Gospel: John 17:1-11**

Pew Bible

P The Gospel of Our Lord

C Thanks be to God

**Message** "Why Do You Stand Looking Up?"

Pastor Phil Gustafson

**† Hymn of the Day** Day by Day

ELW # 790

1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and  
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens

to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me  
wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me  
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me

draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all  
o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil  
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter

mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,  
of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,  
what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,

lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.  
with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

## **‡ 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**

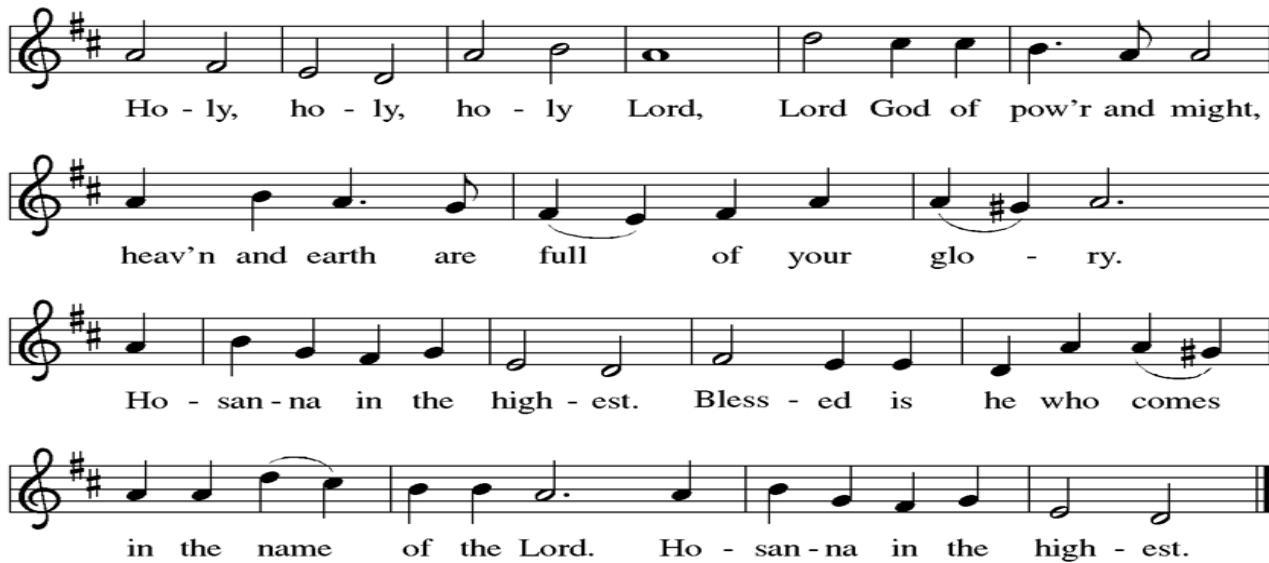
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble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

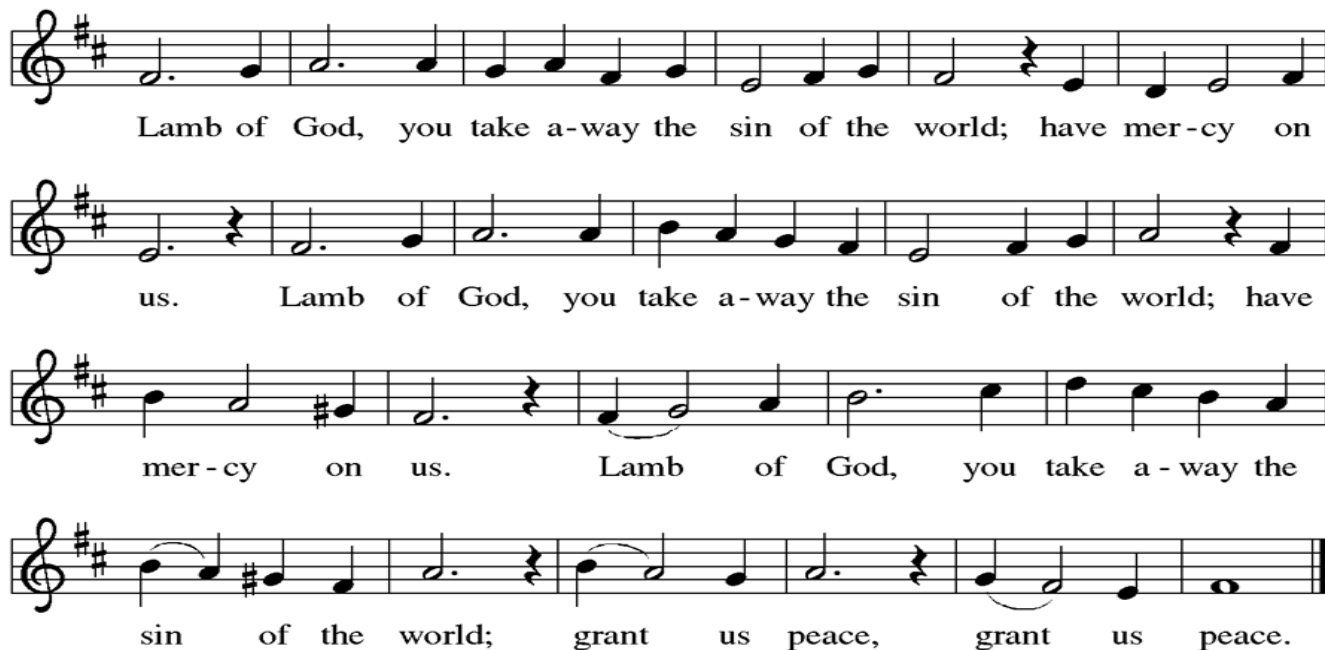
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
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 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

✠ **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

A moment to remember and prayer from Daniel Cerka.

I would like to take a moment to recognize my fathers life. His favorite hobby was film production and working with computers. My favorite memory was when we started making a movie unfortunately we could not finish it. With that being said I would like to thank every single one of you for supporting me in this season of morning.

Let's pray Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of my father and the love he shared. As my heart breaks, I ask for you comfort to surround me. Please welcome him into your eternal peace, and give me strength in this time of sadness. May his memory be a blessing and his legacy live on. In Jesus name we pray, Amen



**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. **No Bible Study on May 25th.**

**Game Night** May 22nd at 6:00 p.m. in the Founders Room. Bring a game or join a game. Snacks are provided just bring a beverage of your choice.

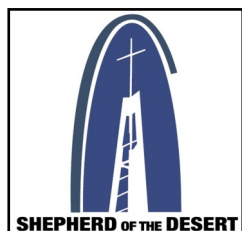
**Pancake Breakfast** May 30th 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Walton Hall. The price is right FREE!!! This is a free breakfast for the community and S.O.D.

**First Wednesday Bingo** First Wednesday of **every month** through November. Fellowship, food, bingo and Prizes. **June 3rd at 5PM** in Walton Hall. Please make sure to sign up in the Narthex or the church office.

**Mission of the Month** - May- **Native American Urban Ministry** This Ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who meets at Grace Lutheran Church 1124 N 3rd St down town Phoenix.



Sheila Conn                      5/17  
Pastor John Maroni            5/17



**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)