

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



Resurrection of Our Lord
April 4,5, 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".

Thank You to all who shared flowers to decorate our sanctuary.



Offered By...

Amanda, Jason & Kids
Rev. Bruce & Marylyn Ayers
Kim Barnes
Betty Bishop
Sheila Conn
Cathleen Campaigne
Dan & Mary Daniels
Sharon Ellingson
Nancy Fisher
Gjoraas Family
Joanne Gollatz
David Hargreaves
Nancy Hempy
Ladonna Jenner
Jorgette Johnston
Charles & Susan Johnson
Tricia Latioiait
Bev Luger
Pastor John Maroni
Cindy Olson
Dennis & Donna Pearson
Minnie Rasmussen
Jan Rolfe
Kathie Ross
Larry & Paulette Thorson
Vicente Trujillo
Barb Tveit
Polly Sledgister
Dan Smith
Dennis & Fran Woldt
Kay Wycoff

In Honor or Memory Of...

Anjelica (Jelli) Lynn Fernandez
Family
Family
James E & Betty M Martz , John C Martz
Charles Conn, My Mother and Dad
US & Canada Family Members
For the beauty of God's House
Arlem Ellingson & Jill Ellingsom Hegstrom
Stephen Speanelli & Sherri Speanelli
Our Family
Son, Jeffery. Son in Law, James
Donna Eardley
Harriet Potter
George Jenner
Mary
Our God Children & Parents
Mardell Clayton
Robert E. Luger
Delanore Marie Maroni
Dora & George Olson
Jon Pearson & Gloria German
Family
Faith & Family
Chris Ross, Audrey & Richard & Hayes
Erma Waldhalm & Easter Thorson
Loved ones
My Parents & Brother
Fritz Sledgister
Eleanor Smith
Wendy Woldt



‡ Please stand in body or spirit.

Preludes An Easter Suite -Callahan
Crown Him With Many Crowns. -Burkhardt
The Trumpet Shall Sound. -Handel
Easter Victory. -Callahan

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.

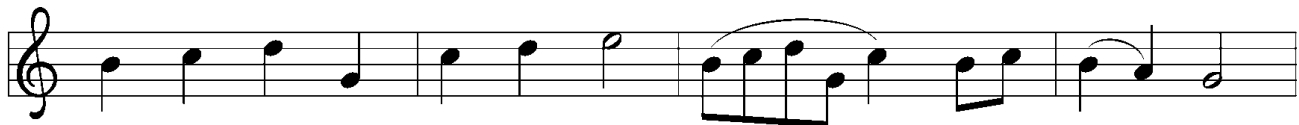
C **And also with you.**



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

‡ **Prayer of the Day**

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

Choral Anthem “Easter Triumph” Young

Shepherd’s Choir

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Pew Bible

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Pew Bible

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;
God’s mercy en- | dures forever.

² **Let Israel | now declare,
“God’s mercy en- | dures forever.”**

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:
“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷ **I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD.**

¹⁸ The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

¹⁹ **Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**

²⁰ “This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation.**

²² The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³ **By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

²⁴ This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

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: Matthew 28:1-10

Pew Bible

P The Gospel of Our Lord
C Thanks be to God

Message

Hymn of the Day Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW # 379

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,
wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,
love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

‡ 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 "This Joyful Eastertide" - Burkhardt

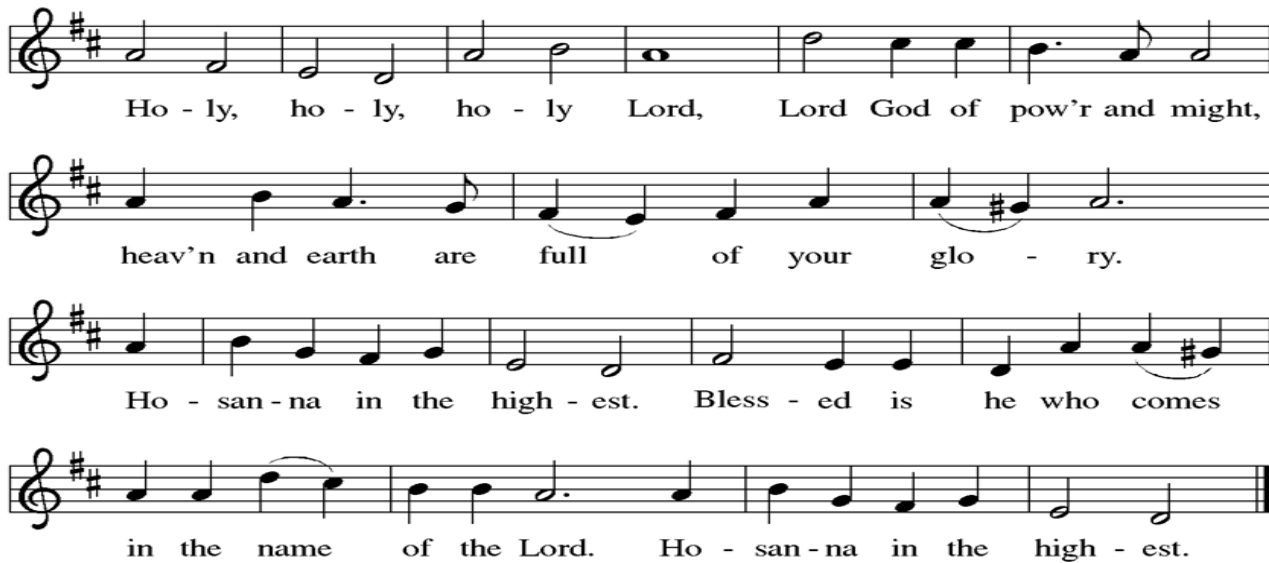
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with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

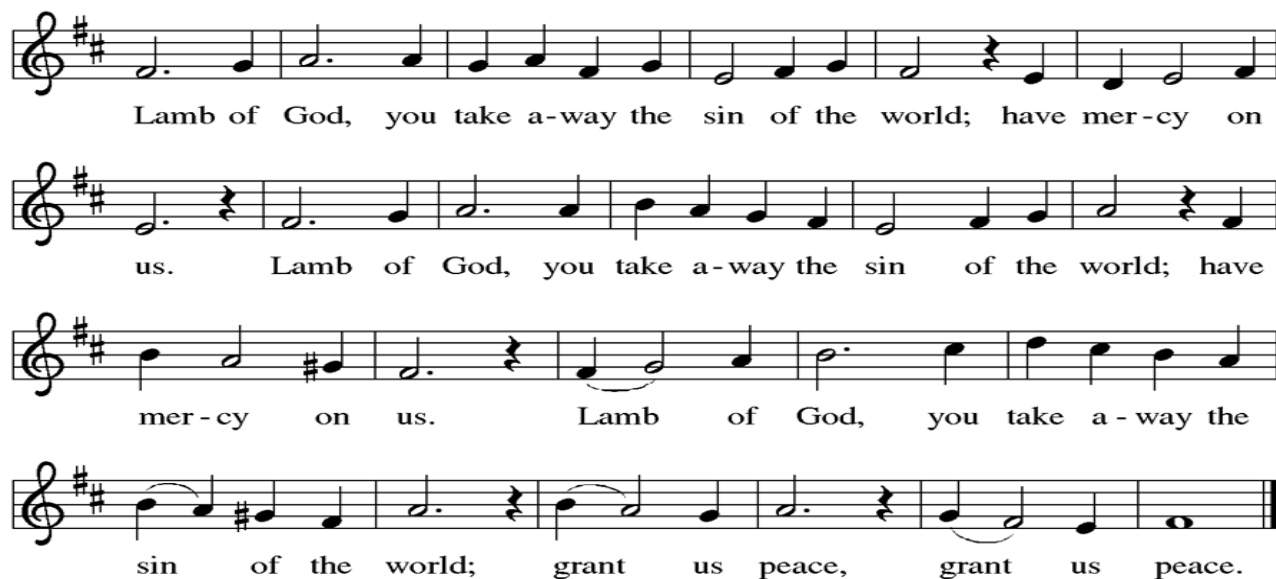
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is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

Special Music “Jesus Christ, Yesterday, Today, and Forever” Toulon Shepherd’s Choir

† 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.

† Presentation of Memorial Leaves

† 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 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

✠ **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 Fantasia on Christ the Lord is Risen Today. -Brown

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.

Choir Rehearsals Come and join Kevin DeYager, our Sunday Organist, as we rehearse choir music for the upcoming services. The next rehearsal is Tuesday April 14th in the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m.

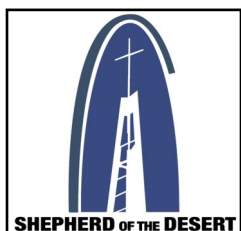
Paint Night April 8th at 5:30 p.m. Please make sure to sign up so we can plan on snacks and supplies. Bring a beverage there is snacks provided.

Ladies Book Club will be starting a new book beginning April 8th. *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.

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



Sheri Thirkell	4/05
Daniel Cerka	4/07
Kim Barnes-Blumberg	4/11



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