

May 5, 2024 ~ 9:30 a.m. Six Sunday of Easter

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Welcome to everyone worshipping with us today!

All are welcome at Shepherd of the Hills. We are a place where all people can receive wholeness and share God's blessings, so we echo Jesus' welcome to all persons – **every one** –

to the devout, the seeker and the skeptic; to single, married, widowed and divorced; to young and old, child and parent; to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities; to people of all lands, cultures and colors; to people with disabilities, those ill and well; to poor, middling and wealthy; **to all** who seek hope, peace, comfort, strength, love, forgiveness and grace.

We invite everyone to worship, learn, serve and care with us

Our Mission:

To love God and love neighbor in the spirit of Jesus.

Who we are becoming:

A connected family of faith inspired by God to positively impact our community and our world.

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **People: Amen.**

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

arr. Lori Line

***GATHERING HYMN** "Joyful, Joyful We Adore"

- Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
 Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
 Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.
- Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
 wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
 Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
 teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

★GREETING

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

People: And also with you.

¥KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.** For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.** ELW page 184

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

*****CANCTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

*****PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

ELW page 188

FIRST READING Psalm 98

Lector: Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

- People: O Lord, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- Lector: You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- People: Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- Lector: Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the Lord.
- Lector: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- People: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.
- Lector: The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

★GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia"

ELW page 188

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

★GOSPEL John 15:9-17

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what

I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Yolanda Denson-Byers

***HYMN OF THE DAY** "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

ELW 367 (v. 1, 3 & 4)

- Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above that we conquer through your triumph; grant grace sufficient for life's day that by our lives we truly say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
 "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*****THE 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 THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. (A brief silence)

(After each petition, the following is said.) Pastor: God of grace, **People: hear our prayer.**

₩PEACE

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

MEAL

MISSION MOMENT

OFFERING & SPECIAL MUSIC "Heaven is Singing for Joy"

Pablo Sosa One Voice Choir

Samantha Sands, Vail Place

*****OFFERING PRAYER

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Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **People: Amen.**

★GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

- People: We lift them to the Lord.
- Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

<u>Holy, Holy, Holy</u>

ELW page 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord's Prayer:

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

Communion Music:"Lamb of God"ELW page 191Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

"Beautiful Savior"

- Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

★Prayer after communion:

Pastor: Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

ELW 838

SENDING

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Pastor: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **People: Amen.**

₩BLESSING

Pastor: Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, as God works among us that which is pleasing in God's sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever.

People: Amen.

★SENDING HYMN "Glorious in Majesty"

Gather 287

Glorious in majesty, Holy in his praises, Jesus, our Savior and our King.
 Born a man, yet God of old, Let us all adore him; Filled with his Spirit let us sing.

Refrain: Living is to love him, Serving him to know his freedom. Come along with us to Join the praise of Jesus. Come to Jesus now, Go to live his word rejoicing.

- 2 Victory he won for us, Freeing us from darkness, Dying and rising from the dead. Living with the Father now, Yet he is among us; We are the body, he the head. Refrain
- 3 One in love, as family, Living with each other, Gladly we share each other's pain. Yet he will not leave us so, Soon he is returning, Taking us back with him to reign. Refrain

★DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Christ is with you. **People: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE "El Cielo Canta Alegria"

ELW page 192

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS

For more information on all these events, go to our website sothchurch.com

HOLY COMMUNION Like a family gathering for Sunday dinner, all are welcome at this table where God is our holy parent and host. Taking simple bread and simple wine we remember that all of life comes as a gift from God, and we remember that just as we are nourished by food, we are also nourished by God's love. (Grape juice is available in the center of the serving tray and a rice alternative is available for those with wheat allergies.)

ARE YOU NEW HERE? To our first-time visitors welcome! Please join us immediately after church for coffee hour in the fellowship lounge. Your children and their noise are always welcome. There are two gender neutral and single stall restrooms across from - and just beyond - the church nursery, as well as two more upstairs as well! If you have questions, please ask any of our members. We are here to help.

Name Tags Help Build Community: All who regularly participate at Shepherd are encouraged to wear a name tag as we strive to be a welcoming community of disciples!

<u>CHILDREN ARE WELCOME</u> in worship every Sunday but, should you need it, the nursery is located on the north side of the building. Ask an usher if you need help finding it.

<u>ALLELUIA SINGERS</u> Calling all singers in grades 3-8 to join us to sing for Mothers' Day, May 12. It's a special Sunday as we will be celebrating Mothers, Quilters and High School Graduates. The Alleluia Singers will be rehearsing at 10:40 am on Sunday Mornings, April 21, 28 and May 5. Grab a treat and join us to get ready to sign for Mothers' Day!

WORD ON WEDNESDAY – Spring 2024 "Creation Care in the Bible"

To wrap up WoW for Spring 2024 our plan will be to read and study some of the ways Scripture speaks to us about creation and its care. Genesis tells us that we humans are to "have dominion" – what should we understand "dominion" to mean? When God speaks to Job about the "foundations of the earth" how does that inform how we related to creation? What do the Psalms say about how the earth is to be cared for? What connections might there be between our faithfulness to God and how creation will be affected by our actions? Is the earth resilient? Resilient enough to withstand human actions? Resilient enough to wait on the Lord? Join us at 6:30 pm Wednesdays from April 10 to May 15 and let's see what we can learn together! **THIS WEEK: May 8 "Humans and Animals," Leviticus 26:3-22, 34-35, 40-45**

SHEPHERD / CALVARY NEW MINISTRIES: The Shepherd – Calvary Team has continued to meet and discuss the ideas put forward by all the contributors in response to our requests and outreach back in March. We have narrowed the focus to three (3) principal areas: 1) Building a Collaborative, Engaging Youth Ministry; 2) Exploring a Family & Community Centered Alternative Faith Building Gathering (something like the "Dinner Church" gatherings held during Lent) and 3) Updating our Communications and Technology tools for a better, more flexible and impactful Sunday (and other) experience in and from our sanctuary. We'd love to hear more from you and will continue to listen for what God may be calling us to in these three areas. Please reach out (phone, in person, email or whatever) to Pastors Yolanda, Sherri or Wade, or any of the committee members (Becky Rorke, Bruce Nelson, Cindy Morris, Julia Buteyn, Steve Manacek, Adam Driscoll and Alyson Purdy) or leave a note in the basket on the Welcome Desk. Thank you and please keep this work in your prayers!

SOTH BOOK CLUB: will meet on Sunday, May 19 at 11:00 am.

Book: "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See

VBS 2024 CAMP FIRELIGHT JUNE 10-13 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

A Summer Camp Adventure with God!

Join first-time camp counselor Sam and Lu (short for Lumen), the lightning bug, and learn to face your fears while trusting in God. Kids will learn ways they can connect with and put their trust in God whenever they are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work in the world and share the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ. Registrations available online (www.sothchurch.com/

PROPS NEEDED: Our VBS theme this year is Camp Firelight and we are excited about decorating our church for this important event. We are looking for "props" that we can use during the dates of June 10-13. Items would include:

Backpacks, small camping chairs (kid size), sleeping bags, coolers, kids tents, lanterns and water bottles. Please bring them to Pr. Sherri's office by June 3 and contact her with any questions. Thank you!!

SERVE TEAM: Spring Cleaning - Donate Now!

Do you have some gently worn shoes that you no longer wear? Participate in our shoe drive and help us donate to Soles4Souls! Until the end of May, we will be collecting all styles of gently worn shoes that can be put to good use. You can even donate single shoes!

Soles4Souls has 3 basic programs. "4Relief" helps get shoes to people in disaster relief areas. "4Opportunity" works with developing countries to help people start and grow business that sell donated shoes. "4EveryKid" partners with schools across the U.S. to get new athletic shoes to children who are experiencing homelessness. Repurposed shoes extend their life and keep them out of landfills. 98% of shoes are reused and if shoes are determined to be beyond use, Soles4Souls works with third-party partners to turn this waste into energy. Please place your shoes in the donation center and enjoy a cleaner closet this summer.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES: Twin Cities Benefit for Youth at Quincy Hall

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

Hosted each spring by Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS), the Benefit for Youth event series supports the work of LSS Youth & Family Services. Together, we will ensure children and families have safe, stable homes and the opportunity to thrive in community. As a trusted statewide leader, LSS is continually reaching out to understand the unique needs of our young neighbors; reaching beyond the status quo to offer innovative services; and reaching across communities to help more Minnesotans thrive. For more information or to register, go to https://events.lssmn.org/page/63541/data/1

MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT: Celebrating 10 years!

You're invited to the 5th Annual Stories of Hope Breakfast! Come to the breakfast. Feel the support in the room. Listen to impactful stories. Meet someone new. Learn about the Collaborative work. Support the mission. Speak to a Navigator. Gain knowledge, resources and support.

When: Thursday, May 9, 2024

8-9 am, breakfast / 7:30 am, doors open

Where:Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, 5025 Knox Ave S, Minneapolis, MN

Go to mhconnect.org to register and for more information!

DRIVING IMPROVEMENT CLASS AT SHEPHERD: Thursday, May 23 from 1:00-5:00 pm

55+ Driver Improvement Program (4-hour refresher course)

The Driver Improvement Program offered by the Minnesota Highway Safety and Resource Center is open to the public and is taught by a certified instructor. By utilizing the most up to date research in the field, participants will be provided the latest information in regards to driver safety, new laws, and vehicle technology.

Persons age 55 and older who complete the course qualify for a ten percent discount on their auto insurance premiums. For more information or to register for a class near you, visit www.driverdiscountprogram.com or call toll free, 1-888-234-1294.



GIVING: Thank you for your generosity to SOTH! There are many ways to give: TEXT "GIVE" to 844-503-1571MAIL: 500 Blake Road South, Edina, MN 55343Place your gift in the offering plate at church.SCAN the QR Code

Sunday, May 5

9:30 am	Worship
	Shepherds of Light (Sun School)
10:40 am	Alleluia Singers
10:45 am	Care Team
6:30 pm	Apollo Chorus Rehearsal
0.00 pm	

Monday, May 6

6:30 pm	SMART Recovery
7:00 pm	Troop Meetings

Tuesday, May 7

8:30 am	Men's Coffee
9:00 am	Quilting
11:00 am	Staff Meeting
2:00 pm	Walker Care Suites Service

Wednesday, May 8

10:00 am	WoW
5:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm	WoW
	Confirmation
7:30 pm	Sr. High meets

Thursday, May 9

4:30 pm	Personnel Committee
5:00 pm	TOPS Mtg.
6:30 pm	SMART Recovery

Friday, May 10

12:00 noon Church office closes at noor	۱
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Sunday, May 12

9:30 am Worship
 Sr Graduation recognition
 Quilters appreciation
 6:30 pm Apollo Chorus rehearsal

Monday, May 13

	Loaves & Fishes
6:30 pm	SMART Recovery
7:00 pm	Troop Meetings

Tuesday, May 14

8:30 am	Men's Coffee
9:00 am	Quilting
1:00 pm	Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 15

10:00 am	WoW
5:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm	Confirmation Banquet
6:30 pm	WoW
7:30 pm	Sr. High meets

Thursday, May 16

4:30 pm	Personnel Committee
5:00 pm	TOPS Meeting
5:00 pm	Synod Assembly begins
6:30 pm	SMART Recovery

Friday, May 17

12:00 noon Church Office closed

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Ask an usher for assistance. Large print bulletins are also available. You can request one from an usher.

Persons unfamiliar with our Service may find the following explanation of abbreviations helpful. ★ indicates "Stand as able."

ELW	refers to the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP with the cranberry cover.
	Hymn selections are listed as "ELW ###."
	Liturgy selections are listed as ELW page ###.
GATHER	refers to the GATHER hymnbook with the teal blue cover .
	Hymn selections are listed as "Gather ###."

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 500 Blake Road South • Edina, MN 55343 Phone: (952) 935-3457 Web Site: www.sothchurch.com

SENIOR PASTOR	R: Rev. Dr. Yolanda Denson-Byers
ASSOCIATE PAS	TOR: Rev. Sherri Otto
CALVARY PASTO	DR: Rev. Wade Wacholz
MINISTERS: The	e Congregation
MUSIC DIRECTO	DR: Patti Arntz
ADMINISTRATI	VE ASSISTANT: Shawn Wacholz
CUSTODIAN: B	lair Prax
LECTOR: Cindy	Biewen
-	ASSISTANTS: Dick Schulze and Virgil Peterson
	NERSHIP: Tapestry Ministries, Minneapolis, MN 55423
	Rev. Melissa Melnick Gonzalez
	Kev. Mellissa Melliek Gonzalez
OFFICE HOURS:	Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm: Fridays 9:00-12:00 pm
Pastor Yolanda:	Monday 9:30-5:30 (home office); Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-5:30 (SOTH);
	Friday in Sabbath.
Doctor Chorrie	-
	Monday-Thursday 9:00 am -5:00 pm (SOTH); Friday in Sabbath
Pastor Wade:	Tuesdays 12:00 pm– 5:00 pm; Wednesdays 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
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