

Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 26, 2026

*Abiding Hope Lutheran Church
a Loving Family, Growing In Faith,
Sharing the Hope of Christ...*

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor

Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music



Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

WELCOME

We invite you to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

(please silence your cell phone)

PRELUDE ~ Choir: *Brother James Air* J.L. Macbeth

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God

Please Stand

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 807 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

GREETING


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

HYMN of PRAISE ~ Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



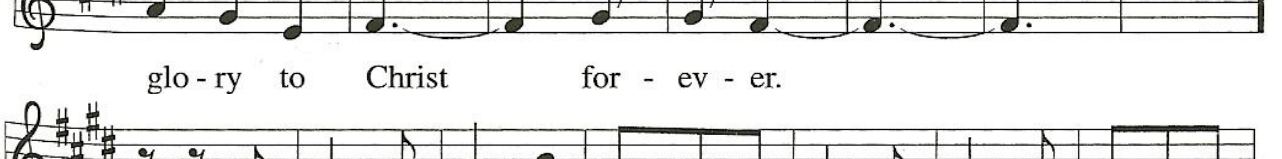
1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



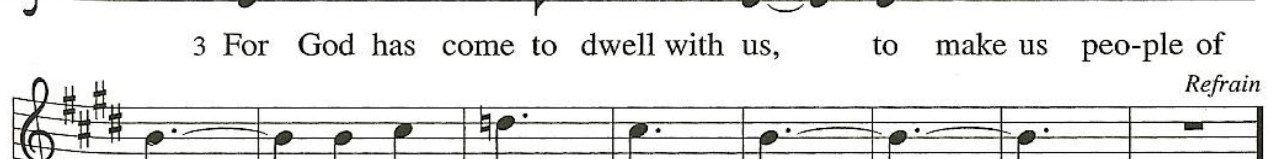
Refrain
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



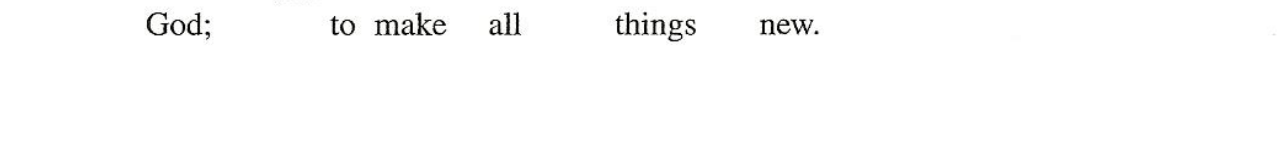
2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain
God; to make all things new.

PRAYER of the DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together. **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. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 23 Sung Responsively Tone 1

¹The LORD ¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹ be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down ¹ in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹ side still waters.**

³You restore my ¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways ¹ for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
shall ¹ fear no evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they ¹ comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my
life, and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



go? You have the words of e - ter - nal



life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat optional

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to John, Chapter 10. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
[The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

Please stand

HYMN of DAY ~ **ELW 782** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

To each petition, Merciful God. Please respond: receive our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY & PRESENTATION of GIFTS

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY HYMN ~ **ELW 465** *As the Grains of Wheat*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

Please stand

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

THANKSGIVING at the TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Please stand

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.... Amen.

INVITATION to COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

LAMB of GOD vs. 1, 4, 5.



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



5. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated

COMMUNION HYMN ~ ELW 484 *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*
Instrumental Meditation

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our † Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together. **Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

Please stand

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 843 *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE ~ *Step by Step*

Sundays/Seasons.com. Copyright ©2026 Augsburg Fortress. Rights reserved. CCLI 11354605-A. Copyright ©2026 One License, LLC. Rights reserved.

PARISH NOTES ~ April 26, 2026

Abiding Hope 2402 W. Grandview Blvd. 16506

Pastor Karen Parsh – 814-881-3266, Pastorparsh@gmail.com

Phone: 814-868-8685 – Email: ahadministrator@hotmail.com

Website: www.abidinghopeerie.org - FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch)

Please keep in your prayers: Cindy & Rich Filson, Dale & Delores Mayhue, Jane Penna, Bill & Sharron Sontheimer, Ed & Jeanne Tropper, Pastor Karen Parsh, Dolly Pacileo, Carl Larese, Peggy Kaeberlein, Christine Petrone, Darcée & Fred Anthony, Ava Whitely, Ed Whitbred, Matt, Carolyn & Elliott Marriotti, Josh, Adrianna, Titus, Jackie Seib, Dick & Diana Stoker, Leslie Gallagher-Kelly & Michele Rion & Sue, Harry & Susan Speakman, Kathy Sinnott, Maury & Linda Allen, Damian & Marcia Santabene, Don & Donna Holder and Little Library visitors.

Sunday, April 26: Choir: 9a & 10:45a, Worship: 9:30a, Bible Study: 11a, Zoom Bible: 7p

Sunday, May 3: Choir: 9a & 10:45a, Worship: 9:30a - Bible Study: 11:00a

Monday, May 4: Last day to REGISTER to vote before the Primary Election on **May 19th.**

Monday, May 4: Prayer Shawl Ladies, 10a. Prayer, good conversation, and knitting for the homebound. **Showing "how to" offered! All are welcome.**

Saturday, May 9: Camp Blast! Visit Lutherlyn, 11a-4p, to enjoy several of the outdoor/indoor activities they have available for Summer Camp. Plus, tours & great food. **All free.**

Thursday, May 14: Erie Lutheran Conference **Ascension Service, Luther Memorial, 7:00p. Bishop Papson preaching. There will be a combined choir. If interested in joining, contact Bryan Timmat BTimm@LutherMemorialOnline.org**

Sunday, May 17: New Hope is hosting a **homemade lasagna dinner, 12:30-3:00pm. Donations for the dinner appreciated to benefit KAFP. RSVP by May 10, sheet in narthex, but walk-ins welcome. If you would like to contribute a dessert, please indicate on the RSVP sheet.**

Thursday's Share and Care with **Pastor Karen and **Damian** is on hiatus until **June 4.****

Volunteers Needed! If you enjoy visiting nice people, **please consider becoming a Care Team member.** Bringing Holy Communion and a smile to homebound members is a joyful ministry. **Training available.** For more information contact **Jacque Holmberg @ 814.490.4470.**

The Little Free Library: Currently is **not in need** of any books.

The Little Pantry is **currently closed.** All food donated will be passed on to the Kearsarge Area Food Pantry. Blessings for your generosity to this mission.

"Little Jesus": Introduce our Lord, Jesus to others by leaving a figurine in a public place for someone to find! You can find them in the basket under the TV monitor.

Office Hours: Mon. & Tue, 930a-330p. Wed., 930a-1230p. For immediate pastoral needs, **Thursday-Saturday,** contact **Pastor Karen Parsh – 814.881.3266.** On **Friday,** please contact **Rick Penn, 814.737.9974.**

Worship Leaders – April 26, 2026

Videographer	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Jo Zeimet
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Jeanne Tropper
Lector/Prayers	Sally Zill
Communion Cups	Rick Penn
Communion Tray	Barb Ruhlman
Presenter	June Morey
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Usher	Andy Saska
Usher	Jay Zeimet
Counters	Jo & Nancy