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J O H N 1 0 : 2 7



The sheep hear my voice. I know them and they

FOLLOW ME

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 11, 2025

May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Christ is Risen. **He is risen indeed!**

Christ is Risen. **He is risen indeed!**

Christ is Risen. **He is risen indeed! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen!**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *St. Columba: The King of Love My Shepherd Is* - Charles Callahan

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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.
Amen.

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

Most merciful God,
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.

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.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** *The Day of Resurrection!* (ELW 361)



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

***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.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! (ELW 382) Vs. 1*



1 Christ is ris-en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turns to life once more;
 now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
 death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 an - gels on his steps at-tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
 Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *A Shepherd's Psalm* - Joseph Martin

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

A reading from Acts.

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

(read responsively between lector and congregation beginning with the lector)

¹ The LORD¹ is my shepherd;

I shall not¹ be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**

³ You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia* (ELW s142a)

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

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

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Julia Brown

***Please stand as you are able for the final verse**

HYMN OF THE DAY *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (ELW 502)



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***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 THE CHURCH** *(Please respond)*

P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***OFFERTORY** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* (ELW 182)



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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.

*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.

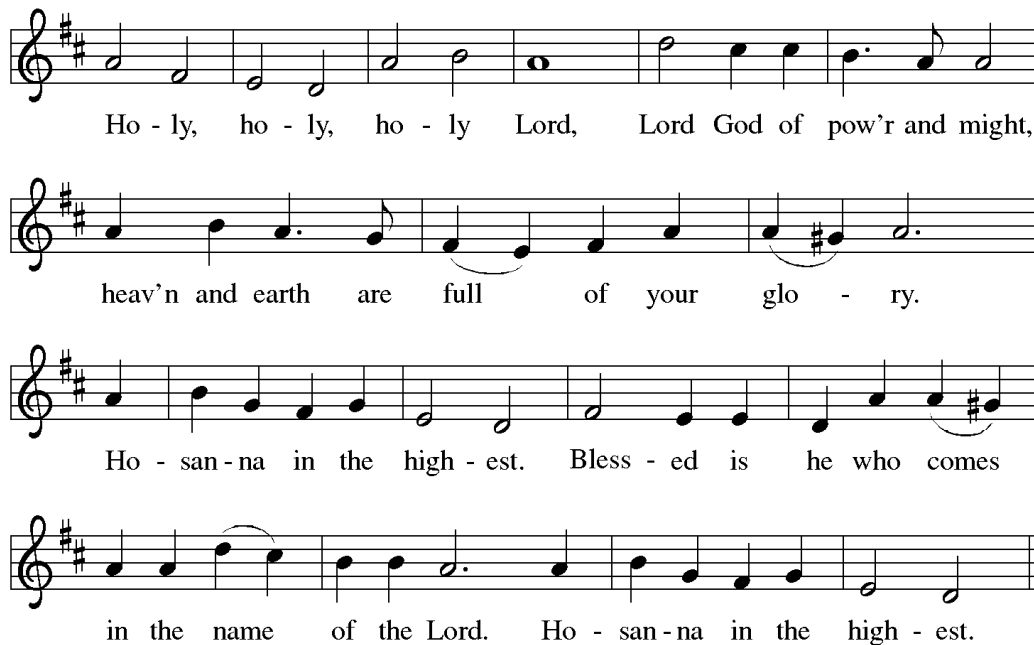
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, 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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW s153)



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.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

***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,
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.**

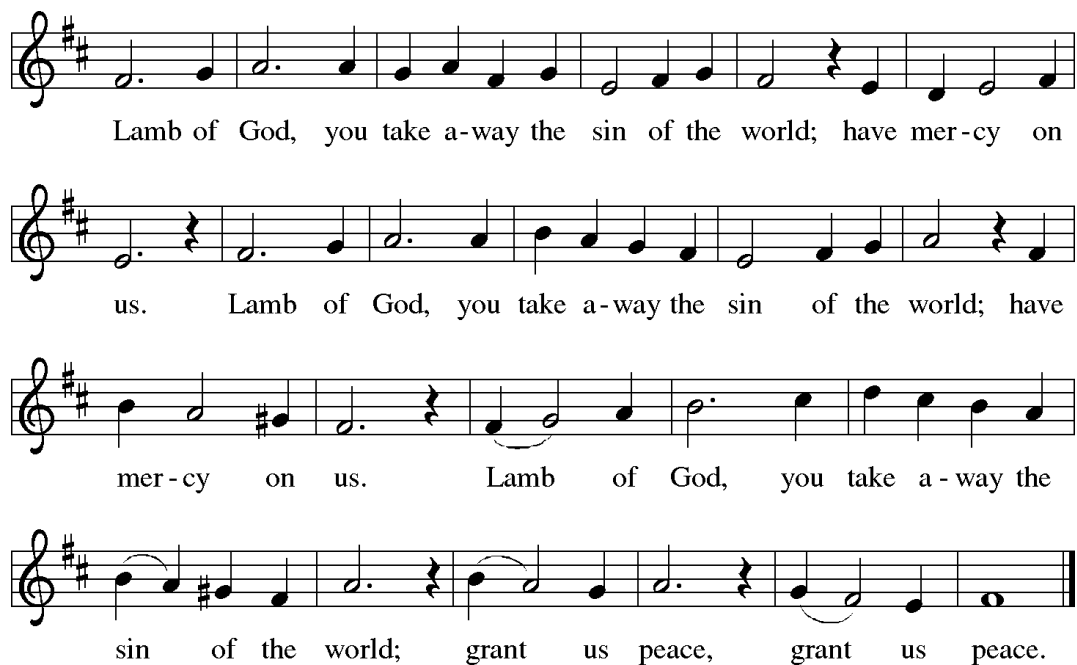
***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God* (ELW s154)



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.

COMMUNION HYMN *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.

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

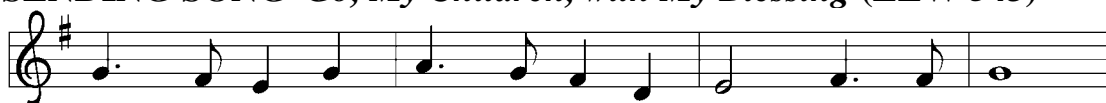
***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (ELW 543)**



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *Song of Exultation* - Kevin Clark Davis

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SERVING TODAY

Supply Pastor.....	Rev. Julia Brown
Church Office Email Address	office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Janice McEntire
Acolyte	Norm Kuykendall
Lector.....	Rich McEntire
Securing Offering	Wayne Dale & Janice McEntire
Communion Set-Up.....	Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Clean-Up	Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Bread	Colleen Johnson
Communion Assist	Marjorie Dale
Attendance last Sunday.....	35

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of my dad, Ron Coldsmith on his 80th birthday, Love Bo.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Please welcome Rev. Julia Brown with a warm thank you for preaching this morning.

Prayer requests for the following: *Doug Weaver, James Bersch, Evelyn Gomez, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Kaitlyn Dovey, Angela Puchalo, Katelyn Mary Dodge, Charles Carl, Fran Stouffer, Marty Wenger, Don Wildeson, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, Sam Mull, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

May 12 - Council 7pm
13 - Christian Ed 7pm
14 - Qigong/Tai Chi 7pm
15 - Choir 7pm
16 - Relay for Life 4pm

The Spiritrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary invites you to participate in our annual membership drive. You can join for a contribution of \$!. Information has been placed in your mailbox. All proceeds go to support the Work at The Village at Luther Ridge. Please see Becky Pecha with any questions and to turn in your membership gift. Membership drive is May 1 - June 1, 2025.

Please note that you will no longer receive a 6 month contribution letter. If you would like to have one, please contact Janice McEntire.

2025 Relay for Life: The event will take place at Greencastle/Antrim High School on Friday, May 16th from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Solomon's is signed up as team again this year and if you like to join the team, please go to the website to join our team or call 1-800-227-2345. Sam & Becky will also be collecting the Luminary forms and will need the form and donation by Sunday, May 11th. Please reach out to Becky Mull if you have any questions and we hope to see you on the track! Thank you for your continued support.

The 2025 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$50.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$50.00 with the bulletin information.

The 2025 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

Power Pack Meals: The need for nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need is an on-going project. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

Hymn Notes:

Our Hymn of the Day, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," is a beautiful rendition of Psalm 23. It was written by Henry William Baker, an ordained minister in England, later vicar of Monkland, and also, after his father's death, a baronet. For many years, Baker

worked on a book of hymns which he wanted to reflect the “grandeur of majestic worship.” The “King of Love” appeared in the 1868 revision of his Anglican hymnal. When he passed away in 1877, a friend reported that his last words were from this great hymn: *Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me, And on His shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.* This hymn was the best known of the many hymns written by Baker during his lifetime. (*Then Sings My Soul*; Robert J. Morgan; p. 168)

Our sending hymn this morning, “Go, My Children, with My Blessing,” was written by Rev. Jaroslav Vajda (1919-2008), an American hymnist and ordained pastor. It was published in 1983 and appeared in *With One Voice*, the songbook supplement of the ELCA in 1995. Pastor Vajda served several congregations of the Missouri Synod before making a move to Concordia Publishing in St. Louis, where he served as editor of *This Day* magazine. While at Concordia, he began writing hymns of his own, instead of just translating hymns into English from his native Slovak language. He published several collections of hymns after his retirement, *Now the Joyful Celebration* (1987) and its sequel *So Much to Sing About* (1991). Today’s sending hymn was set to the tune “All Through the Night,” making it an instant hit. People love this hymn for its “healing language and blessings, a benediction for life.” The hymn truly blesses us with God’s grace. (HymnfortheDay.com). If you look in our ELW, Pastor Vajda has several hymn texts included: 285, 460, 543, 602, 740, and 795. It is interesting to note that he served on several hymnal committees, including our former LBW, and the *Lutheran Worship* hymnal of the Missouri Synod when the Missouri synod broke away from the development of the LBW.