

**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**4856 WAYNE ROAD**  
**CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202**  
**(717) 267-2266**

EMAIL: [info@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:info@solomonslutheran.org)  
WEB SITE: [www.solomonslutheran.org](http://www.solomonslutheran.org)  
FACEBOOK SEARCH: Solomon's Lutheran Facebook



*"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**  
**APRIL 26, 2026**

**April 26, 2026**  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

*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.*

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**    *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* - Dale Wood

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
 and for making us a new creation.  
 We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
 now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* (ELW 883)**



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the  
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our  
 3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with  
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy  
 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his  
 aid he did us make. We are his folk, he  
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his  
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times  
 heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the



praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - jice.  
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.  
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.  
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.  
 an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594  
 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

**\*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!



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



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.

*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 our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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 2:42-47

A reading from Acts.

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

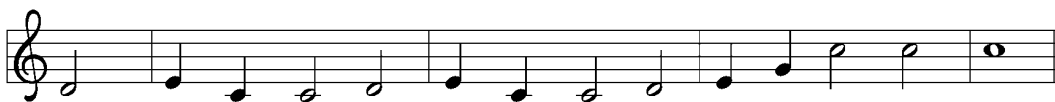
## HYMN *The Lord's My Shepherd* (ELW 778)



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.

## SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from 1 Peter.

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God.

<sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup> “He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

<sup>23</sup> When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his

voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877  
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

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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: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.

**\*PEACE**

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

**\*OFFERTORY** *We Give Thee but Thine Own* (ELW 686)



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus,  
**Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

O God of justice and love,  
we give thanks to you that you illumine our way  
through life with the words of your Son.  
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,  
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom,  
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

## **\*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.**

## \*BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## \*SENDING SONG *This Joyful Eastertide* (ELW 391)



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son  
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has  
slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall  
riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.  
wake the dead in num - - ber.  
pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

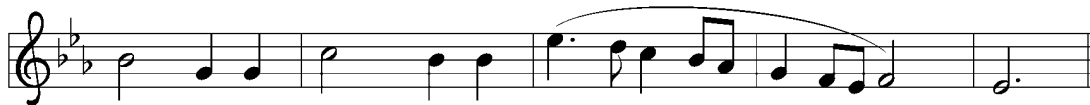
### *Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934  
Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

# EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

**POSTLUDE** *Song of Rejoicing* - Robert J. Hughes

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## SERVING TODAY

Interim Pastor .....	Rev. Julia Brown
Church Office Email Address .....	<a href="mailto:office@solomonslutheran.org">office@solomonslutheran.org</a>
Organist .....	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher .....	Marjorie Dale
Acolyte .....	Aaron Shreiner
Lector.....	Martie Veilleux
Securing Offering.....	Larry Socks & Linda Berberich
Attendance last Sunday.....	36

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the glory of God given by Kathy Bowen.

**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!

**Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Julia Brown** by email to [pastor@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:pastor@solomonslutheran.org) or phone 703-434-9220.

**Prayer requests for the following:** *Eva Stahl, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Clif Rau, Dennis Hose, Sam Brooks, Ellie Martin, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Charles Carl, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. 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:**

April 28 - Congregation Dinner 6:30pm  
29 - Qigong/Tai Chai 7pm  
30 - Choir 7pm

**The Power Pack Program ends in May.** Social Ministry thanks all who participated in this ministry to help those in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**We are asking for all members to complete the Call Committee Survey that was emailed to you by April 24<sup>th</sup> and put it into a box at the front of the sanctuary.** There are extra copies on the table in the Sunday School room. The surveys will be discussed at a congregation meeting on May 3 after Worship. Also, at this meeting, we will review a new contract with Rev. Julia L. Brown. Thank you for your support.

*Ron Coldsmith, Council President.*

**AC&T, CO. INC, our propane supplier, has made available to members of Solomon's, 4 season tickets to the Hagerstown Flying Boxcars Baseball Team, for all home games.** Tickets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you are interested, please call Ron Coldsmith.

**Bible Study - Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the fellowship center conference room.**

May 6 - The Book of Titus. Resource: <https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-titus/>

May 20 - The Gospel of John.

**Congregation Dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 28 at 6:30pm.** The menu is ham meatballs, baked potato, corn, baked pineapple, brownie and/or sundae. Major Joy Labbe from the Salvation Army will be the speaker. Tickets: Adults - \$7.50, Children (5-11) - \$4.00, Under 5 - free. See Margie Dale or Frances Reichard for tickets.

**During the month of April, Social Ministry will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry.** Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the totes under the coat rack, next to the mailboxes.

**Qigong/Tai Chi Class** - Wednesdays at 7:00pm at Solomon's Church main Sunday school room. This is an open class. All movement is done standing. Sitting can be an option. All exercises are mild. For more information contact: Colleen Johnson.

**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.

**The 2026 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.

**The 2026 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room.** The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 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 \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

**Music Notes/Hymn Notes:**

As indicated earlier in the bulletin, the fourth Sunday after Easter is designated as Good Shepherd Sunday. The prelude which is based on the Hymn of the Day, the Hymn of the Day itself, and the anthem by our choir are all based on this theme, and use paraphrases of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. In addition this morning, instead of reading the Psalm responsively as is our practice, we will be singing the hymn #778 *The Lord's My Shepherd*. The message today is clear...Jesus is our Shepherd, he watches over us, and we will dwell with him in the house of the Lord forever.

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)