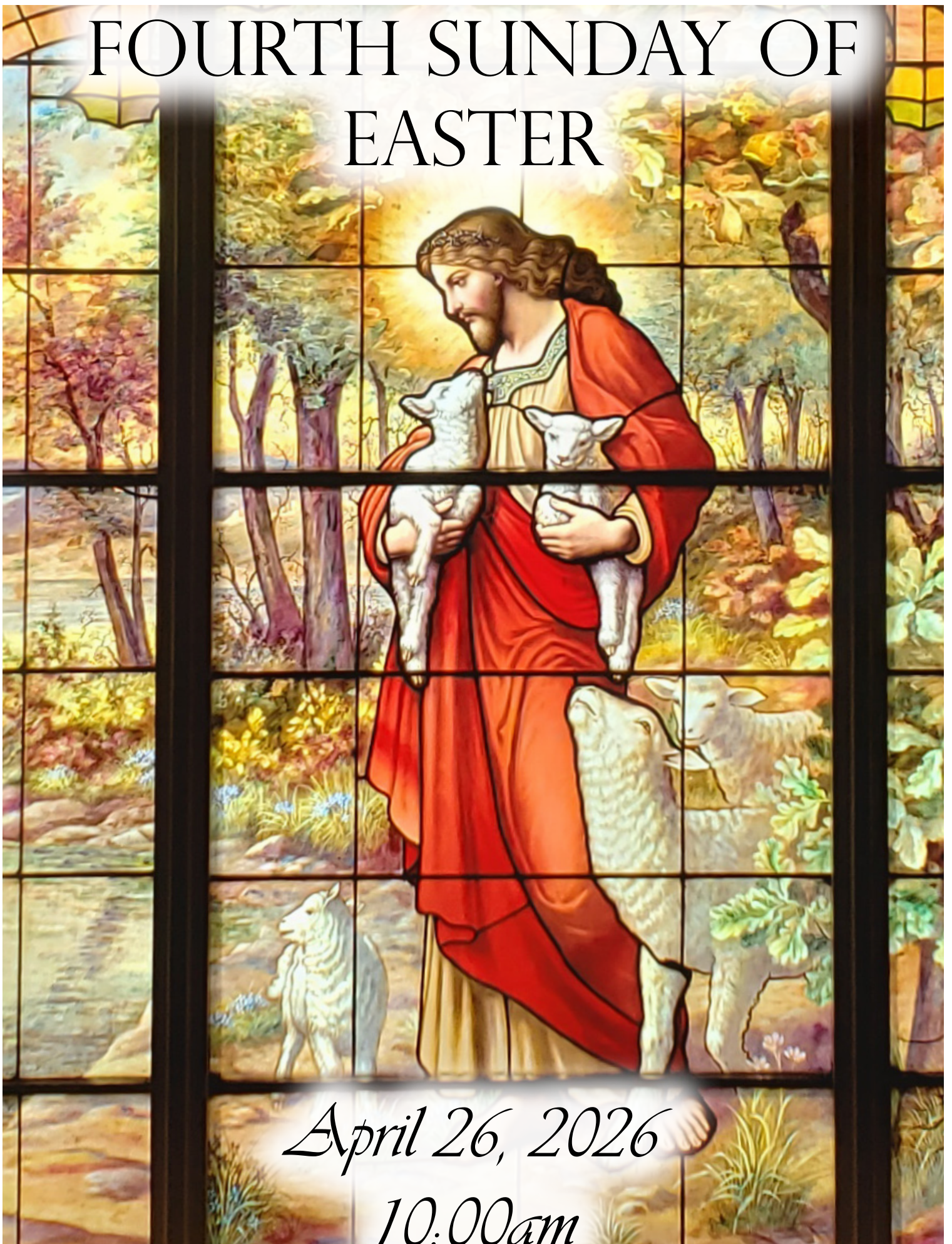


FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



April 26, 2026

10:00am

Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

GATHERING

Prelude

A Meditation on Brother James' Air

Harold Darke

Opening Hymn Have No Fear, Little Flock


#764

Apostolic 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.


Refrain




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

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

WORD

Children's Message

The reading is from Acts, chapter 2

⁴²The baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

⁴⁶Day 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, ⁴⁷praising 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!

Anthem

Peace in the Valley

arr. by Mac Huff

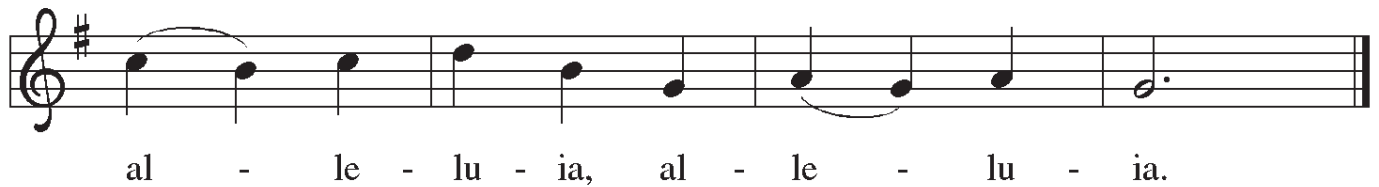
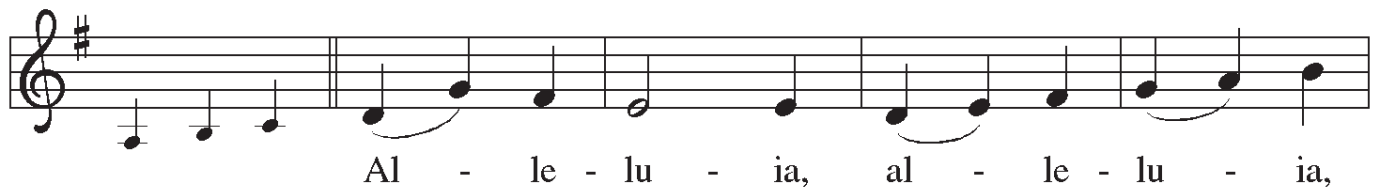
I am tired and weary but I must toil on
Til the Lord comes to call me away.
Where the morning is bright And the
lamb is the light
And the night is as fair as the day.

There will be peace in the valley for me,
some day.
There will be peace in the valley for me,
I pray,

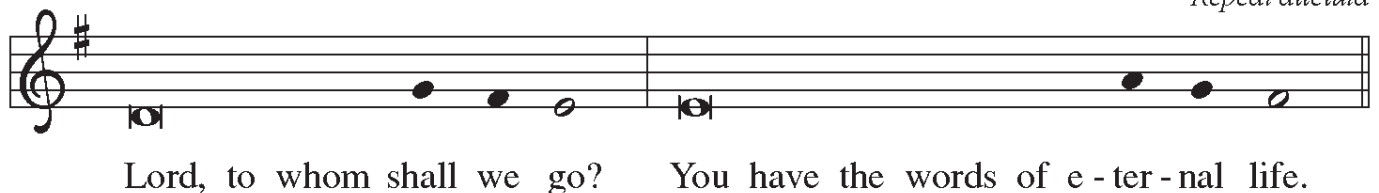
No more sorrow and sadness or trouble
will be.
There will be peace in the valley for me.
There the flow'rs will be blooming, the
grass will be green
And the skies will be clear and serene.
The sun ever shines, giving one endless
beam,
And no clouds there will ever be seen.

Let there be peace!

Gospel Acclamation



Repeat alleluia



The Gospel for today comes from John, chapter 10 Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹“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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them.

⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.

¹⁰ 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 Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Reflections

Hymn Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

#523

Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures
He leads me beside still waters.

³ He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

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

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen

Prayers of the Church

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

... Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

Peace

MEAL

Offering

Christ Is Arisen, verse 1

J. S. Bach

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.

Words of Institution

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

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.

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.

Prayer After Communion

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine

#774

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Christ Is Arisen, verse 3

J. S. Bach

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Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Organist: Elaine Mann

Assisting Minister: Mitch Piper

Choir Director: Micah Bland

Reader: Anita Reid

Pacibells Director: Karen Lionberger

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (26th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am

Worship – 10am

MONDAY

Scouts – 6pm

TUESDAY

Organ Tuning – 9am

Prayer Group – 11am

ADRC Strong Bodies – 1pm

WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 9am

Text Study – 12noon

Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

THURSDAY

ADRC Strong Bodies – 1pm

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

SUNDAY (3rd)

Eau Claire Marathon

Coffee Hour – 9:30am

Worship – 10am

Grace Lutheran Communities

Annual Meeting – 11am

Other groups using the building this week: Eau Claire County, Scouts, Brighter than Sunshine, ECWiT, Theater Guild

Noisy Offering

Save your coins and let them Spring into action on May 3. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. (Even though it doesn't make as much noise when dropped into the collection cans, paper money is also greatly appreciated!)



Our special offering will be for gas/food gift cards for Veterans. Let's help out our veteran friends!



Eau Claire Marathon

The Eau Claire Marathon will take place the weekend of May 3. Access to the church will be across Chippewa Street north on 3rd Ave. There will be no access between 7:10am and 7:45am or between 8:40am and 9:20am, so plan to arrive before or after those times. Thank you.

Beacon House Serving

Grace members will be responsible for evening meals on these dates: Thursday, May 7, Friday, May 8, Saturday, May 9. Menus will be posted on the Lighthouse in the Narthex. You may sign up to provide an entree or side dish for a specific meal. Foodstuffs such as milk, fruit and cereal are supported by contributions to the Deacon Fund. Please call Barbara Radke if you have any questions about becoming involved in this service.

Thank You for your continuing support for this local mission.



The Aging and Disability Resource Center Presents:

Confident Dementia Caregiver Monthly Series 2026

Knowledge and skills to help you care for those with dementia



Tuesdays, April - August, 2026

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
1314 E. Lexington Blvd, Eau Claire

April 28

The Harm in Doing NOTHING When Memory Loss,
Dementia Symptoms or Diagnosis are Present

May 26

Caring for Dementia:
Understanding Behavior as Communication

June 30

Let's Go Upstream:
Preventing and Preparing for Emergencies and Crisis

July 28

Creating a Dementia-Friendly Home

August 25

Meaningful Connections Require Boundaries:
Go from Guilt to Glow

Free public event. Each presentation includes
handouts and resources.



Let us know you are coming,
reserve your spot for each
session at www.adrcevents.org
or call the ADRC at
715-839-4735 or
888-338-4636.



Presented by:



LISA WELLS, MA

Dementia Care Specialist
Aging and Disability Resource Center
of Eau Claire County

Congregational Survey

This is a notification for all members regarding an upcoming initiative.

On April 26th the church council and committees will ask the congregation to complete a short, focused survey.

Purpose of the Survey

- **Understand Local Involvement:** To gain a better understanding of how members are involved in community efforts and activities outside the church.
- **Strengthen Community Connection:** To help leaders identify how the church can better serve the local area and align with the needs of the surrounding community.
- **Inform Future Decisions:** The data collected will help the council and committees make strategic decisions regarding, member services and community outreach.

Members are encouraged to participate to ensure their voice is heard in these planning efforts.

Grace Lutheran Communities Annual Meeting

On May 3 Grace Lutheran Communities will have their annual meeting. The meeting will be after our regular service around 11am. All members of Grace Lutheran Church are invited to attend and make their voices heard. See you there.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org



Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org/our-ministry> Bulletins may also be found on the same page.

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page — <http://grace-church.org/our-ministry>

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713