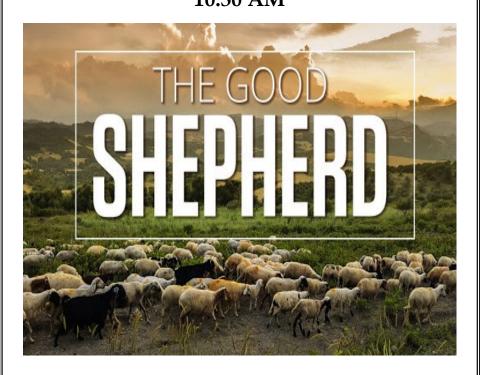
First Evangelical Lutheran Church The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024 10:30 AM



Our Identity

- We are a diverse, welcoming, loving, grace-filled community.
- We are a safe place of acceptance and forgiveness.
- It feels good to be here.

The Rev. Matthew L. Miller, Pastor

320 South State Street , PO Box 308 Lexington, NC 27292 336.248.6018 Phone www.flclex.org

Now The Feast and Celebration Holy Communion

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE!

We are so glad you are able to worship with us today. We hope you feel the love of God and the friendly warmth of our church family. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

+ + GATHERING + +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

We turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the Altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- C Amen.
- P Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

(We pause for reflection.)

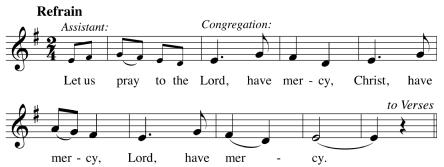
- P God of grace and glory,
- you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.
- P Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and # frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!
- **G** Amen!
- P Christ is risen!
- **G** He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P 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.**

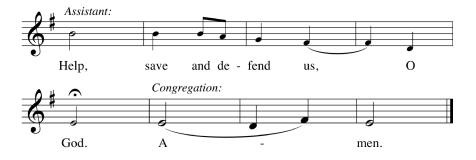
KYRIE

A In peace, in peace,



Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)



HYMN OF PRAISE



HYMN OF PRAISE (continued)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.
- P O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

+ + WORD + +

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" 8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L The word of the Lord. **9** Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (read responsively)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

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

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

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

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

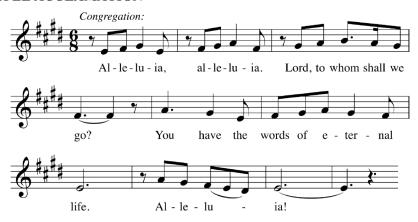
¹⁶We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L The word of the Lord Q Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

P The holy gospel according to St. John the tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

The Rev. Matthew L. Miller

A BRIEF MOMENT OF REFLECTION

HYMN: (Bulletin, pg. 19) "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" St. Columba Henry W. Baker

APOSTLES' CREED

- P God has made us his people through our baptism in Christ. Living together in trust and hope let us confess our faith.
- I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

(after each petition)...... God of grace,

- **G** hear our prayer.
- P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C Amen.

PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- And also with you.

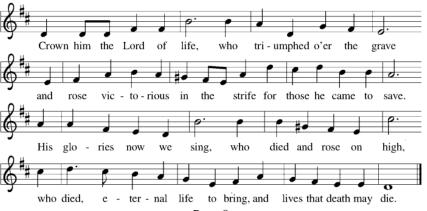
OFFERING

"He Keeps Me Singing" Chancel Choir

Mary McDonald

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

"Crown Him the Lord of Life"

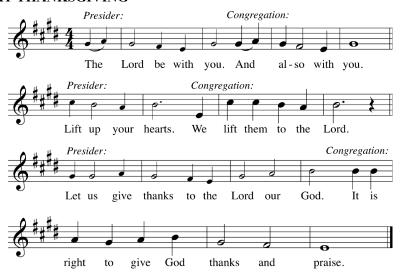


OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray. 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.

+ + MEAL + +

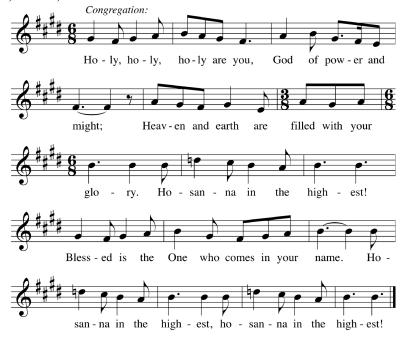
GREAT THANKSGIVING





P It is our duty and delight . . . We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

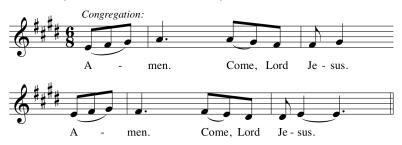
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

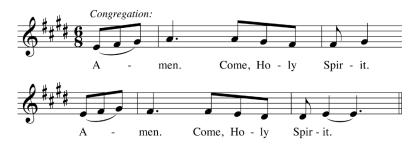
EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION

P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



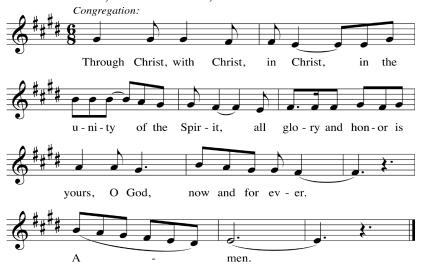
The minister continues with the Eucharistic Prayer

P Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.



P Gather our prayers with those of the apostles, prophets, martyrs, and all the faithful who have gone before us, and unite them with the unceasing prayer of the One who lives in us and in whom we live, Jesus Christ.

THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST





P Make us bold, O Merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Sung)



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

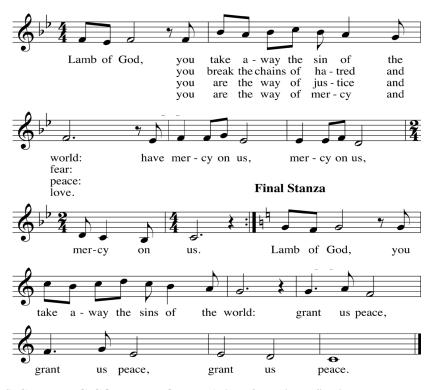
☑ Thanks be to God!

All are welcome to the table to receive Holy Communion. If you are unable to receive communion at the altar, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

Please refrain from conversation during the distribution of Holy Communion in respect for those who may be in prayer.

If you prefer to receive a **gluten-free** communion wafer, please tell the minister or assisting minister as you are served. White grape juice is also available at each wine station in the center ring.

LAMB OF GOD



 ${\bf MUSIC\ DURING\ COMMUNION} - A\ time\ for\ quiet\ reflection.$



TABLE BLESSING

- P May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.
- C Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Shepherding God,
- **9** 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.

+ + SENDING + +

SENDING OF COMMUNION

- A Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are unable to be with us today. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

BLESSING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- **©** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.
- Amen.

During the sending hymn, we face the cross as it passes to the rear of the sanctuary, it reminds us, it is Christ who leads and calls us into God's World to bring God's healing love as we carry out his mission and ministry.

HYMN: (Bulletin, pg. 20)

"He Leadeth Me"

He Leadeth Me Joseph Gilmore

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

++++++

+ + ANNOUNCEMENTS + +

SERVING DURING WORSHIP — April 21, 2024

Assisting Minister: Aaron Barr

Communion Stewards: Teena Walker, Judy Conrad

Communion Preparation: Debra Kitzman

Acolyte: Sydney England Crucifer: Lauren Mabry Lector: Sabrina Conrad

Ushers: Pat Richardson, Bob Sink Sound System: John Leonard

SERVING DURING WORSHIP — April 28, 2024

Assisting Minister: Bing Grubb

Communion Stewards: Teena Walker, Judy Conrad

Communion Preparation: Debra Kitzman

Acolyte: Sydney England Crucifer: Lauren Mabry Lector: Sabrina Conrad

Ushers: Pat Richardson, Bob Sink Sound System: John Leonard

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the Altar are given by Mike and Suzy Crook to the Glory of almighty God; in memory of Barbara Young, and in celebration of Mike and Suzy's 17th wedding anniversary.

SCRIPTURES – April 28, 2024

Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

PRAYER LIST

Please take a moment to carefully review the prayer list. If there are changes or updates that may be made, please notify the church office.

WITH OUR GRATITUDE

The people of FLC would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Property Team for the beautiful and much needed hand rails at the Chancel stairs. This is a wonderful addition to our Nave. Thank you to everyone who assisted in the project.

WE ASK FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

We have been experiencing a significant increase of doors being found unlocked. If you come into the church building for any reason throughout the week, please take that extra moment to be certain the doors are locked as you leave.

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT — Tonight

Bruce and Elizabeth Tippette will present a Candlelight Concert of Musical Theatre's Most Beloved Tunes on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 6:30 PM. The concert will be at First Reformed UCC on East Center Street.

INREACH TEAM

The Inreach Team will meet on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 4:00 PM.

PERICOPE

Join us for Pericope at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at Southern Lunch.

WEDNESDAY DEVOTION

Join Pastor Matt each Wednesday for devotions on Facebook Live at 10:00 AM. Join the devotion here: http://www.facebook.com/flclex

CHOIR AND HANDBELLS

- The Handbell Choir will rehearse on Wednesday, April 24, at 6:30 PM.
- The Chancel Choir will rehearse on Wednesday, April 24, at 7:30 PM.

BEER AND BIBLE

Join us at Goose and the Monkey at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to participate!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl ministry will meet on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Family Life Center. We welcome newcomers!

AGAPE CIRCLE HOSTING AN EVENT

The Agape Circle is hosting an event at 2:00 PM on <u>SUNDAY</u>, May 5, 2024, at Pick and Paint Ceramics on First Street in Lexington. This event is open to everyone. Please contact Sabrina Conrad to make your reservation.

PROPERTY TEAM

The Property Team will meet on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

PASTORS PANTRY

We are collecting **bags of dry beans** during the month of April Please place your donations on the rack on the Chapel hallway off the Narthex.

LOOKING AHEAD:

• **Beer and Bible:** May 7, 6:00 PM

• Prayer Shawl Ministry: May 9, 7:00 PM

Mary Circle: May 14, 11:30 AM
 Worship Team: May 20, 11:00 AM

Stewardship and Attendance April 14, 2024	
Attendance	77
Current	\$2,565.00
Youth	\$10.00
Pastor's Pantry	\$20.00
Mortgage	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$2,695.00

All Are Welcome



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 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

He Leadeth Me



Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918

Music: HE LEADETH ME, William B. Bradbury, 1815–1868

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Let us remember in prayer:

CHURCH FAMILY:

Christopher Bartholomew

Sam Campbell

Lorraine Carlson

Jean Conrad Darstein

Craven Ford

Phil Foster

Norma Heath

Matt Hogrefe

Dan Huber

Steve Ketner

Katie Lemly

Lewis McMillan

Tracy Miller

Frank Mills

Willie Ruth Pless

Bob Redwine

Barbara Carlson Romaine

Joe Romaine Ron Sink

Ron Sink

Gracie Shepherd

Jody Shepherd

Dan Smith

Debbie and Terry Triplett

Laura Turlington Deborah Wertman

Pr. Bob Young

LOVED ONES, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS:

Tonya Adams (Friend of David Smith)

Larry and Donna B. (friends of John and Sabrina Conrad)

Richard and Toni Berish (Brother and sister-in-law of the Wertman family)

Brad, Melody, and Erick Bizzell (Son and family of Susan Bizzell)

Mary Brink (Niece of Pauletta Conrad)

Anne Burkhart (friend of Pam Mabry)

Mike Byrd (Friend of Bob Sink)

Eula Carroll (Joe Carroll's mother)

Elaine Childress (friend of Sabrina Conrad)

Paul and Dawn Cohen (friends of the Wertmans)
Paul and Carolina Conrad (Larry Conrad's aunt and

uncle)

Don and Jackie Craft (parents of Rebecca Moretz)
Margie Coggins (friend of Kelly Newsome and FLC)

Amy and Wes Cups

Greg D'Ambrosio (friend of John Conrad)

Robert Dasch (Father of Keith Dasch)

Connie Dillard (friend of the Wertman family)

Marina Dunaway& family (friends of Karen Riggs)

Juan Escobedo (cousin of Amanda Hathcock)

Danny Fine (Lynn Smith's brother)

John Fisher (Bleasha Carroll's uncle)

Abby Fobes (friend of Bing Grubb)

Kay Fortner (friend of Dalane Kitzman)

Marc Frye (friend of Craig and Robin Deal)

The Greer Family (friends of Karen Riggs)

Mike and Sharon Heffner (friends of John and

Sabrina Conrad)

Marion Hibbett (Rebecca Moretz' aunt)

Kenny Hirsch (friend of Rick Grubb)

Capt. Matthew Honeycutt (friend of the Carroll and

Scott Family)
Scott Hummel (friend of the Turlingtons)

Betty Jordan (friend of the Carlsons)

Larry Kerns (Tim Welther's husband)
Bob and Karen Kernstine (friends of Sabrina

Conrad)
Mandy Kiser and son, Sammy Jones (friends of Patti

Grant)
Thomas and Toni L. (friends of John and Sabrina

Conrad)

Larry Leonard (John Leonard's brother)

Franklin Mabry

Mandy Marshall (Debbie Triplett's daughter)

Billy McGuinn (friend of Lewis and Connie McMillan)

Donna Miller (friend of Kelsey Lambert)

Sarah Montross (friend of the Turlingtons)

Matthew and Faith Moretz (nephew and wife of Rebecca Moretz)

Dermont Morris (friend of Ken Clodfelter) **Todd Morris** (father of Michael Gauldin)

Becky Osborne (friend of Karen Riggs)

Barbara Ann Owen (Laura Turlington's aunt) Linda Owings (friend of John and Sabrina Conrad)

Hap Palmer (Pauletta Conrad's brother-in-law)

Mickey Persinger (Tracy Miller's cousin)

Brenda Safrit (Beth Huber's cousin) Kim Schlueter (Trisha Reichard's mother)

Robin Schuster (friend of FLC)

Doug Sink (Bob Sink's brother)
Peggy Sipe (mother of Pr. Ray Sipe)

Mark Sives (Bleasha Carroll's cousin)

Aubrey Smith (Dan Smith's dad)

David Smith (Nephew of Bob Sink)

Marilee Strasser (friend of Bill and Patsie Baker)
Johnny and Pat Straughn (friends of Sylvia Sink)

Denny Swimley (brother-in-law of Scott and Deborah Wertman)

Jackie Taylor (Lorraine Carlson's sister)

Juliet Teachey (great-granddaughter of Jon and Celie

Lough)

Stephen Thompson (Danny Thompson's father) Mary and Doug Walser (friends of Sylvia Sink)

Charlie Ward (friend of Kim Odum)

Jennifer Way (Sylvia Šink's niece)

Jon Whalen (Denny Whalen's brother)

Mary Louise Wilkerson (Friend of FLC)

Devone Wohl (Dalane Kitzman's sister) Nathaniel Wohl (Dalane Kitzman's nephew)

Ken Woisin (Lorraine Carlson's brother)

The families of those who have passed to life eternal:

Expectant Parents:

Eric and Ashley Carroll Kathleen Lockwood and Munashe Magarira JJ and Trisha Reichard Jeb and Hailee (Moretz) Smith

