



**St. Peder's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
April 26, 2026**

Welcome to St. Peder's! All people are welcome to fully participate in worship, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, physical and mental abilities, and socio-economic status. If you are a visitor, please fill out a visitor card available in the pews or fill out the guestbook in the entryway. We would love to know who you are and what brings you in today! We offer large print and braille copies of our bulletin for those with vision impairment. For your convenience, we also offer opportunities to worship online!

Introduction to the 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.

Cover art by Addie Albing.

GATHERING

Prelude

Prelude on Duke Street

Call to Worship:

Response: Christ is risen, **he is risen indeed.**

Welcome, Peace, and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Back cover of hymnal

Gathering Hymn

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

ELW 807

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Kyrie (Hymn of Prayer)

Now the Feast & Celebration pg. 3

Canticle (Hymn of Praise)

Now the Feast & Celebration pg.4

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

First Lesson

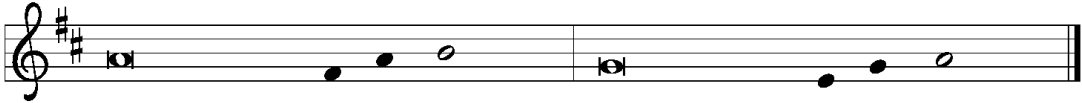
Acts 2:42-47

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

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ 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 the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23



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

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

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

⁴ **Though 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.**

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

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

Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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.

²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Gathering of Children

Gospel Acclamation

Now the Feast & Celebration pg. 8

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

[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. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus 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 Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *God, We Walk Through Death's Deep Valley*

God, we walk through death's deep valley, where such grief and pain abound.
In the midst of so much sorrow, Where, we ask, can you be found?
Where are hope and reassurance? Who will take away our fear?
God, we trust your presence with us: In our sorrow, you are here.

As an ordinary pebble tossed upon a quiet pond
Sends out rings of rippling waters, moving waters far beyond —
So we touch the lives of others; We are moved by how they live.
Help us, in our joy, remember; help us, in our pain, forgive.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled," Jesus said to those he loved.
"There are many dwelling places in my Father's house above."
Jesus, you have gone before us; Jesus, you will guide us there.
Lord, we trust your hand to lead us to the place that you prepare.

We hold onto what you promise: Earth and heav'n will be made new.
Then your home will be among us; we will always dwell with you.
There will be no sound of weeping; you will wipe away each tear.
God, we trust your promise to us: Now and always, you are here.

Apostles' Creed

Back cover of hymnal

Prayers of the People: Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

Back cover of hymnal

Offering: *In this moment, we reflect upon the many gifts in our lives – our time, our talent, and our treasures. In sharing these gifts, you bless others in the name of God's glory. If you would like to donate digitally, please use your smartphone to take a picture of this QR code or click on it if you are reading this online.*



Gift of Music

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Maren Odeen, soprano
St. Peder's Choir

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. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW 774

Sending

Knowing God is behind us, **we are rooted in our heritage.**
Knowing God goes before us, **we embrace the future.**
Knowing Christ forgives us, **we joyfully live the gospel**
We engage the world around us **with open hearts, open hands,**
and open doors. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Postlude

Old Hundredth



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Serving in Worship this Morning

Greeters: Jill and Kerry Audette **Ushers:**

Acolyte: Walter Anderson

Reader: Jill Audette

Counters: JeriLynn Young and Eva Tangen

Livestream Tech: JeriLynn Young

LSS Safehouse April 27: Wendy & Gordon Legge

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 2

Announcements

New Member Class

We will be hosting a new members class on Sunday, May 3, and welcoming these new members into the St. Peder's community on Sunday, May 17.

Intergenerational Event

Our speaker for today's event will be Pr. Abram Neumann from Iglutheca at Pine Ridge Reservation. Iglutheca is a nonprofit organization in South Dakota providing services for Lakota people experiencing homeless, addiction, and poverty on and around the Pine Ridge Reservation. Pastor Neumann will share stories from his work and life in Pine Ridge and teach us some song in Lakota and English.

Youth Sunday

Help us celebrate our youth on May 17 for Youth Sunday! On this Sunday we honor our high school graduates and incorporate youth throughout the worship service.

Pub Theology

Join us for Pub Theology at 6:30 on Wednesday, April 29th. We will meet at Parkway Pizza at 4359 Minnehaha Avenue. Abraham Lincoln once said, "Both (North and South) read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other...The prayers of both could not be answered; that of neither has been answered fully." Why do people on opposing sides of a war often believe that God supports them? Is there such a thing as a "just war" in religious terms? We will discuss these questions and more at our April Pub Theology get-together. All are welcome to join in the discussion.

This week's coffee hour proceeds are being donated to the Coffee Fund.

This Week at St. Peder's:

Sunday, April 26: 9 am Worship, 10 am Coffee & Fellowship, 10 am Intergenerational Class

Tuesday, April 28: 6 pm Bible Study, 7 pm Prayer Service

Thursday, April 30: 7 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, May 2: 2 pm Fiber Arts

Sunday, May 3: 9 am Worship, 10 am Coffee & Fellowship, 10:15 am New Member class



St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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Rooted in our heritage and embracing the future, we joyfully live the gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors

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