

Shepherd of the Hills

LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
APRIL 19, 2026 – “PAUL’S CONVERSION”



WELCOME & GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God calls us from our daily tasks. **We come before God with joy.**
Let us honor this sacred time together. **We are listening, O God. Speak to us.**
Let us answer God's call to be community.
We are ready, O God. Nourish us for the work of the Spirit.

CONFESSION

We confess our sins before God and one another.

(Pause for silence and reflection).

Merciful God, **give us the willingness to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you about the ways in which we have caused harm in this world. Give us the openness to see where our actions or failures to act have led to pain in those closest to us and in those far away. Do not let us sink further into self-harm through self-blame and hatred, but give us the courage to set right our wrongs, and to return to you again and again for forgiveness.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The risen God has raised you to newness of life in Jesus' name. In Christ, you are a new creation, and God forgives you every wrong. Celebrate a world redeemed with all of creation and lavish the love you have received on all that is. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of mystery, you come to us in obvious and subtle ways, calling us into your work of loving service to you and our neighbors, near and far. Help us to recognize you in all those we encounter, that we might know you are near, guiding and equipping us for the work ahead. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING: ACTS: 9:1-19A

Lector: Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him,

Pastor: "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision,

Lector: "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered,

Pastor: "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name."

Lector: But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said,

Pastor: "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:24

²⁴“No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

REV. JANET KETTERING

HYMN OF THE DAY | O LOVE

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/U2CQBLTDR8W?SI=_R9FTY_304VED-MO](https://youtu.be/U2CQBLTDR8w?si=_R9FTY_304vEd-Mo)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

EASTER AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In a time before all knowing, God is, and God's breath fills the emptiness, creating: A universe, a world, an ecology, a biology and us – humankind.

All humankind: No exceptions, no imperfections; all of us beloved, just as we are.

In a time before all knowing, the Christ is, watching the creating, and stepping into it: Becoming, living, dying, and rising, for all of us. All humankind: No exceptions, no reservations; all of us just as we are, God's beloved.

In a time before all knowing, the Spirit is, and moves through every part of creation: Consoling, interceding, leading, and refreshing all the world, including us. All humankind: No exceptions, no exclusions; all of us, just as we are, God's beloved.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With renewed confidence in your power and love, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

O God, you choose and use the most unlikely people for your work. Show us the path you have prepared for us, and give us all strength and courage to follow. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

As we celebrate Earth Day and Month, we look to the natural world as our teacher and life-giver. Guide us in creative and compassionate ways to preserve the ecosystems with which we are so closely intertwined. We praise you for the awesome power and quiet beauty of the world's waters and humbly ask that you bless the earth with moisture wherever it's needed. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Breathe new life and inspiration into leaders at every level, that they might work to govern with equity and justice, for the good of every human being on earth. Forgive us for engaging in the atrocities of war which always results in the suffering of the innocents. We pray for the world, and especially those engaged in war: the United States, Israel, Iran, Ukraine, Russia, and all others known to you. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Reform the hearts and minds of framers and perpetrators of laws that oppress and cause immeasurable harm to marginalized communities. Open the eyes of thoughtless leaders to the consequences of selfish action, that they might change not only their own ways, but the direction of societies in favor of the flourishing of all. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Be with those who minister to the sick and the dying. Give hope to the suffering and remind them that you hold them, suffer with them, and share their challenging journey. We pray especially for Devon Warren, Pastor Phil, Matt, Brett, Rick and Kelly, Terry, Jim and Sally, Dave, Dorothy, Clover, and all those named on our Prayer Chain. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for strength for all those who provide care for their loved ones, especially James and Chris Elkins, and Kirk, Clare, and Gwen Fallon. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

God of wholeness, we pray for the work of the Joshua School. May our relationship with them reflect your love and care for those with special needs. We pray that all those on the Autism Spectrum, especially those in our faith family, might find fulfillment, joy, and love. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Following the trail blazed by the earliest carriers of the Good News, we take our place in the line of redeemed saints whose joy it is to praise your name forever. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken, and gather them into your loving arms, for the sake of our risen savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with each other.)

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, **Jesus was clear that we cannot serve both you and wealth. Accept these gifts out of our financial possessions as a sign that you are our God and our gifts are to be used in service to you and our neighbor. Bless them for this holy work in Jesus' name. Amen.**

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION THE 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 GOD thanks and praise.

And so we gather at Christ's table. We come from many places, differing in age, differing in race, differing in orientation, politics and even religion. As we come together around the table, we discover that our differences are indeed a blessing, not just something we tolerate. The more difference we bring, the more fully we experience the presence of the sacred in our midst.

So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life, you are welcome here, here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember with us.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared, feeding a multitude; stories of being gathered together, enemy and friend, around tables; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

It was on a night of both celebration and betrayal that Jesus took the bread leftover on the table, blessed it and gave it to his disciples, saying Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Later, he took the cup also leftover on the table, poured out and shared, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the renewed covenant I give to you, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

Together, we remember that it is in the breaking that we become whole; that in losing our lives we find life; that in serving we are served. Together, we remember the life-giving breath which still pounds a rhythm through our veins: The breath of life from which we come, the breath that precedes and follows all that we can see. As the grapes find life in the vine, when we drink this cup, we become at one with the Source of Life itself.

And so we pray: **Come, holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking, that our eyes might be opened, that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst; indeed, in one another. Come, holy Spirit, come. Amen.**

By eating this bread and drinking this wine we become one in hope...the hope that is ours in the Prayer that 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.**

The one who met Saul on the road to Damascus now meets us in this meal of bread and wine. Come to the table and be transformed by the saving power of Jesus' death and resurrection, now and always. All is prepared for you.

SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

COMMUNION HYMN | ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

<https://youtu.be/WHAU3fLF7NI?si=UKTRR-UWRGCD0HV7>

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy, gracious God, **here at this table your promise of life is made tangible. We have rested in the depth of your love and tasted your nourishing presence. At this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept that life and give you thanks. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that all may know life and love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER BENEDICTION

Go forth with renewed hope, trusting in the transforming love of God.

God does not leave things as they are; with God, all things are made new.

All creation responds to God's presence. The world is alive with possibility.

We open ourselves to this truth: With Christ, we trust our whole lives to this power.

Nothing is beyond the reach of God; neither evil, nor hardship, nor death.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed.

SENDING HYMN | FOOTSTEPS

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/AB8VB2MR1BK?SI=OJV3UWOTAXJ31TAZ](https://youtu.be/AB8VB2MR1BK?si=OjV3UWotaxJ31TAZ)

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all.

Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

CLICK LINK TO ACCESS READINGS, SERMONS & SPECIAL EVENTS FROM PAST SUNDAYS:

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@SHEPHERDOFTHEHILLSLUTHERAN6221/VIDEOS](https://www.youtube.com/@shepherdofthehillslutheran6221/videos)

WORSHIP RESOURCES:

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PRAYER OF THE DAY – NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2025 CLERGY STUFF

SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD – ERIC MILNER WHITE

LENTEN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – FATPASTOR.ME

LENTEN WORDS OF INSTITUTION – MICHELLETORIGIAN.COM, AS ADAPTED.

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LENTEN BLESSING & BENEDICTION – MICHELLETORIGIAN.COM, AS ADAPTED.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTER: REV. PHIL KETTERING

AUDIO TECHNICIAN: MARK "FUZZ" NEWKIRK

LECTOR: CAROLINE MICHALAK

PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS: APRIL 19 – APRIL 26, 2026

Sunday, April 19th – Paul’s Conversion

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion
Coffee & Conversation immediately following Worship

Wednesday, April 22nd

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study

Friday, April 24th

7:00 a.m. – Men’s Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. – Friday Night Perspectives Zoom Gathering

Sunday, April 26th– Paul and Silas

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion
Coffee & Conversation immediately following Worship

APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

SHERILYN W. 4/6

KAY W. 4/9

DOROTHY F. 4/13

CINDIE S. 4/27

DAILY NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS: WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2026

Monday, April 20, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-919b-22-saul-preaches-in-damascus2026>

Acts 9:19b-22 Saul Preaches in Damascus

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-923-31-saul-escapes-from-the-jews2026>

Acts 9:23-31 Saul Escapes from the Jews

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-936-43-peter-in-lydda-and-joppa2026>

Acts 9:36-43 Peter in Lydda and Joppa

Thursday, April 23, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-101-16-peter-and-cornelius-part-one2026>

Acts 10:1-16 Peter and Cornelius Part One

Friday, April 24, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-1017-23a-peter-and-cornelius-part-two2026>

Acts 10:17-23a Peter and Cornelius Part Two

Saturday, April 25, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-1023b-33-peter-and-cornelius-part-three2026>

Acts 10:23b-33 Peter and Cornelius Part Three

Sunday, April 26, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-1616-34-paul-and-silas2026>

Acts 16:16-34 Paul and Silas



WELCOME! *Thank you for worshiping with us today!*

GUESTS

Please sign our Guestbook and/or fill out the brightly-colored Info Slip and place it in the offering plate. This helps us get to know you better so that we can serve you more effectively.

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYERS?

Prayer Changes Things. The Shepherd Prayer Chain members stand by ready to help. You'll find our Prayer Box on the table to your left as you enter the building, as well as paper and pencils. Please write your prayer request and place it in the box. *You are not required to sign your request or give the name of the person for whom we will pray, unless you wish.* If you desire a private conversation with Pastor Janet, please contact the Church Office or call her on her cell phone at 507-360-1625. **All prayer requests will remain confidential.**

CHILDREN ARE CHERISHED AT SHEPHERD!

In our Sanctuary, you'll see a coloring table and soft toys. Children's bulletins are available on the table just outside the Sanctuary. If at any time you wish to take your child out for some quiet time, our Nursery/Library is stocked with supplies for playing, coloring, studying the Children's Bulletin, or reading.

REMEMBRANCE

On the north wall of the Sanctuary a table is set with candles. You are invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one at any time before, during, or after our worship service.

COMMUNION

At Shepherd of the Hills, we recognize that the Table of Communion is not our table. It is not a Lutheran table. It is our Lord's Table – a meal prepared for all – prepared in love. *Please come.* All who long for the Good News in Jesus Christ are truly welcome at this table. As Jesus called children to be close to him, we, likewise, extend this invitation to all children. Should you not feel comfortable receiving the Sacrament, please come forward indicating that you wish to receive a blessing by folding your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION OUTSIDE OF WORSHIP

Arrangements can be made to bring communion to you at a time convenient for you. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend normal services, such as a hospital stay or for personal reasons, and wish to have communion brought to you, please contact the Church Office or Pastor Janet at 507-360-1625.

MEMBERSHIP

At Shepherd, we worship as one Faith Family. If you wish to extend your worship to include membership, please see Pastor Janet.

Shepherd of the Hills

LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

THE MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE

PASTOR: REV. JANET COLBY KETTERING

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: KEN & GERRY MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTERS: TIM KIRCHOFF & REV. PHIL KETTERING

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, PRESIDENT

JANICE IRISH, VICE-PRESIDENT

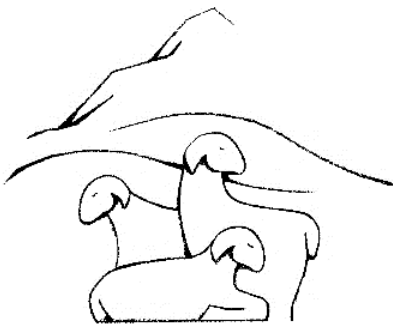
KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY

REV. PHIL KETTERING, TREASURER

JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

CINDIE SCOBY & PASTOR JANET KETTERING

AUDIO TECHNICIAN: FUZZ (MARK) NEWKIRK



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Marked by the Cross of Christ Forever, v
+ Gather in Love
+ Grow in Faith
+ Share God's Love & Grace
+ We are Empowered to BOLDLY
Proclaim & Witness God's Word



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Email: shepherdboulder@gmail.com Website: www.shepherdboulder.org

Bread Belonging

Bread+Belonging is a campus ministry partnership between Lutheran Campus Ministry and St. Aidan's Episcopal Church.

We offer students:

Inclusive and affirming community	Chaplain support
Weekly free student dinner	Leadership development
Bible studies & faith conversations	Service opportunities
Retreats	and more!

Support Campus Ministry

Pray

For students, for the campus community, and for our Bread + Belonging community.

Connect

Sign up for our newsletters.



Give

Contribute to the LCM annual fund. Checks can be made out to LCM-CU and mailed to us.

Donate groceries for Tuesday student dinners



Volunteer

Gather a team to help cook a Tuesday student dinner

Volunteer at CU Football Concessions fundraisers

Lutheran Campus Ministry CU
2425 Colorado Avenue - Boulder, CO 80302
Pr. Monica Butler - chaplain@saintaidans.org