

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, April 5, 2026

WELCOME & GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Give thanks to the Lord our God,

Whose steadfast love endures forever!

GATHERING HYMN | JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

ELW #365



Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR EASTER

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.**

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 with all of creation a world redeemed, and lavish the love you have received on all that is. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Risen God, you call us by name, and the dawning truth of your resurrection breaks through the darkness of our grieving. Slow us down to savor this moment of unexpected wonder, that we might prepare our hearts to carry the good news to the world. In your holy name we pray. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PSALM 118:21-29

²¹I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

²⁹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel, according to John, Chapter 20. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-18

Lector: Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Pastor: Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her,

Lector: “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her,

Pastor: “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

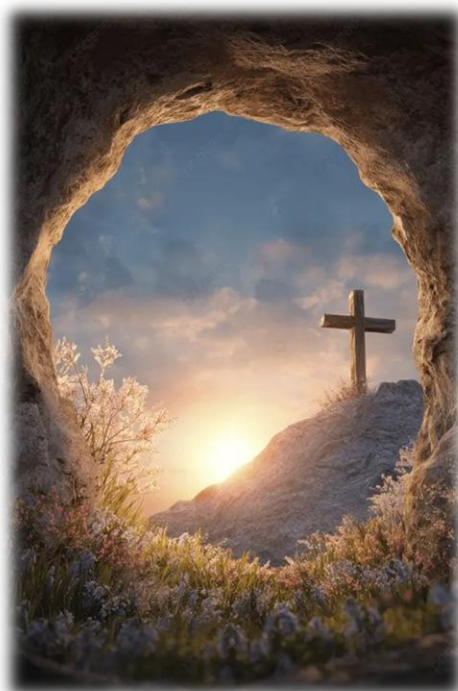
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

SPECIAL MUSIC/HYMN OF THE DAY | AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND ELW #779

(Verse 1 will be a Solo by Peyton Sawyer. Please join together in singing Verses 2 - 5.)



Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

779

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

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, Good Friday grief has given way to Easter joy. Cheer our hearts with the good news of your resurrection, that we might be energized to proclaim you far and wide. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Flowers, fields and skies are alive with the joy of new life and renewal, a reflection of your resurrection from the dead. Join our praise with all creation and make of us one chorus of earthly joy. 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, for the benefit of all. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Breathe new life and inspiration into leaders at every level, that they might joyfully work to govern with equity and justice, for the good of every single interdependent 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.**

In your resurrection, we are made new, brought to life from everything that would dampen our joy and depress our spirits. Revive and heal those who still long for wholeness, especially 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.

It is for this day that all your saints gather in eternal joy around your throne. Keep us ever mindful that, in you, we live and move and have our being, and, because of you, death has no power. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Hear all 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 PRAYER

We rejoice at the fulfilment of your promise, O God, and in gratitude offer here our gifts and our tithes, as a sign of our love and faithfulness. Bless them, that they may be a blessing that reaches beyond our wildest imagining for the good of the world. 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 the 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: In this place...in this community...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.

We say that it was on a night of both celebration and betrayal that he took the bread leftover on the table, blessed it and broke it, saying “Take and eat. This is my body, given for you,” reminding them that it is in the breaking that we become whole, that in losing our lives we find them, that in serving we are served. As the grain scattered becomes one in the loaf, when we eat this bread, we become one with one another.

We say that he took the cup also leftover on the table, poured out and shared, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “Drink of this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant I give to you, poured out in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin,” remembering the life-giving breath from which we come which still pounds a rhythm through our veins. As the grapes find life in the vine, when we drink this cup, we become 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.**

Jesus, who is alive and present here with us, invites you to this festive table. Here is bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, prepared for you, his beloved siblings and friends. Come and be fed, that your joy may be complete.

All is prepared – Come and eat at the Table where all are welcome.

Please form two lines in the Center Aisle and proceed forward.

*If you wish to receive a Blessing without taking the Bread and Wine,
please come forward and signal your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.*

SHARING THE MEAL

This is the Body of Christ, broken for you...

This is the Blood of Christ, shed for you...


COMMUNION HYMN | AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

ELW #465


465

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain




As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



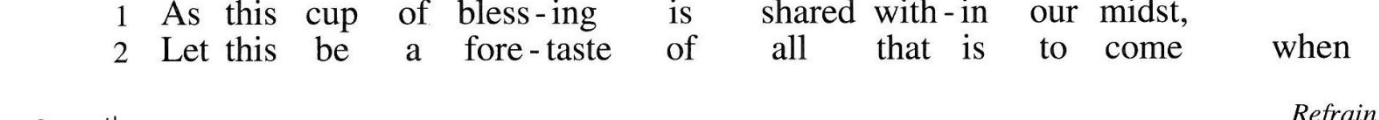
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

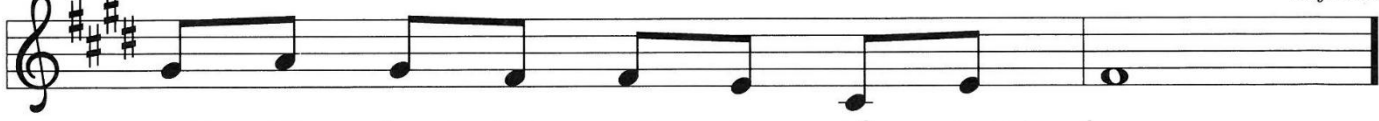


1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,



2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

AS THE GRAINS
 Irregular

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, fill you with new life, and send you out to share in God's amazing grace.

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. We have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence. We accept you into our bodies and into our lives. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer and we give you thanks. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life and love in Jesus' name. Amen.

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 | NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS

ELW #367



367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Show and tell what God has done.

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:

CALL TO WORSHIP – JOANNA HARADER, *AS ADAPTED*

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR EASTER – REV. MINDI WELTON-MITCHELL

SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION

EASTER AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – LISA'S LITURGIES, *AS ADAPTED*

GREAT THANKSGIVING – KATHERINE HAWKER, *AS ADAPTED*

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION – NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

EASTER BENEDICTION – JEANYNE SLETTOM, *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

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING

SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS – APRIL 5 - APRIL 12, 2026

Easter Sunday, April 5th – Resurrection

6:38 a.m. – Sunrise Service at Boulder Reservoir (\$5/ car parking)

9:30 a.m. – Easter Hybrid In-Person/ Zoom Worship with Holy Communion

Potluck Brunch immediately following Worship

Wednesday, April 8th

11:00 a.m. – Amazing Grace Book Study by Zoom

Friday, April 10th

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

5:00 p.m. – Friday Perspectives

Sunday, April 12th – Thomas

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In-Person/ Zoom Worship

Coffee & Conversation immediately following worship

<p><u>APRIL</u> <u>BIRTHDAYS</u> SHERILYN S. 4/6 KAY W. 4/9 DOROTHY F. 4/13 CINDIE S. 4/27</p>
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DAILY NARRATIVE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 5, 2026

Monday, April 6, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-211-14-jesus-appears-to-seven-disciples2026>

John 21:1-14 Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-2115-19-jesus-and-peter2026>

John 21:15-19 Jesus and Peter

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-2120-25-jesus-and-the-beloved-disciple2026>

John 21:20-25 Jesus and the Beloved Disciple

Thursday, April 9, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-51-11-ananias-and-sapphira2026>

Acts 5:1-11 Ananias and Sapphira

Friday, April 10, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-512-16-the-apostles-heal-many2026>

Acts 5:12-16 The Apostles Heal Many

Saturday, April 11, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-517-42-the-apostles-are-persecuted2026>

Acts 5:17-42 The Apostles Are Persecuted

Sunday, April 12, 2026

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/john-2019-31-thomas2026>

John 20:19-31 Thomas

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, 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

AUDIO TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, PRESIDENT

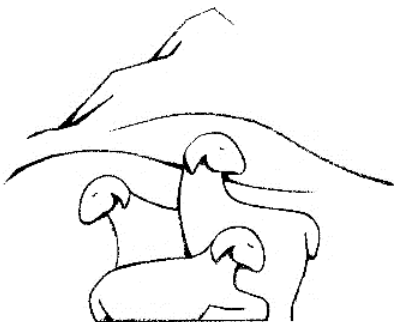
JANICE IRISH, VICE-PRESIDENT

KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY

REV. PHIL KETTERING, TREASURER

JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

CINDIE SCOPY & PASTOR JANET KETTERING



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Marked by the Cross of Christ Forever,
† 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

Check out our Facebook page at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran

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