

Welcoming Statement

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church is committed to welcoming, loving, and embracing all. We open our door to people regardless of gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, race, ethnicity, mental or physical abilities, neurodiversity, addiction, citizenship status, housing status, or past imprisonment. We acknowledge and honor our different backgrounds and life experiences, commit ourselves to the work of equity and anti-racism, and come together to celebrate the gifts of unity and diversity as one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).

As Jesus loves us, we are called to love one another (John 15:12).

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www.minnehahacommunion.org



April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

A special welcome to all visitors, it's a joy to worship with you!

Welcome to Worship at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church!

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES AND PAGERS. THANK YOU!

Worship Information

Hymns and liturgies for the service today are included in the bulletin. The congregation reads aloud anything in bold print following the “C”. You will note directions in the service for when to stand as you are able or to sit. If you would prefer to remain seated throughout worship, please feel free to do so.

Children Are Welcome!

Infants and children are encouraged to be present during worship. Youngsters are welcome and valued as important participants in worship and witness!

Hospitality

An elevator is available and can be accessed by taking the ramp at the front of the worship center entering the chapel and turning right. Restrooms are located off the stairwells leading to the Fellowship Hall and also outside the church office. Diaper changing tables have been placed in both the women’s and men’s restrooms off of Fellowship Hall.

Trouble Hearing?

Personal hearing amplifiers are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher to assist you.





The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

CENTERING

This is an intentional time to find a place of calm and to prepare through silent prayer and contemplation.

BELLS

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

L: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

L: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

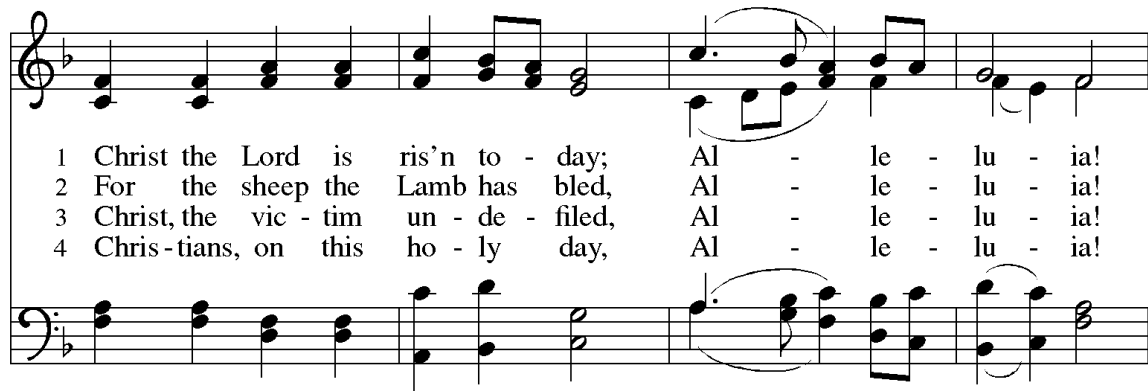
L: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

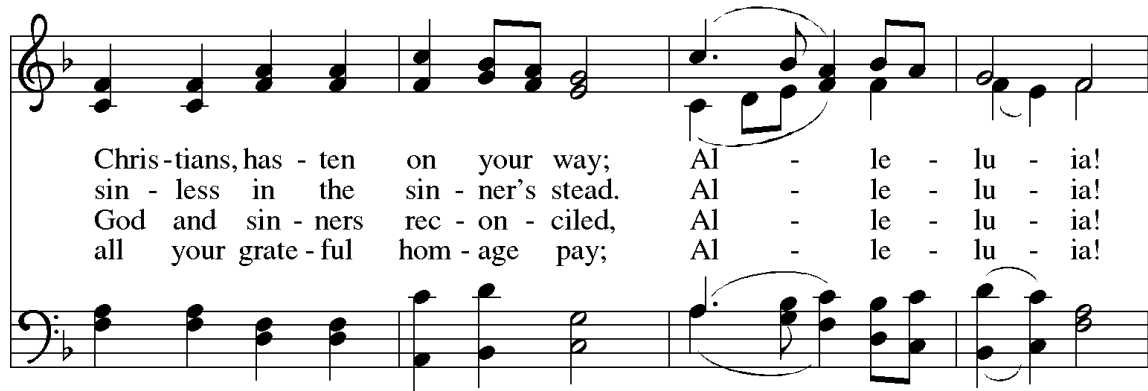
L: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

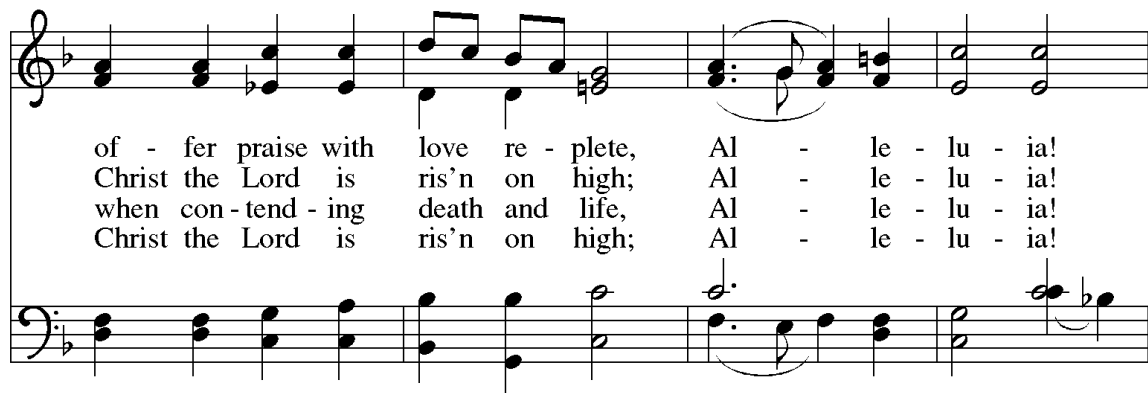
Verses 1, 2, 4



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris - tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O Lord Christ,

C: 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.

Amen.

READING

1 John 3:16–24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

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; ²²and 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.

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

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

²**The 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.

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.**

⁵You 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.**

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

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

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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GOSPEL

John 10:1–18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

¹Very 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.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

¹¹I 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."

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Matt



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
 Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 THE PEOPLE

Please respond with RECEIVE OUR PRAYER after each petition.

L: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Following the time of quiet for candle lighting, once again respond with RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.

L: 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed”

ELW 463

Verses 2 & 3

1 Lord, who the night you were be - trayed did pray that all your
2 For all your church on earth, we in - ter - cede; Lord, make our
3 And hear our prayer for wan-d'ers from your fold; re - store them,
4 So, Lord, at length when sac - ra - ments shall cease, may we be

church might be for - ev - er one: help us at
sad di - vi - sions soon to cease; draw us all
too, Good Shep - herd of the sheep, back to the
one with all your church a - bove— one with your

ev - 'ry eu - cha - rist to say with will - ing heart and
clos - er, each to each, we plead, by draw - ing all to
faith your saints con - fessed of old, and to the church still
saints in one un - bro - ken peace, one with your saints in

soul, "Your will be done." Oh, may we all one bread, one
 you, O Prince of peace; thus may we all one bread, one
 pledged that faith to keep. Soon may we all one bread, one
 one un - bound - ed love; more bless - ed still, in peace and

bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
 bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
 bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
 love to be one with the Trin - i - ty in u - ni - ty.

Text: William H. Turton, 1856–1938, alt.
 Music: SONG 1, Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

C: 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus teaches us,

C: 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.

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.

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Shepherding God, 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.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always.

C: Amen.



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
 by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
 Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
 Text © Oxford University Press.

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

BELLS

INTERIM PASTOR: Matthew Johnson

ORGANIST: Richard Duncan

OFFICE MANAGER: Sophie Geister-Jones

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Brenda Robbins

STREAMING TEAM: Zack Robbins, Roxanne Dunlop, Brenda Robbins, Paultina Rollay, Erin Brothen, Karl and Nick Salkowski

CANTORS: Margaret Wilkes, Bobbie Kuhlman

READER: Laine Adams

USHERS: Cleo Medlock, Helen Holtti

COMMUNION SERVER: Traci Dugan

TELLERS: Paula Conrad, Marilyn Boehm, Janet Lovejoy

COOKIE AND COFFEE SERVERS: Bobbie Kuhlman, Kathy Mackdanz

Short-Term Prayer Requests:

Vi Bjorkstrand, Harley Ring, Jane Hagstrom, Chuck Dolezalek (dear friend of Susan & Brian Albers), Eileen Finley, Kathy Mackdanz, MCLC Call Committee

Long-Term Prayer Requests:

(ongoing spiritual support for recovery, life-transitions, conditions, and emotional support)

Please pray for: Sharesti Anderson; Raelynn Anderson; Norm Arlandson; Jon Borodine; Allen Eckman; Linda Erickson (sister of Vicky Anderson); Jan Foster; Nancy Gallo; Doug Houge; Deb Lindquist; David & Andrea Olson; LaRhae (longtime friend of Richard); Paultina Rollay; Darlene Sandey; Mickey Trego; Peggy Williams & family; Carol (friend of Roxanne); Peter & family; baby William & mother Isabelle; and those we name in our hearts...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Peder's Blood Drive

Wednesday, April 24

Noon to 6:00 pm

St. Peder's is hosting a blood drive through the American Red Cross this April. To sign up to donate, please make your appointment here:

rcblood.org/3TKkYoy

Sanctuary Spring Clean

Saturday, April 27

10 am to 2 pm

Mark your calendars for Saturday April 27. It is the Sanctuary Deep Clean and Potluck! Many hands make light work and helpers of all kinds are needed. Could you help? Sign up sheets in the fellowship hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 21–28		
Sunday April 21	10:45 am	Call Committee Meeting
Monday April 22	6:30 pm	MCLC Foundation Meeting
Tuesday April 23	11 am 7 pm	MCLC Staff Meeting Alcoholics Anonymous
Wednesday April 24	9:30 am 6 pm 7 pm	<i>Illuminator</i> Mailing Joint BOLD/MCLC Meeting @ BOLD Alcoholics Anonymous
Thursday April 25	7 pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Friday April 26	7 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous
Saturday April 27	10 am 10 am	WELCA Meeting Sanctuary Deep Clean and Potluck
Sunday April 28	9:45 am 10:45 am 10:45 am	Worship/Sunday School Confirmation (MCLC) Call Committee Meeting

Rummage Sale

Rummage Sale

Friday, May 17 9 am to 3 pm
Saturday, May 18 9 am to 1 pm

Bag Sale

Saturday, May 18 |12 pm to 1 pm

Please bring your gently used/clean items to the church by May 12th. This is a good time to clean out the closets! Please do not bring items that are in disrepair or that we would have to pay to get rid of (computers, big TVs, non-working electrical items, car seats, strollers, mattresses, etc. If you have questions about something, feel free to leave a message with the church office).

Lots of able hands are needed to work the sale—people to set up on Wednesday and Thursday (May 15 and 16th), work the sale on Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18 and clean up after 1:00 on Saturday. *We especially need folks who are available to help us pack up and haul out. If you have a van or truck to help get items to Goodwill that would be terrific.*

Also, we need bars to sell at the luncheon—let Pat Botten know if you are willing to bring a pan. Sloppy joes, chips, pickles and the bars will be sold. Many come just for the bars!

Please see Cleo Medlock, Patty Dolan, Mary Foslien or Pat Botten if you can help in any way. It's fun!