

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

23 S. Prospect St. † Verona, NJ 07044 † Phone (973) 239-0577

Rev. Anthony Giordano, Pastor www.veronalutheran.com

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

10:30 a.m.

COMMUNION SERVICE

First time at Calvary? Thanks for joining us! ***Please take a moment to sign the Record of Fellowship (red pad) in your pew, and silence your cell phone.*** After the service, be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Please rise

OPENING HYMN: *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* 909

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C: God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: *Thank You Lord*

Words & Music: Don Moen & Paul Baloche © 2004 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

PRAYER OF THE DAY

R: 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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

Acts 4:5-12

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:*1 John 3:16-24*

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise

C: ♪ Alleluia ♪ Alleluia ♪ Alleluia

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GOSPEL READING:*John 10:11-18*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C: ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that

are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: 🎵 **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN: *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want* 710

SERMON

Please rise

APOSTLES' CREED

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C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY:

Create in Me

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

P: 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.

A brief silence

P: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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P: The Lord be with you

C: 🎵 And with thy spirit

P: Lift up your hearts

C: 🎵 We lift them up unto the Lord

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God

C:  It is meet and right so to do

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS 

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C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do, in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C:  Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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C: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

SONG: *Great Are You Lord*

Words & Music: Leonard, Ingram & Jordan © 2012 Integrity's Alleluia! Music

NUNC DIMITTIS 

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C: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy Word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with His favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG: *Cornerstone*

Words & Music: Monte, Liljero, Myrin, Morgan, Bradbury © 2011 Hillsong Music Publishing

DISMISSAL

P: Christ is Risen!

C: He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

P: Jesus said, "I have come that you may have LIFE and have it abundantly." Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Communion

We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ are present in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion is offered at all of our services and is for all baptized Christians who share our belief that Christ, himself, is truly present. The individual cups are filled with wine (red) or grape juice (amber color).

Election of Officers and Directors

A five-member Nominating Committee needs to be formed to prepare a slate of nominees for Calvary officers and directors in advance of a congregational election later this spring. If you would like to join Pastor Giordano on the Nominating Committee, please contact Andy Wolcott or Gloria in the church office. Also, please consider becoming a candidate for the positions up for election this year, which are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Board of Worship, Board of Stewardship and Board of Education.

Bible Study continues this Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00.

Each week, we will watch an episode of "The Chosen" and work through the study guide. Cost for the guide is \$12 on Amazon. If you are not able to buy it online, please give the money to Pastor Anthony or leave it in the church office **today**, and we will order it for you. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends, families, and neighbors to participate. All are welcome! Refreshments will be served.

Picture Day

Tuesday, May 7, all members are invited to have a professional photo taken for Calvary's new pictorial directory. Please see Ruth Bolger after the service to sign up for your appointment time. Afternoon and evening appointments are available. Each individual or family who participates will receive a free 8X10 portrait and a printed directory.

DON'T FORGET TO BUY SCRIP

THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Holy Spirit Food Pantry is in need of: **tuna, jelly, peanut butter, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, canned fruit, rice in small bags, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, cleaning products, pasta sauce, coffee, tea, cookies, crackers, canned beans, cereal, oatmeal, dog and cat food.** *Need list is in order of importance.* **NO LARGE RESTAURANT SIZED ITEMS** please. If you are willing and able to help someone in need, please bring your offering to church on the last Sunday of each month.



The Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board! Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in honor or memory of your loved ones.

Special occasion such as an anniversary, a baptism, a birthday, a graduation or in thanksgiving for family and friends, can also be celebrated by placing flowers at the altar. Flowers are now \$60.00 (\$30.00 each, if shared).

CALENDAR:

Wednesday:	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Thursday:	6:30 pm	Praise Team practice
Sunday:	8:45 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Communion Service
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour

THOSE WHO SERVE US:

Altar Guild: Anne Daly
Communion Assistant: John Ricca
Contemporary Music Director/Organist: Ruth Bolger
Live Stream Producer/Projectionist: Christopher Bolger
Reader: Anne Daly
The Praise Team
Usher: Gordon Wickham

BIRTHDAYS: April 25th - Dave Hildebrandt

Visit our website at www.veronalutheran.com for updates and online giving. Click on the **members** tab to set up online giving, it's easy and convenient.



PRAYER LIST

Pray for:

John Wickham

LaVerne Sieglen

Al Arroyo

John Nehrings

Pastor Anthony Iovine

Betty Kay Foster

Nathan Kuder

Don and Lucille Wernes

Luise Wetter

Ken and Edith Meyer

Fred Lausten

Lois Tiedemann

Kenneth Meyer Jr. and his mission work in Vienna.



Connect.



Grow.



Serve.

CALVARY'S MISSION

As God's Children, our mission is to
Know His Word, Share His Word and Live His Word

CCLI# 1304541