

the LIFE

LUTHERAN CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

The Life Lutheran Church

1 Old Westbury Road
Old Westbury, NY 11568
516.333.3355

Sr. Pastor

Rev. Justin K. Vetrano
Pastor@thelifeny.org

Assoc. Pastor

Rev. Brian Crocitto
Crocitto@thelifeny.org

Asst. Pastor

Rev. Adam Schoepflin
Adam@thelifeny.org

Vicars

Vicar Dan Giardino
Dan@thelifeny.org
Vicar Alex Rubino
Rubino@thelife.org

Director

Communications

Rev. George R. Baum
George@thelifeny.org

Deacons

Deacon Lillian Biddle
Deacon Douglas Brosky
Deacon Melissa Essigman
Deacon Paulina J. Mesloh
Deacon Harrison Oellrich
Deacon Larry Rath
Deacon Nancy Rickman
Deacon Deborah Vergara

Ministry Staff

Jay Campson
Beth Jarvis
Lori Shaw
Ginny Raffa

Church Band Leader

Jason Gudzik
Church Organist
Lisa Fitzmaurice

Email and Web:

www.thelifeny.org
life@thelifeny.org

the LIFE

LUTHERAN CHURCH
& DAY SCHOOL

4th Sunday Of Easter
April 21, 2024

The core of the Christian faith is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the risen Lord in the preaching of this faith.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
(John 10:11)

ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of my husband, Jim on his fourth anniversary in heaven. Just as we wrote in our wedding rings, I will love you forever and always.
Your loving wife,
Mike

Welcome!

THE LIFE Lutheran Church is committed to
Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ

We journey through faith by:

- REVERENTLY worshipping God
- JOYFULLY serving our neighbors, as we
- TOGETHER live out the Gospel

Visitors: First time at THE LIFE? Thanks for joining us! Please fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate. After the service, be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor.

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.

If you have any questions feel free contact Pastor Vetrano at pastor@thelifeny.org or call the church office at 516.333-3355

4th Sunday Of Easter

April 21, 2024

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.

OPENING SONG

“Now All The Vault of Heaven Resounds”

1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
△ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And

praise of love that still a - bounds: “Christ has tri - umphed!
fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has tri - umphed!
with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has tri - umphed!

He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
He is liv - ing!” Now still He comes to give us
Al - le - lu - ia!” Be to the Fa - ther and our

clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
life And by His pres - ence stills all
Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly

here: “Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!”
strife. 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!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

EASTER LITANY

(We omit the Confession during the 50 Days of Easter)

P God of life, we give you praise and glory.

C **We praise you, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.**

P You have given Jesus victory over sin. You have made his cross a sign of glory.

C **May we glory in the cross of Christ.**

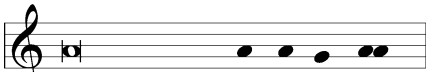
P With Jesus, you have buried us in death to sin and raised us to new life.

C **And we are alive in Christ.**

P The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil, washes away sin, restores innocence, casts out hate, and brings us peace. In Jesus Christ, you are † free from all your sins and restored to new life. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever! Christ is Risen!

C **He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!**

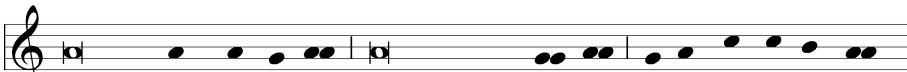
KYRIE



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



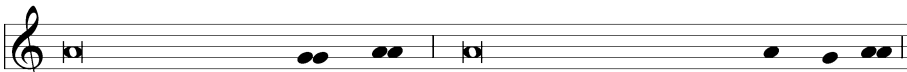
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



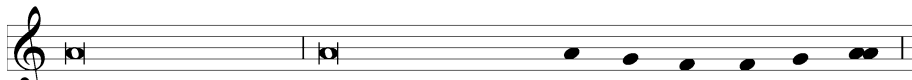
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



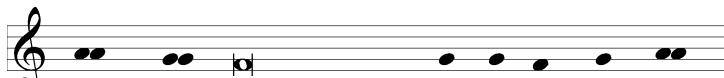
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

SONG OF PRAISE

“This Is The Feast”



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.

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

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **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

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND 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.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia And Verse”

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

C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

A The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

Jesus said: ¹¹“I 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.”

A The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SONG OF THE DAY

“The King Of Love My Shepherd Is”



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear
 6 And so through all the length of days Thy good - ness



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my
 fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - ev - er!

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father. He will come again 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.

* The term catholic presented in this way is defined as universal.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SONG OF PREPARATION

The sun cannot compare to
the glory of Your love
There is no shadow in Your Presence
No mortal man would dare to stand
before Your throne
Before the Holy One of heaven
It's only by Your Blood and it's only
through your mercy

“Offering Song”

Lord I come
I bring an offering of worship to my King
No one on earth deserves the
praises that I sing
Jesus may You receive the honor
that You're due
O Lord I bring an offering to You

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.

- A** 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.**

- A** 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.**

- A** Loving God, protect those living without housing, victims of abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or in need of your healing, especially those we name with our lips and in our hearts. (*pause*) Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

- A** 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.**

- A** Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,

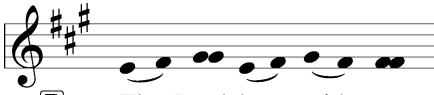
C **hear our prayer.**

- 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



P The Lord be with you.



C And al-so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS means "holy"



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

FRACTION

AGNUS DEI

“The Lamb”



C 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.

COMMUNION SONG **“Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us”**

Verse 1

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.

Verse 2

We are Yours; in love befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.

Verse 3

You have promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.

Verse 4

Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still

COMMUNION SONG

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

COMMUNION SONG

Verse 1

I want Jesus to
walk with me;
I want Jesus to
walk with me;
All along my
pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to
walk with me.

“I Want Jesus To Walk With Me”

Verse 2

In my trials, Lord,
walk with me;
In my trials, Lord,
walk with me;
When my heart is
almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to
walk with me.

Verse 3

When I’m in trouble,
Lord, walk with me;
When I’m in trouble,
Lord, walk with me;
When my head is
bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to
walk with me.
(Repeat Verse 1)

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus’ name.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

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.

C Amen.

CLOSING SONG

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



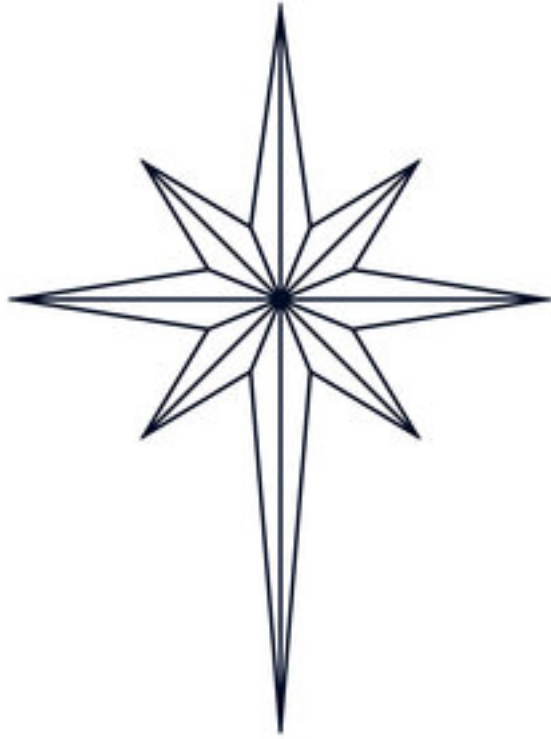
With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

SENDING

- 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.**



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: All children are welcome to attend Sunday School each week. Grade levels include **Pre-K, K- 1st, 2nd -3rd and 4th-5th Grade.** For info, contact Nancy@thelifeny.org

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - Tues., April 23, 3-4:30pm: Church Sanctuary. Our support group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month and provides a safe and confidential environment to help navigate grief at the loss of a loved one. We are grateful to Nina Gonzalez and Sydney Vetrano, both experienced in the field of social work, for facilitating the group. More info, contact Pastor Vetrano, Pastor@thelifeny.org.

BLOOD DRIVE AT THE LIFE - Thank you! Thank you to all who donated to our Blood Drive. Your donation toward our total 49 pints collected is a much-needed gift of life.

VBS 2024 AT THE LIFE - Aug. 5th -9th (9am-12pm) -Registration is open for participants and volunteers. To register visit - thelifeny.org/summer-vbs. Parents can sign up their children to participate, or to volunteer as helpers. Questions, email: VBS@thelifeny.org.

LAWN MOWING MEETING - Sun., April 21, 10am: Interested in helping to mow the church lawn? If so, please join us this Sunday in between the 9am and 10:30am service in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making the schedule for the first half of the season. For more information contact Pastor Crocitto, Crocitto@thelifeny.org.

VOLUNTEER AT THE LIFE! Please consider assisting occasionally as an Usher, Reader, Sunday School Teacher, and/or Hospitality Helper. For details, please contact Pastor Crocitto, Crocitto@thelifeny.org.

LSS INFANT LAYETTE PROGRAM: Current requests are wipes (small packs), long sleeve white onesies newborn to 24 months, size 1 diapers, baby bottles, and newborn toys (rattles and small stuffed animals). Place in outside bin, with "Baby" written on bags. Or order direct shipped thru Amazon, visit here: thelifeny.org/fooddrive

HELP THE HUNGRY: DONATE TO THE FOOD DRIVE: THE LIFE continues to collect food items for the Food Pantry of Lutheran Social Services (LSS). Most needed are laundry pods (store brand is fine), spices, garlic powder, onion powder, salt, pepper, baby wipes and diapers. Drop off donations anytime in the covered bin by the parking lot, or donate conveniently thru our Amazon Food Drive link, at thelifeny.org/fooddrive. Info, contact the church office.

LIFE FOR UKRAINE: Together we can help bring Ukrainian refugees to safety and hope through our ongoing effort. Go to our webpage, thelifeny.org/ukraine and click the "Donate Here" button. **All donations go directly** to help displaced families. **Like & follow the LIFE for Ukraine FB page:** facebook.com/lifeforukraine **Donate Here:** thelifeny.org/ukraine

ONLINE GIVING: If you would like to contribute offerings to the church conveniently from home, you can do so securely at this link: thelifeny.org/giving. You can also text your donation to [516-302-4488](tel:516-302-4488)

ANYTHING YOU NEED? Should you need Pastor Vetrano, please feel free to text or call anytime at 516-902-7602

DIG DEEPER INTO FAITH - Bible Studies at THE LIFE - All are welcome!

Monday, April 22nd, 7 pm – *The Chosen* Season 3 - Weekly Study -- In-person or Zoom - Contact Dcn. Larry Rath, larry@thelifeny.org for more more information.

Tuesday, April 30th, 11 am – *The Weekly Lessons* - Weekly study -- In Person only - Contact Pastor Crocitto, crocitto@thelifeny.org for information.

Tuesday, May 7th, 7 pm – *Daughters of Grace, Hebrew Midwives*, Women's Bible Study- Bi-monthly study -- Zoom Only - Contact Roxanne Oellrich, roxanne@thelifeny.org, for a link.

Wednesday, April 24th, 1 pm – *The Gospel of John* - Weekly Study -- In Person only - Contact Pastor Vetrano, pastor@thelifeny.org, for further information.