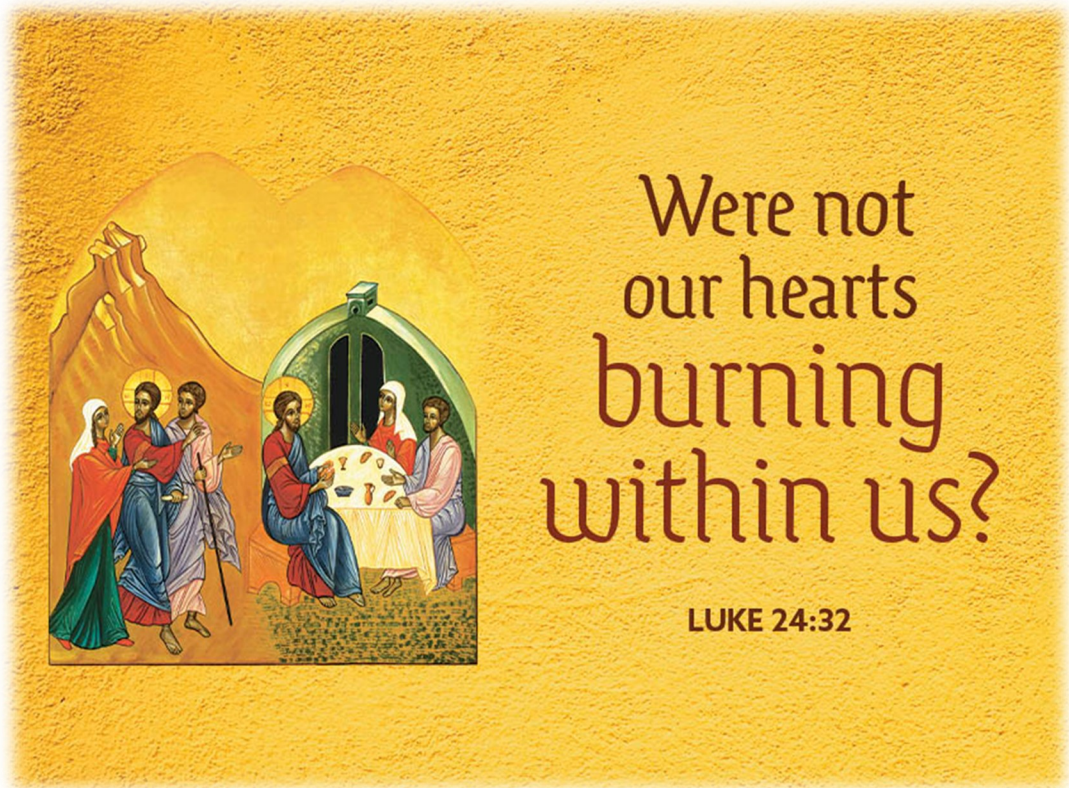


April 19, 2026—Third Sunday of Easter

University Lutheran Church Lutheran Campus Ministry

10:00 AM Worship Service



340 East 15th Street
Tempe, AZ 85281-6612

480.967.3543

www.ulctempe.org

info@ulctempe.org

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Interim Pastor Arhiana Shek Dill

Please rise... in body, or spirit, or both.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us, including the Salt and Verde Rivers. Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN!



1	Al - le - lu - ia!	Je - sus	is	ris - en!
2	Walk - ing the way,	Christ in the	cen - ter	
3	Je - sus the vine,	we are the	branch - es;	
4	Weep - ing, be gone;	sor - row, be	si - lent:	
5	Cit - y of God,	Eas - ter for	- ev - er,	



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
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GREETING

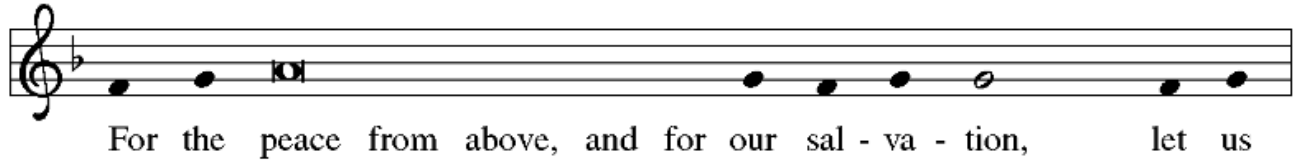
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE



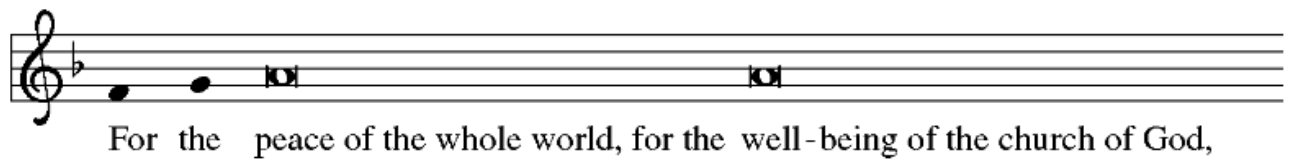
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



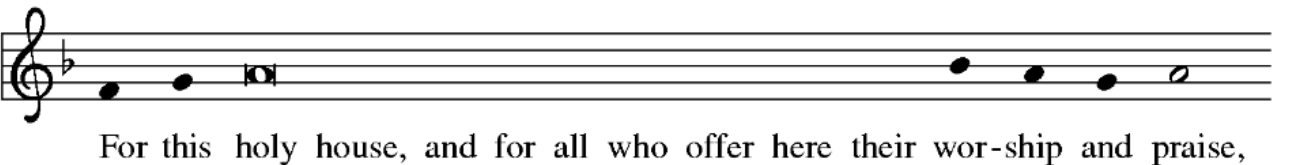
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



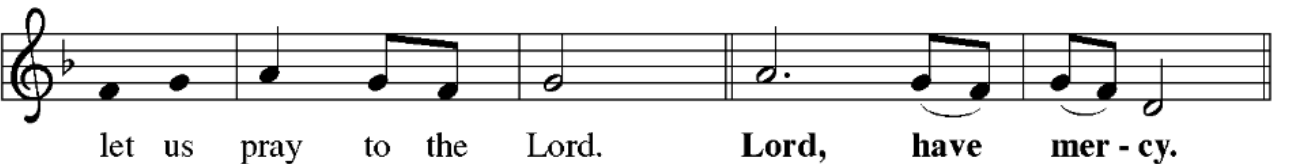
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



A - men.

GLORY



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



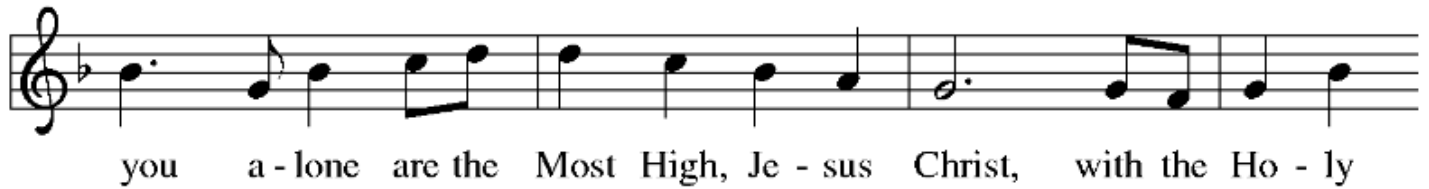
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

ACTS 2:14A, 36-41

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

PSALM 116: 1-4, 12-19

The Psalm will be sung responsively.



- ¹ I love the LORD, who has ¹ heard my voice, and listened to my ¹ supplication,
² **for the LORD has given ¹ ear to me whenever ¹ I called.**
- ³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave ¹ came upon me;
I came to ¹ grief and sorrow.
- ⁴ **Then I called upon the name ¹ of the LORD:**
"O LORD, I pray you, ¹ save my life."
- ¹² How shall I re- ¹ pay the LORD for all the good things God has ¹ done for me?
¹³ **I will lift the cup ¹ of salvation and call on the name ¹ of the LORD.**
- ¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows ¹ to the LORD in the presence of ¹ all God's people.
¹⁵ **Precious in your ¹ sight, O LORD, is the death ¹ of your servants.**
- ¹⁶ O LORD, truly I ¹ am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me ¹
from my bonds.
- ¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice ¹ of thanksgiving**
and call upon the name ¹ of the LORD.
- ¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows ¹ to the LORD in the presence of ¹ all God's people,
¹⁹ **in the courts of ¹ the LORD's house,**
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. ¹ Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

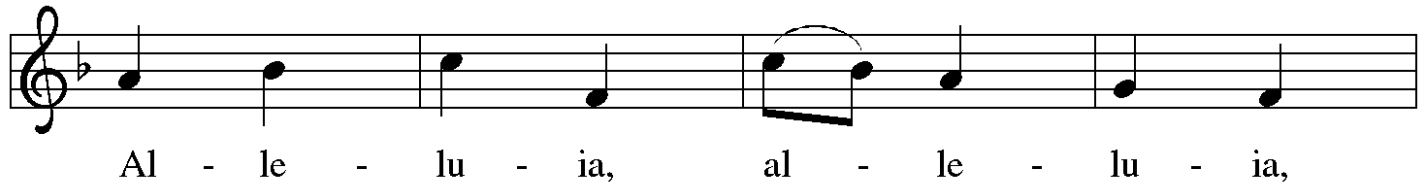
1 PETER 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

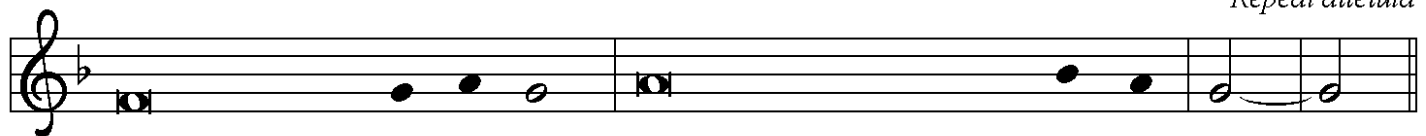
²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Please rise... in body, or spirit, or both.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia



GOSPEL

LUKE 24:13-35

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.

³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Interim Pastor Arhiana Shek Dill

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please rise in body, or spirit, or both when the Hymn of the Day begins.

HYMN OF THE DAY

I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, & the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence. After each portion of the prayers, the Pastor says:

P Merciful God,

The congregation responds:

C receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

INSTALLATION OF NEW CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

P The following persons have been elected to serve on the Call Committee: Savannah Bradley and Sean Maseng.

Saint Paul writes: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability for some particular service to everyone. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

You have been appointed to a position of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to seek the will of God and the mind and spirit of the congregation with regards to our pastoral needs.

You will examine the qualifications of prospective pastors, interview those who appear to be suitable candidates, and give a recommendation regarding the issuance of a call by the congregation. In all your deliberations, you are to be examples of faith active in love, seeking to maintain the life, harmony, and ministry of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I now ask you:
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the Call Committee?

Response: We will and ask God to help and guide us.

The new committee members face the congregation, which stands.

P People of God, I ask you, will you support these, your brother & sister in Christ, in their task, & will you undergird their efforts with your prayers?

C We will.

P I now declare you installed as the newest Call Committee members of this congregation. God bless you and your work together.

Let us pray: Lord, we give you thanks for former Call Committee members Autumn Byars and Jerry Park. Bless this committee, its work and its decisions, that through them we might all be strengthened to serve you. Bless each member of the committee, that they might have the compassion, wisdom, and energy to fulfill this responsibility. Keep us strong in faith and resolute in proclaiming the gospel to all people. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always. **C** **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Please rise, in body, or spirit, or both.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite all followers of Jesus to give an offering for the mission of the church through our website at ulctempe.org or by placing it in the offering box near the entrance of the Sanctuary.

OFFERING PRAYER

C **Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty & our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

We invite to the Table of the Lord all followers of Jesus. Lutherans affirm that around this table through bread and wine Christ Jesus is present with us. We offer communion with individual cups for wine or white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers also available.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

IN REMEMBRANCE



1. In re - mem - brance of Me, eat this bread. In re - mem - brance of Me, drink this
 (2. In re - mem - brance of Me, heal the sick. In re - mem - brance of Me, feed the




wine. In re - mem - brance of Me, pray for the time when God's own will is
 poor. In re - mem - brance of Me, o - pen the door and let your broth - er



done. 2. In re in, let him in. Take, eat, and be com - fort -


24 D \flat F F/A Dm C B \flat



- ed, drink and re - mem - ber, too, that this is My bod - y and pre - cious

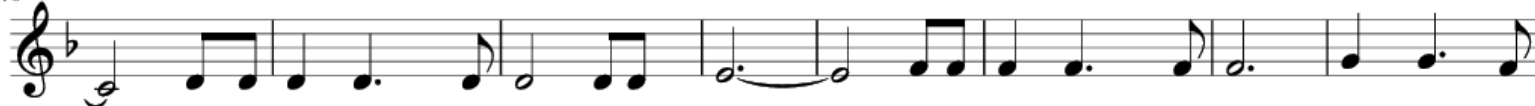
VERSE 3

32 F G7sus F/A G F/G G Csus C F Am B \flat



blood shed for you, shed for you. 3. In re - mem - brance of Me, search for truth.

40 C7sus B \flat /C B \flat Gm C C7 C7sus Dm B \flat E \flat



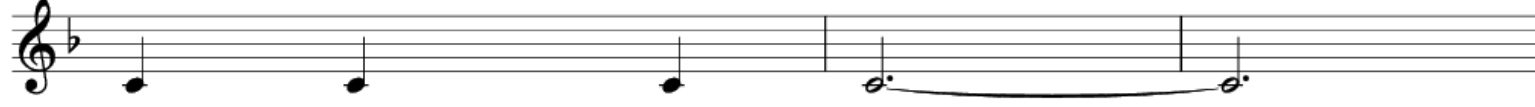
In re - mem - brance of Me, al - ways love. In re - mem - brance of Me don't look a -

48 C Fsus F Am B \flat B \flat /C F B \flat



- bove, but in your heart, look in your heart for God. Do this in re -

56 B \flat /C C7sus F



- mem - brance of Me.

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us & are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

P God Almighty, who is the beginning & the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✝ bless you now & forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, GIVE THANKS

Refrain F Dm Gm C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;

F Dm Gm C F

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

F Dm B^b C

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth;
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ;
 4 God has pro - claimed the just re - ward:
 5 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

F Dm B^b C *Refrain*

he is the king of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
 now we shall live for - ev - er.
 life for all peo - ple, al - le - lu - ia.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

SENDING

P Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Interim Pastor	Rev. Arhiana Shek Dill
Music Director	Elizabeth Tomboulian
Vocal Lead	Ray Kimball
Altar Care	Kristin Tollefson
Communion Assistants	Beth Wootten Jacob Hilliker
Reader	Paul Westermann
Greeter(s)	Gail Fisher Terry Anderson (Trainee)
Livestream	Alexander Webber

OFFERING

For your convenience, an offering box is located near the church entrance for your financial gifts to the ministry of Christ through University Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry. You can also donate online on our website: www.ulctempe.org
ULC also has text giving! Text your donation to: 480-878-7977.
Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & CAMPUS MINISTRY

Sun, Apr 19	10:00 am	Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/Livestream)
	11:00 am	Coffee & Refreshments (Sanctuary)
	11:00 am	Free Student Lunch (Campus Center/Grab-N-Go)
Tue, Apr 21	6:30 PM	ULC Council Meeting (Campus Center Library/Zoom)
	8:00 PM	AA (Campus Center)
Wed, Apr 22	9-11 AM	LCM Tabling Event (Student Pavilion on ASU Campus)
	5:00 PM	LCM Bible Study (Campus Center)
	5:30 PM	Free Student Meal (Campus Center)
	6:30 PM	Contemporary Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Thu, Apr 23	8:00 PM	AA (Campus Center)
Sun, Apr 26	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/Livestream)
	11:00 AM	Coffee & Refreshments (Campus Center)
	11:00 AM	Free Student Lunch (Campus Center)
	12:00 PM	Young Adults Outing (Boyce-Thompson Arboretum)

University Lutheran Church intends to provide a safe & welcoming environment for all of God's people, regardless of sexuality, gender identity, gender expression, life situation, race, family status, size, shape, & place in the world. We are committed to racial equity & justice for all God's children. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation registered with ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation. Thanks be to God for the blessings we have & the differences we share!



YOUNG ADULTS

Hi, All! For our April Young Adult fellowship, we'll walk amongst the spring blossoms at the **Boyce-Thompson Arboretum** out east in Superior!

Date & Time: **Next Sunday, April 26th, at 12 PM**

Location:

**Carpool from
University
Lutheran
Church**

(340 E 15th St,
Tempe, 85281)

RSVP: Direct
message **Bryan
Gamelin at
941-225-5219.**

First 10 tickets
are comped!



WORLD LABYRINTH DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Want to learn to draw a labyrinth? How about making a handheld labyrinth for use indoors in the hot summer days ahead?

Afterward enjoy a labyrinth cookie, and participate in the "Walk as One at 1" on a processional labyrinth.

It will be hot! Umbrellas (parasols) will be available for all who have pre-registered.

\$20 will help cover costs of supplies, snacks, and umbrellas. **You can sign up at beneaththetreeoflife.com/events**

Umbrellas will be donated to a cooling center for unsheltered neighbors after the event.

Please note that the walk itself will be on flat but somewhat unsteady ground. Using a handheld labyrinth instead is a great alternative!

Please RSVP to April Boyden at 360-582-7351 (text—preferred) or april@beneaththetreeoflife.com

SUPPORT PITCHFORK PANTRY AT ASU

Pitchfork Pantry, ASU's student-run food bank, is one of our most fruitful long-term partners. Last year, the Pantry routinely saw several hundred students at each distribution. There were some weeks where the Pantry did not have enough food to serve all the students and had to close early. Due to this great need for hunger relief among students, we are letting you know of three different ways you can help support the Pantry:

- We are continuing to collect shelf-stable, non-perishable foods, canned goods, condiments, individually packaged meals, along with hygiene products, soap, and other dry goods. Please bring donations to the collection box on the altar. Last year, there was a particular need for vegetarian options!
- The Pantry maintains an Amazon wish list. This method of donating is particularly helpful because it identifies their most essential items and ships directly to the Pantry! [Click here](#) to shop for the organization on Amazon.
- Third, the Pantry partners with the Wesley Student Foundation at ASU, hosted by First United Methodist Church. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to the Wesley Student Foundation at ASU, with Pitchfork Pantry on the memo line.

For more information, including how to volunteer, visit www.pitchforkpantry.org

Thank you very much for your charity!

- ULC Anti-Hunger Task Force

PAGE TURNERS' BOOK CLUB

The Page Turners' Book Club meets on the **first Thursday of each month** during the ASU Spring Semester. We get together in person at **12:00 noon in the Campus Center Library**. Our selections include both fiction and nonfiction, chosen by members. Feel free to bring your lunch and join our discussions.

May 7, 2026: *The Frozen River: A Novel* by Ariel Lawhon (2023)

[Historical fiction] (Led by Lori Z.)

This historical mystery, set in Maine in 1789, is based on the real-life diary entries of an 18th century midwife who found herself at the center of a murder trial. "The Frozen River" follows Martha Ballard as she investigates the murder of Joshua Burgess, found frozen in the Kennebec River; a case linked to a past sexual assault. Using her detailed diary, Martha navigates societal constraints to uncover the truth, challenging powerful figures and risking her own family's safety. This gripping story was inspired by Martha Ballard, an actual midwife who lived in Hallowell, Maine and meticulously documented her life and work in diaries from 1789 to 1812. (Provided by publisher.)

2026 GRAND CANYON SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The 2026 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly (**June 11–13, 2026**) is fast approaching, and there are many ways to participate—whether or not you are attending in person. Do you have a recipe with a story? Do you have a talent you would love to share with other Lutherans? Would you like to support this year's service project or giving focus?

Under this year's theme, "Rooted in God's Story" (Psalm 78:4), we are inviting congregations and ministry partners across Arizona, southern Nevada, St. George, Utah, and the Navajo Nation to share, create, lead, celebrate, and give as part of our life together as the body of Christ.

Below are four key ways to participate in this year's assembly:

1. Share Your Ministry Story

Deadline: Friday, May 8, 2026

God is at work across our synod—and your story matters.

We invite congregations and ministry partners to submit written reflections, photos, short videos (2–3 minutes), or audio recordings that highlight how your community is living out the gospel. These stories may be featured during Assembly and across synod communications, including our blog, newsletter, and social media.

This is an opportunity to bear witness to the Holy Spirit at work—in outreach ministries, partnerships, worship, justice work, & everyday moments of faith.

Send submissions to: bflatgard@gcsynod.org

2. Contribute to "Rooted at the Table" (Recipe Project)

Deadline: Friday, May 1, 2026

We are creating a community recipe book—Rooted at the Table—that will be shared with every Assembly participant.

This project is about more than food. It is about memory, culture, and faith lived around tables—from potlucks to funeral meals to celebrations of baptism and confirmation.

Submit a recipe with a short story (500–600 words or fewer) that reflects: who taught you the recipe, when it is shared, and why it matters in your life or congregation.

Space is limited, so submissions should be final and ready to print.

3. Perform in the Friday Night Variety Show

Proposal Deadline: Monday, April 27, 2026

After a full day of Assembly, we will gather on Friday, June 12, for a joyful evening of creativity.

We are inviting 5–7 minute, family-friendly acts—including music, storytelling, poetry, comedy, cultural performances, and more. Pr. Thaddeus Book (Desert Cross Lutheran, Tempe) will serve as emcee.

This is a chance to celebrate the gifts of our synod and experience the joy that comes through shared creativity.

A limited number of acts will be selected.

4. Participate in Our Synod-Wide Giving Focus (*Open to all congregations*)

This year's Assembly offering will support the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)—a small but vibrant church serving in the places where our faith first took root.

Congregations are invited to participate, whether or not they are attending Assembly, by collecting an offering locally and sending it with participants or mailing it to the synod office.

The ELCJHL's ministry includes:

- Six congregations across the region
- Four schools serving over 3,000 students
- Ongoing work in education, peacebuilding, and reconciliation

The Synod Assembly is more than a gathering. It is a shared expression of who we are as the church—a people rooted in God's story and sent into the world.

So whether you submit a story, share a recipe, perform in the variety show, or contribute to the Assembly offering, you are helping to tell the story of God's work among us.

Thank you for helping to make the 2026 Synod Assembly a success!

Arizona State University

LCM GRADUATION

Banquet

Saturday, May 9, 12 PM Noon
Save the date!

Please save the date for this special event to honor and celebrate our beloved graduates! We will party with a delicious lunch and cake. Everyone from the congregation is invited to join in on the celebration!

Let us know if you are graduating this semester so we can be sure to include all graduates in the festivities. 😊

Summer Connections

The weather is heating up again, and it's time to plan for Summer Connections, a casual gathering at someone's home, a community room, or the church to get together, share a meal, and stay cool. We plan to meet twice each month during June & July, usually on a **Wednesday night at 6 PM.**

The main dish and beverages are provided by the host. Everyone else is invited to bring a side dish, dessert, bag of chips, etc., as you are able. We have plenty to share and would love your company, even if you come foodless. **Proposed dates are June 10 & 24; July 1, 15, & 29; and Aug 12.**

Thanks to Beth Wootten for coordinating this. If you would like to host a Summer Connection, please contact Beth at bethwootten@hotmail.com or 480-459-0410.