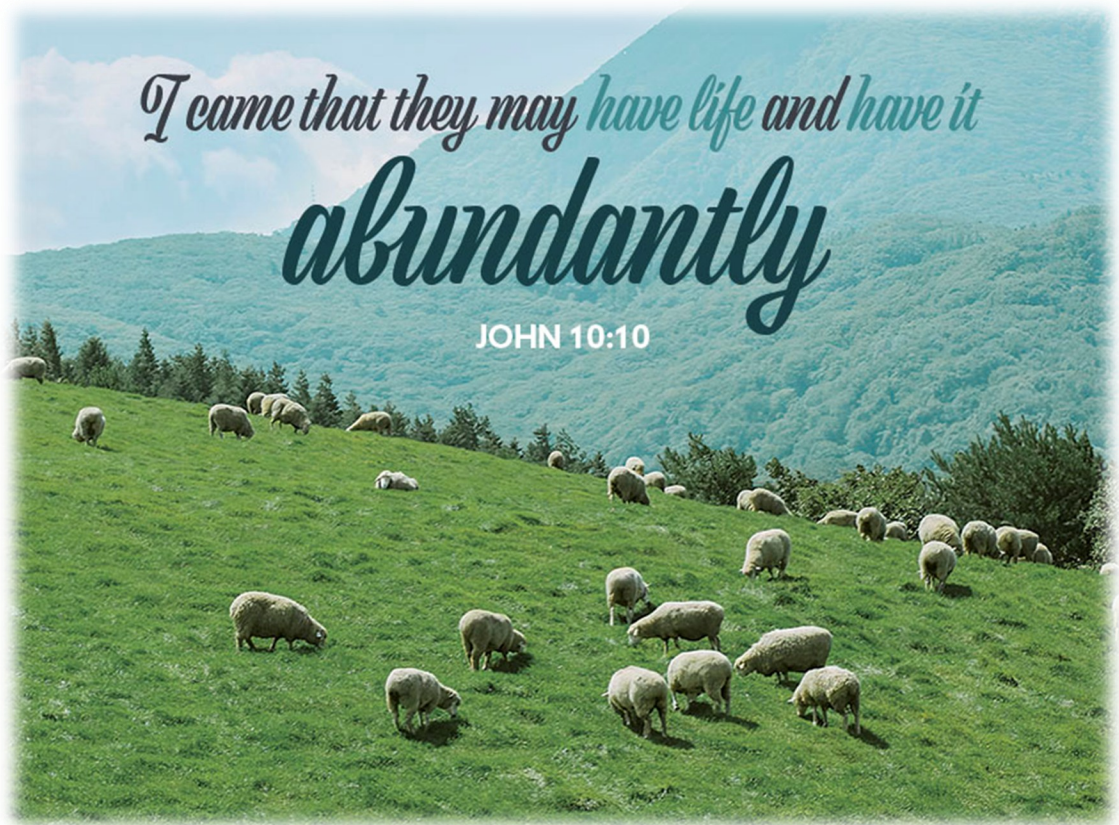


April 26, 2026—Fourth Sunday of Easter

# 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](http://www.ulctempe.org)

[info@ulctempe.org](mailto: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!

**C 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, 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<sup>b</sup> 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<sup>b</sup> 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.

Text: Donald Fishel, b. 1950  
Music: Donald Fishel, b. 1950; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928  
© 1973 Word of God Music, admin. The Copyright Co.

ALLELUIA NO. 1  
8 8 and refrain

## GREETING

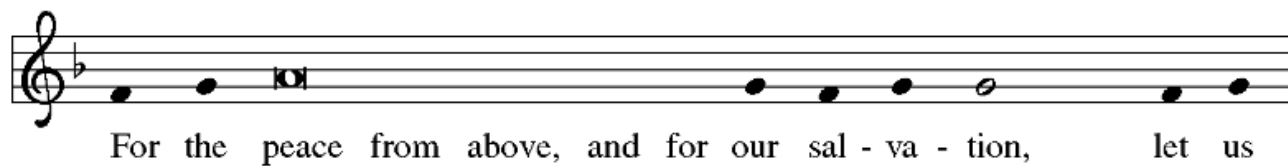
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

# KYRIE



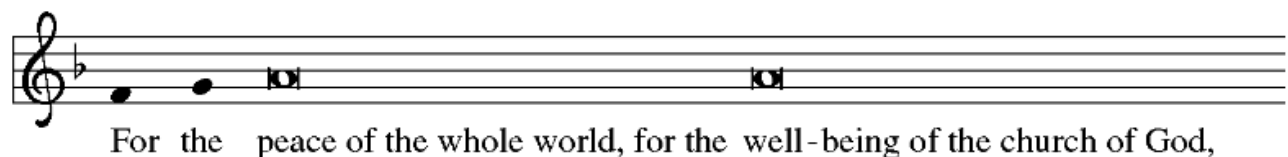
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.



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



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



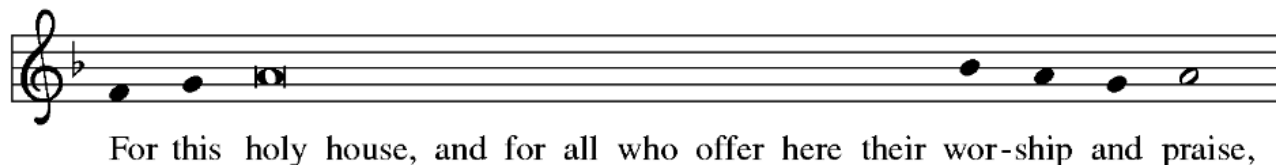
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,




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



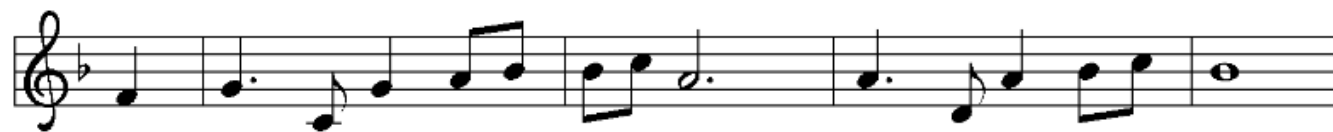
God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



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,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*Refrain*

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST READING

ACTS 2:42-47

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

# PSALM 23

*The Psalm will be sung responsively.*



- <sup>1</sup> The LORD <sup>|</sup> is my shepherd; I shall not <sup>|</sup> be in want.
- <sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down <sup>|</sup> in green pastures and leads me be- <sup>|</sup> side still waters.**
- <sup>3</sup> You restore my <sup>|</sup> soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways <sup>|</sup> for your name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall <sup>|</sup> fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they <sup>|</sup> comfort me.**
- <sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence <sup>|</sup> of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is <sup>|</sup> running over.
- <sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days <sup>|</sup> of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the <sup>|</sup> LORD forever.**

## SECOND READING

1 PETER 2:19-25

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

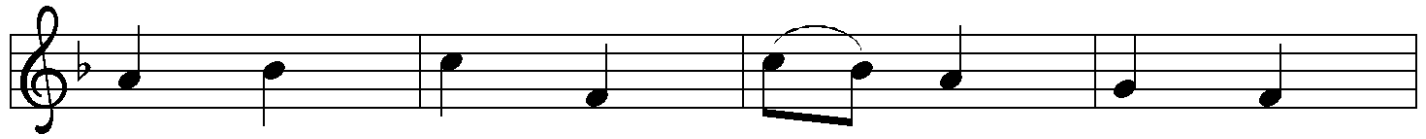
<sup>23</sup> When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

<sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

<sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



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

*Repeat alleluia*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL

JOHN 10:1-10

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John the tenth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup> "Very 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. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

**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

## SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.  
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;  
3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;  
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.  
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

## 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.**

## **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](http://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

### YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam-'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.  
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.  
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997  
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996  
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

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## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and 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 and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN

# I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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# SENDING

**P** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## TODAY IN WORSHIP

<b>Interim Pastor</b>	Rev. Arhiana Shek Dill
<b>Music Director</b>	Elizabeth Tomboulian
<b>Piano</b>	Erin Crawford
<b>Vocal Lead</b>	Erin Crawford
<b>Altar Care</b>	Kristin Tollefson
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Kristin Tollefson Taína Diaz-Reyes
<b>Reader</b>	Taína Diaz-Reyes
<b>Greeter</b>	Gail Fisher
<b>Livestream</b>	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](http://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

<b>Sun, Apr 26</b>	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/Livestream)
	11:00 AM	Coffee & Refreshments (Campus Center)
	11:00 AM	Free Student Lunch (Campus Center)
	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Young Adults Outing (Boyce-Thompson Arboretum)</b>
Tue, Apr 28	8:00 PM	AA (Campus Center)
Wed, Apr 29	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 30	8:00 PM	AA (Campus Center)
Sun, May 3	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary/Livestream)
	11:00 AM	Coffee & Refreshments (Campus Center)
	11:00 AM	Free Student Lunch (Campus Center)

*Want to learn more about becoming a ULC member?*

To learn more about how to join Christ's church at ULC, please reach out to Pastor Arhiana at [info@ulctempe.org](mailto:info@ulctempe.org) or 480-967-3543.

## YOUNG ADULTS OUTING TODAY!

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: **TODAY, April 26th, at 12 PM** after the student meal

Location:

**Carpool from  
University  
Lutheran Church**  
(340 E 15th St,  
Tempe, 85281)

If you haven't  
already done so, text  
**Bryan Gamelin at  
941-225-5219** to  
let him know you'll  
be coming.



## WORD 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](https://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](mailto:april@beneaththetreeoflife.com)**

**LAST CALL (BY END OF TOMORROW):  
SUBMIT AN ACT FOR THE FRIDAY NIGHT VARIETY SHOW  
AT SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

Monday, April 27th, is the last day to submit an act for the Synod Assembly Friday Night Variety Show. **You do NOT have to be a voting member or assembly guest to participate!**

After a full day of worship, learning, and assembly business, we'll gather Friday evening for something a little different—a joyful hour of creativity, laughter, and shared gifts from across our synod.

The Friday Night Variety Show will feature short, family-friendly performances from people across the Grand Canyon Synod. Music, storytelling, poetry, humor, skits, cultural performances, and other creative expressions are all welcome.

Throughout scripture, God's people celebrate through song, storytelling, and joyful expression. This evening is an opportunity to experience that same spirit of creativity & community as we celebrate the many gifts present across our synod.

Pastor Thaddeus Book of Desert Cross Lutheran Church in Tempe will serve as our emcee for the evening.

**If you would like to be considered for the Friday Night Variety Show, please submit a "Variety Show Act Submission" form by Monday, Apr 27, 2026.**

Event Details:

- Friday, June 12, 2026
- Dinner: 5:30–6:30 pm
- Variety Show: 6:30–7:30 pm

The show will take place following dinner as part of the Synod Assembly evening program. **You will find all the details at [gcsynod.org/2026/assembly/variety-show](https://gcsynod.org/2026/assembly/variety-show) where you can also fill out the submission form.**

*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!*



# 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](mailto: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!



## *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](mailto:bethwootten@hotmail.com) or 480-459-0410.

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

The next Women's Bible Study is **Thurs, May 21, at 6 PM AZ time via Zoom.**

We will be discussing [Session Two of "I AM: God's holy name and promise"](#) (led by Beth). It starts on page 24 of the March/April/May issue of *Gather*, a magazine of the women of the ELCA.

### **Session two—Gate and shepherd: Guiding and protecting us (John 10)**

*Session two builds on the theme of God's abiding love as we explore another dimension of I AM, God's holy name and promise: God's guidance and protection. Guidance and protection are the major themes of the famous "Good Shepherd" discourse in John 10, in which Jesus declares that he is both the good shepherd and the gate for the sheep. Our God who abides with us is also a God who moves with us—who knows us, protects us and leads us through the ups and downs of life.*

If you would like to receive Women's Bible Study emails and Zoom link, please reach out to Amanda at [info@ulctempe.org](mailto:info@ulctempe.org). All are welcome!

## **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](http://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.)*

## Welcome, Myles!

This past Wednesday, April 22nd, **Myles Josato** was officially welcomed during worship as **ULC's newest member!** We are so excited and blessed to have him join our special community of faith and God's living church here at ULC & LCM!

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



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!**

The poster features a black graduation cap with a gold band, gold and white balloons, and gold confetti scattered throughout. The text is primarily in black and gold, with the word 'Banquet' in a gold cursive font.