

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Anthony Giordano, Pastor www.veronalutheran.com

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 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: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* 465

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: *For the Lord Is Good*

Words & Music: Gary Sadler & Lynn DeShazo © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

PRAYER OF THE DAY

R: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

Acts 3:12-19

And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:*1John 3:1-7*

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

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:*Luke 24:36b-48*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: 🎶 **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C:  **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN: *Spread the Reign of God the Lord* 830

SERMON

Please rise

APOSTLES' CREED p. 192

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* p. 192

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: O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. We especially pray for those on our Prayer List... God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. 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:

Worthy Is the Lamb

Words & Music: Darlene Zschech © 2000 Wondrous Worship.

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: *Stir Up a Hunger*

Words & Music: Paul & Rita Baloche © 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

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



Altar flowers are given in praise and glory to God by Edna in celebration of her loving husband's birthday, Pastor Anthony Giordano.

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 17 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.

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.

2024
*Altar
Flowers*

The New 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, or in thanksgiving for family and friends. Flowers are \$60.00.

DON'T FORGET TO BUY SCRIP

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

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: Bill Keltner
The Praise Team
Usher: Gordon Wickham

BIRTHDAYS: April 14th - Rev. Anthony Giordano
April 18th - Bob Eucker

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.

April 14, 2024



PRAYER LIST

Pray for:

John Wickham

LaVerne Sieglen

Al Arroyo

Shirley

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