

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

April 26, 2026

11:00 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

*You are invited to light a candle in prayer on the Tree of Life during the service.*

*The candle-lighter is hanging on the wall; you may need to take a candle out to light it.*

*Please pass the Friendship Notebook along your row and greet those around you that you may not know.*

*We welcome children in worship. There is a family room across from the right front sanctuary doors  
and a few steps to the left a staffed nursery for any who wish to use them.*

*Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.*

GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*The assembly stands.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

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:

for Gichigami, for Chester, Amity, Miller, Buckingham and Tischer Creeks, for the Lester, Cloquet,  
Brule, Cascade and St. Louis Rivers, for the St. Louis estuary, for Twin Ponds.

Blessed are you.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.**

## GATHERING *I Will Follow*



1. All your ways are good. All your ways are sure. I will  
2. Light un - to the world, Light un - to my life, I will

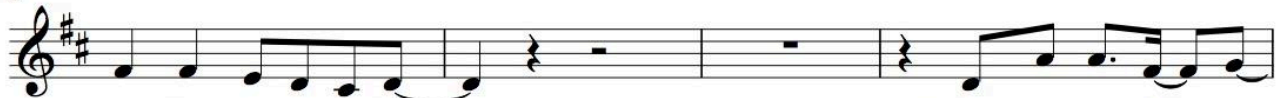
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trust in You a lone. High - er than my sight, high a - bove my life. I will  
live for You a lone. You're the one I seek. Know - ing I will find all I

Chorus

8



trust in You a - lone. Where You go, I'll go.  
need in You a - lone.

12



— Where you stay, I'll stay. When You move, I'll move. I will fol low You.

15



— Who You love, I'll love. How You serve, I'll serve.

17



— If this life I lose, I will fol - low You.

19



— Yeah I will fol - low You, Yeah.

(Last time: repeat chorus)

### APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

## TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor Will Mowchan

### FIRST READING Acts 2:42-47

*The believers' common life*

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

### PSALM 23 *(read responsively)*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;**

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

### SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:19-25

*Follow the shepherd, even in suffering*

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

## GOSPEL John 10:1-10

*Christ the shepherd*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Will Mowchan

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Shepherd of My Heart*

You have searched me. You know full - ly  
When I'm wea - ry, You are stead - y.

when I rise and when I fall.  
You sus - tain me through it all.

You go be - fore me, be - side and be - hind me.  
You are for me, You won't for - sake me.

You sur - round me with Your love.  
You will an - swer when I call.

O Shep - herd of my heart, I can trust in who You  
are. You hold me in the palm of Your hand.

Where You lead me, there is strength. Dark - ness flees be - fore Your wake. You're the  
heal - er of my scars, great Shep - herd of my heart.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God. or Bless we the Lord,  
**Your mercy is great. Thanks be to God.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. All are then seated for the offering.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

### OFFERING

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Text “**flcduluth**” to 73256. You’ll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Thank you for supporting God’s mission through FLC.*

### OFFERTORY MUSIC

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Gracious God, we give thanks for new life springing forth  
from field and vine and from our renewed lives.**

**May these gifts that begin as shoots and buds,  
blossom into life for us and the world;  
through the Risen One we pray. Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The thanksgiving continues with the Words of Institution, concluding with the Lord’s Prayer.*

Rooted as trees planted by streams of water, we pray:

**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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

*The assembly is seated.*

*We practice Eucharistic hospitality; all are welcome. Receive the bread and dip it into the wine (red)  
or grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

COMMUNION *You Never Let Go*

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death  
Your perfect love is casting out fear  
And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storms of this life  
I won't turn back I know You are near

And I will fear no evil  
For my God is with me  
And if my God is with me  
Whom then shall I fear, whom then shall I fear?

Oh no You never let go  
Through the calm and through the storm  
Oh no You never let go  
In ev'ry high and ev'ry low  
Oh no You never let go  
Lord You never let go of me

And I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on  
A glorious light beyond all compare  
And there will be an end to these troubles but until that day comes  
We'll live to know You here on the earth

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

**Nurturing God, for using the harvest of field and vineyard  
to renew and sustain us.**

**Lead us from this life-giving meal  
into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation;  
through the One who is the Vine. Amen.**

SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BLESSING

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

**Amen.**

SENDING *My Lighthouse*



In my wres-tling, and in my doubts, in my fail-ures, You won't walk out.  
In the si-lence, You won't let go. In the ques-tions, Your truth will hold.  
I won't fear what to-mor-row brings. With each morn-ing I'll rise and sing.



Your great love will lead me through; You are the peace in my trou-bled sea, whoa-oh,  
Your great love will lead me through;  
My God's love will lead me through;



You are the peace in my trou-bled sea. My Light-house,



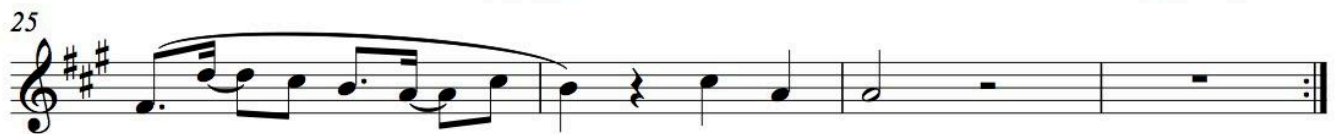
my Light-house shin-ing in the dark-ness, I will fol-low You, Oh, my Light-house,



my Light-house, I will trust the prom-ise; You will car-ry me safe to shore,



safe to shore, safe to



shore, safe to shore.



Fire be-fore us, You're the bright-est. You will lead us through the storms.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

**Ministers** All People of First Lutheran Church  
**Pastor** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman  
**Associate Pastor** The Rev. Andrea Bonneville DeNaples  
**Guest Pastor** The Rev. Will Mowchan  
**Program Staff** Karen Sande, Director of Music  
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship  
**Assisting Minister** Steve Cvek  
**Reader** Bailey Johnson  
**Musicians** The Rising Sound  
**Audio/Video Team** Eric Gatten, Shania Krause, Sam Weston

**Acknowledgements** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, With One Voice* and *All Creation Sings* texts and hymns ©2026 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009917, One License #A-729428, CCLI License #1816436, CCS WorshipCast Streaming License #13132. *Your Love Awakens Me* Chris Quilala | Phil Wickham © 2016 Phil Wickham Music; *Seems Like Music*. *Made New* Colby Wedgeworth | Josiah James Meeker | Lincoln Brewster © Colby Wedgeworth Music; Integrity Worship Music; Integrity's Praise! Music. *Hold On to Me* Lauren Daigle | Paul Duncan | Paul Mabury © Centricity Music Publishing; Centricity Songs; Pubalicious. *You Are Good* Israel Houghton © 2001 Integrity's Praise! Music; Sound Of The New Breed. Musical arrangements by Bryan Gatten.

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities, or where they might be on their faith journey. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We are committed to the work of racial justice. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

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