

# Daring to Dance Again



*April 21, 2024*

*By This We Will Know*



1105 N. Washington Blvd.  
Ogden, UT 84404  
801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshipping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

**Children are always welcome in worship services;  
however please know a nursery space is available for  
parents who need to tend to their little ones**

## Introduction

*The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.*

## Prelude

♪ ♪ **The Lord is my Shepherd; he leadeth me away. ♪ ♪  
Beside the still waters, he leadeth me away.**

♪ ♪ **Away, Away, he leadeth me away. ♪ ♪  
Beside the still waters, he leadeth me away.**

# The Dance of Love

## Welcome to Worship

*P* Easter is the unstoppable, unpredictable expression of God's love for humankind! The call of Jesus is to live fully in the power of that love – alive in each of us. We learn about that divine love as it is embodied in the person and ministry of Jesus, the one who is compared to a good shepherd. As we look to him to learn how to love, may our hearts praise the One who raised Jesus and raises us to abundant life and love!



Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song. Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.  
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long. Dare to dance a-gain.

*P* If we are to dance with abandon, we learn and follow – then we can begin to lead. We can learn the steps to the dance of love through the lead of Jesus and those who have gone before us. May we dare to dance even as we continue to learn the way of love.

**♪ ♪ Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song. ♪ ♪  
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.  
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long.  
Dare to dance again.**

# Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

*P* Open yourselves to the grace of Jesus Christ that is always and already available here at this table.

Pray for those who have no earthly tables,  
or no place at a table, and so little daily bread.

**All** We confess this day that we have been slow to join the dance that brings life to all, brings love to all, brings sustenance to all. In silence, let us lift up our prayers of confession...

*P* Hear this good news!

God has loved you from the very beginning.

The invitation of Christ is never-ending  
because resurrection can happen at any moment.

The Holy Spirit is transforming you even now!

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**All** In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Glory to God! Amen!

Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart, \_\_\_\_\_ teach me to move

in the power of your Spir - it, teach me to [move] in the light of your pre -

- sence, teach me to dance to the beat of your heart. \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer for this Day

*P* Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation –

**All** We know your voice, the sounds of your steps.

Your love gathers us, urges us, encourages us.

Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek you –  
so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ.

Be with us now, we pray. Amen.

*You may be Seated*

## A Reading from Acts the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter

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

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

*Acts 4:5-12*

*L* The Word of the Lord,

**All** Thanks be to God!

## A Responsive Reading of Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

*Psalm 23*

## A Reading from 1 John the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

*Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.*

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

1 John 3:16-24

*L* The Word of the Lord,

**All** Thanks be to God!

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Teach me to love with your heart of com - pas - sion, teach me to trust  
in the word of your pro - mise, teach me to hope in the day of your com -  
- ing, teach me to dance to the beat of your heart.\_\_\_\_\_

## Gospel Reading

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away

because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

*John 10:11-18*

*P* The Gospel of our Lord.

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

*You may be Seated*

Sermon

**Pr. Debra Jimenez**

Hymn of the Day

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## The Good Shepherd

I am The Good Shepherd  
I lay down my life for you  
Enter in enter in enter in  
I am The Good Shepherd  
As the Father knows me I know you  
I know you I know you I know you  
And no one can take you away  
And no one can take you away

You are The Good Shepherd  
You lay down your life for me



Enter in enter in enter in  
You are The Good Shepherd  
As the Father knows you you know me  
You know me you know me you know me

And no one can take you away  
And no one can take you away

Fernando Ortega, Jana Alayra, Tim Macres  
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## Apostles' Creed

*P* Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

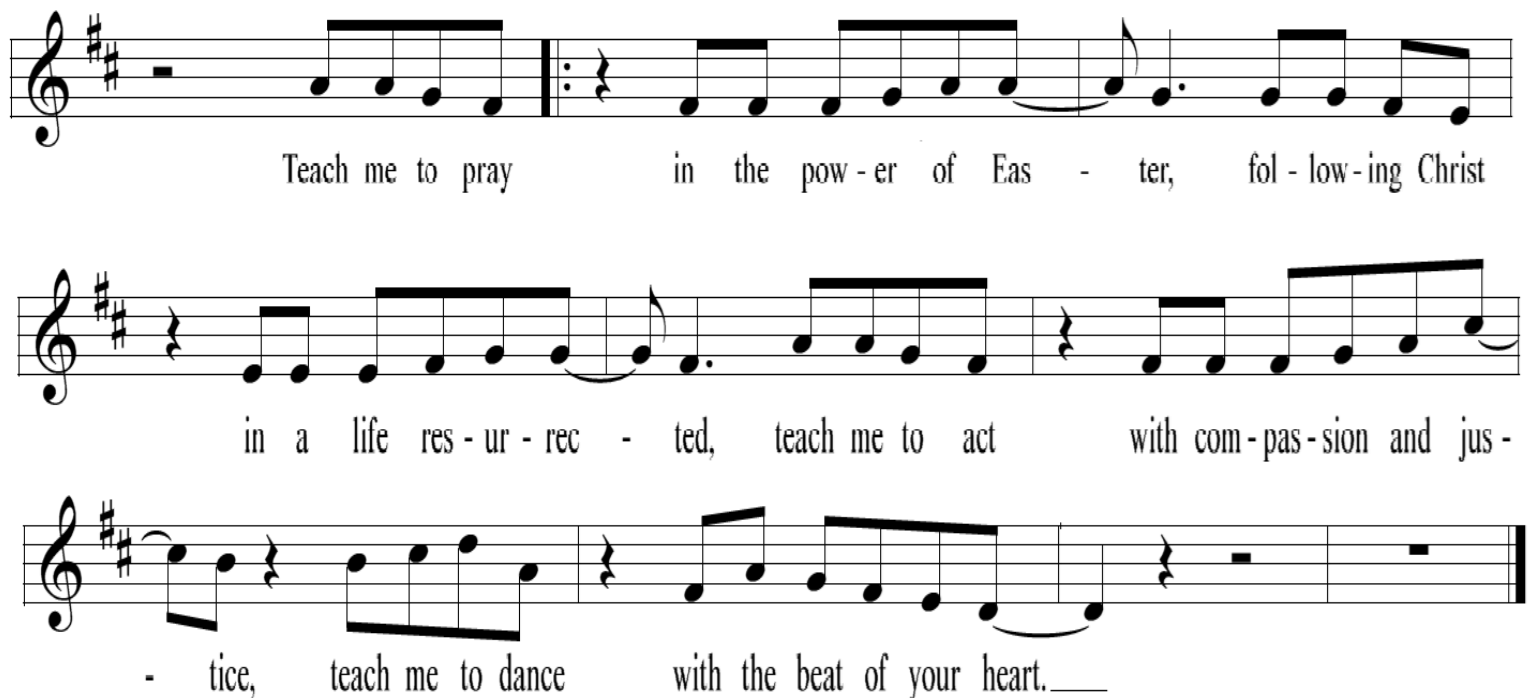
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of The People

*You may be Seated*

WA 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.



Teach me to pray in the pow - er of Eas - ter, fol - low - ing Christ  
in a life res - ur - rec - ted, teach me to act with com - pas - sion and jus -  
- tice, teach me to dance with the beat of your heart. \_\_\_\_\_

*(each prayer petition ends with)*

WA: God of grace,

**All: You hear our prayer.**

## Passing of the Peace

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*P* Christ become peace with you.

**All** And also with you.

# Offertory

## You may be Seated



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be-cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

## Offertory Prayer

*P* Jesus called his disciples "witnesses" to the possibility of resurrection.

**All** The world is in need of continued resurrection to new life.

We are called to be witnesses to this journey to newness by offering our resources and our energy to the work of justice and love through our offering today and every day. Amen.

## Holy Communion



1. In re - mem - brance of Me, eat this bread. In re -  
mem - brance of Me, drink this wine. In re - mem - brance of Me, pray for the  
time when God's own will is done.

*P* Holy Living One,

You transformed a whole lot of nothing into this amazing creation.

You breathed life all around and called it good.

You invited us to the wonder of it all

and when we could not face you, you turned us around.

You keep bringing us around and around, time and again,  
offering the chance to join the freedom-dance.

*P* Jesus sat at tables with those who had no place  
and offered fulfilling food for bodies and souls.  
And on the night when he would give all love for us,  
he sat at the table with extended family—  
just as he hosts this table here and now with this extended family.

He offered the usual prayers of thanks to you, God,  
over bread and cup, and then disrupted the gathering with  
uncustomary words:

“Take and eat this bread—it is my body given for you.  
Whenever you gather around the table together, remember me.”

“Take and drink from this cup, each and every one—  
it is the sign of a new covenant,  
(for business-as-usual is over and done and the resurrection dance goes on).

This love is poured out for all people.

Whenever you gather around the table together, remember me.”

2. In re - mem - brance of Me, heal the sick. In re -  
mem - brance of Me, feed the poor. In re - mem - brance of Me, o - pen the  
door and let your broth - er in, let him in.

# The Lord's Prayer

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*P* Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

**All** 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.

Take, eat, and be com - fort - ed, drink and re -  
mem - ber, too, that this is My bod - y and pre - cious blood shed for  
you, shed for you. 3. In re - mem - brance of Me, search for truth.  
In re - mem - brance of Me, al - ways love. In re - mem - brance of Me  
don't look a - bove, but in your heart, look in your heart for  
God. Do this in re - mem - brance of Me. \_\_\_\_\_

# The Invitation

*P* Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
offers everyone a place of welcome at His table of grace.  
Come to the feast.

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

*Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant*

shed for you and  
for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin  
  
All are Welcome!

## Communion Songs

### Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



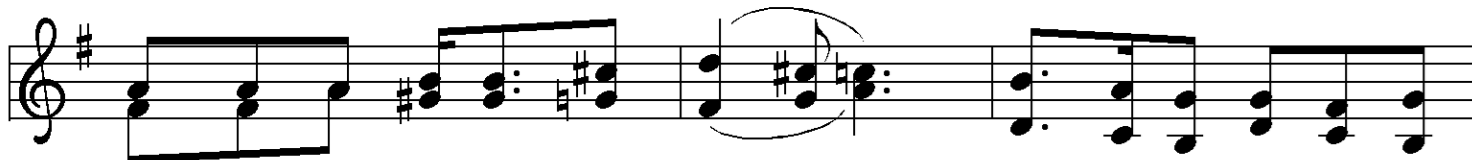
1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,



watch - ing for you and for me.  
mer - cies for you and for me? “Come home, come home!  
par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!



You who are wea - ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

# Shepherd Me, O God

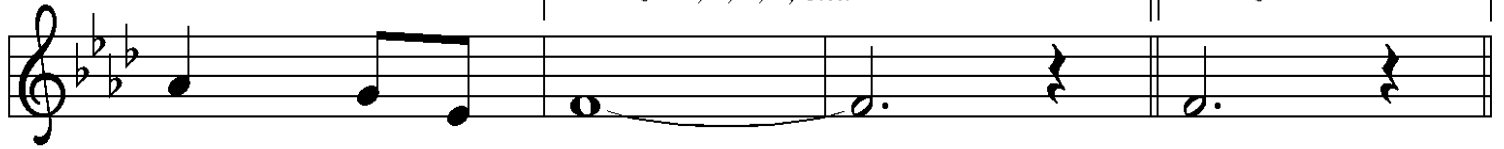
*Refrain*



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

*to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5, end*

*to stanza 4*



death in - to life. life.



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I  
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you  
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I  
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous - ness and truth, my  
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

*Refrain*

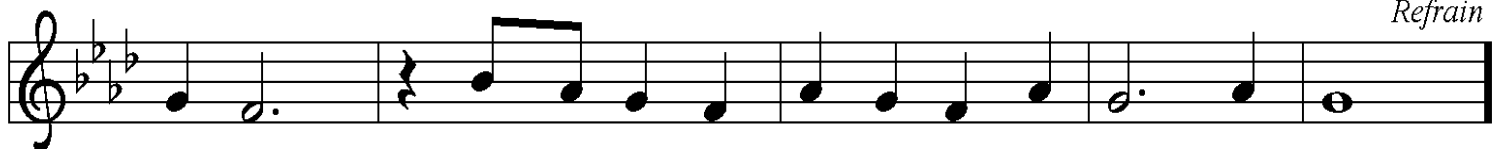


walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.  
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.  
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

*Refrain*



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.





5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23  
Music: SHEPHERD ME. Marty Haugen

## Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

*P* The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**All Amen**

*P* Let us pray,  
Generous God,

**All The table extends beyond this physical space  
and into the space of the Spirit that unites us.  
May the meal we have received ready us to  
love, trust, hope, and dance  
to the beat of God's heart. Amen**

[You may be Seated](#)

# Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

# Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

*P* We have heard the risen Jesus speak peace  
and offer us hope through his very body.  
We have danced with dreamers past and present.  
Send us forth now, O God, ✚  
to live in the freedom of the peace that you still speak to us,  
making our steps more sure each and every day.

**All Amen.**

# Sending Song

**Spirit Song** Words and Music by  
John Wimber

1 Oh, let the Son of God en - fold you with His  
2 Oh, come and sing this song with glad - ness as your

Spir - it and His love; Let Him fill your heart and  
hearts are filled with joy; Lift your hands in sweet sur -

sat - is - fy your soul. Oh, let Him have those things that  
ren - der to His name. Oh, give Him all your tears and

hold you, and His Spir - it, like a dove, will de -  
sad - ness, give Him all your years of pain, and you'll

scend up - on your life and make you whole.  
en - ter in - to life in Je - sus' name.

Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs. \_\_\_\_\_

Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs. \_\_\_\_\_

## Dismissal

*P* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

*WA* Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

**All** Thanks be to God.



## Readings for next Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

First Reading:	Acts 8:26-40
Psalm:	Psalm 22:25-31
Second Reading:	1 John 4:7-21
Gospel:	John 15:1-8

## Upcoming Commemorations

### **Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.

### **Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)**

**Monday, April 22, 2024**

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

### **Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, died 1960**

**Tuesday, April 23, 2024**

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

### **Mark, Evangelist**

**Thursday, April 25, 2024**

He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written

Front Cover:

Artwork by Melani Pyke

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