

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Holstein, IA

April 26, 2026

9:00 A.M.

Fourth Sunday of Easter - Good Shepherd Sunday

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism.

We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Blessed are they who trust in the Lord.

We will trust in the Lord with all our hearts.

Blessed are they whose hope is in the Lord.

We will hope in the eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began.

For they will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

The Lord is our shepherd, we shall not be in want. He makes us lie down in green pastures, he leads us beside quiet waters, he restores our souls. He guides us in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil, for He is with us; His rod and his staff, they comfort us.

Surely goodness and love will follow you all the days of your lives, and you will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

We trust.

You are blessed.

We hope.

You are blessed.

We believe.

You will dwell in His house forever.

We are blessed.

Amen.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

#451

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.

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

#574

Service of Holy Baptism for Vera Anderson

pg. 227

Hymn

We Are Called

#720

WORD

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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.

²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹“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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message Vicar Millie Anderson

Hymn of the Day

O God beyond All Praising

#880

RESPONSE

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Children's Offering / Offering

Offering Hymn

Shepherd Me, O God

#780

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. Just as you stood among your disciples and breathed your Spirit upon them, breathe your life into these offerings. Use them to bring your peace to a troubled world and to strengthen our witness to your resurrection. In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.

SENDING

Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the God, the Father, † Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

Amen.

Closing Song

Go, Make Disciples

#540

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

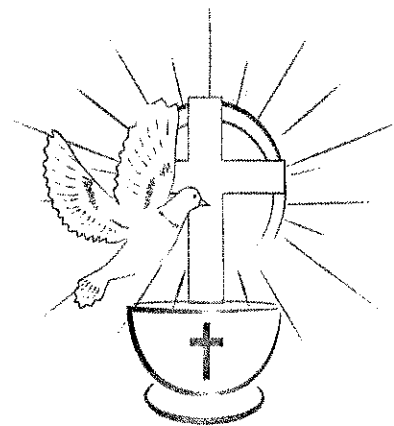
*Welcome family, friends, and sponsors as we
celebrate the baptism of*

Vera MacKenzie Anderson

Daughter of Jaden & Millie Anderson

Sponsors: Hanna Beshai

Derek Anderson and Kali Covey



Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Tyler Gebers
Deacons:	Justin Georg and Mitch Trost
Greeter:	Lynette Pullen
Acolytes:	Kelby Butcher and Olivia Stevenson
Sound & Video:	Lex and Cecily Jacobson
Coffee Hour:	Sheree & Steve Vohs Val & Justin Georg

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, April 26 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Baptism Special Congregational Meeting immediately following worship
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship

TUESDAY, April 28

6:30 PM Painting Through Liturgy with Vicar Millie

SUNDAY, May 3

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion / SS Teacher Appreciation
10:00 AM	LAST day of Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship