



Confirmation

Sunday, April 26, 2026

10:30am



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2026

*Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would have to choose my own direction in life. I would be terrible at it, because, like a sheep, I can generally see only what's in front of me at the moment, and I get myself into trouble. It is especially difficult for me to look far into my future as planned by Jesus. If he had not risen from the dead, I would be on my own. But he lives, and it makes a difference. I have the reliable direction of the Good Shepherd. He feeds us with his Word. He protects us from the roaring lion, Satan. He is leading us into the green pastures of eternal life. For centuries, the Church has observed this Fourth Sunday of Easter to celebrate that **Jesus lives to be our Good Shepherd.***

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

In Jesus' name we welcome all who are worshiping with us today, especially those who are visiting. We are a Christian Lutheran Church which looks to the Bible as God's inspired and inerrant Word. We confess with the Scriptures that Jesus is the only way to life in heaven. We pray that today's divine service will help to strengthen your faith in Jesus as your Savior from sin. Please worship with us again. In order that your time with us may be as uplifting as possible, please note:

- If you have children and they like to squirm, RELAX! We love having kids in church and believe that they learn the truths of God's Word best when incorporated into the worship life of the family of God with the rest of us. But, if you need to step away for a time you will find a children's room to the right as you exit the worship area.
- If you need assistance in any way at all, we have a great group of ushers and elders that would be glad to assist you.
- If you are looking for a church to call your own, we would be genuinely honored if that church were Pilgrim. That we might talk more about making Pilgrim your church home, please speak with one of our pastors or drop us an email through our website: www.pilgrimcares.org.
- When the service is over, stick around and enjoy the conversation. We value our Christian community and are very glad to have you with us today.

HYMN



1 Je - sus, shep - herd of the sheep, who your
2 In your prom - ise firm we stand, none can
3 By your blood our souls were bought, by your
4 Fa - ther, draw us to your Son; we with
5 We, in robes of glo - ry dressed, join th'_as -



Fa - ther's flock does keep, safe we wake and
take us from your hand; speak— we hear— at
life sal - va - tion wrought; by your light our
joy will fol - low on till the work of
sem - bly of the blest, gath - ered to e -



safe we sleep, guard - ed still by you.
your com - mand, we will fol - low you.
feet are taught, Lord, to fol - low you.
grace is done, there to live with you.
ter - nal rest in the fold with you.

Text: Henry Cook, 1788–1868, alt. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M:** If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C:** **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**
- M:** Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
- C:** **Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

ABSOLUTION

- M:** Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave His life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C:** **Amen.**

This Is the Feast

CW 938

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

- 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -

blood set us free _____ to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, _____ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *v. 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun his _____ reign. Al - le - lu - ia! *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

Text: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010; John W. Arthur, 1922–1980 Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872 Tune: © 1975, 1988 Richard W. Hillert. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872



EXAMINATION

The practice of examination has long been a tradition in the Lutheran church. Sometimes it is mistakenly viewed as a test rather than as testimony of what the Scriptures teach. It is fitting that an examination of the Bible's teachings and these individual confirmand's beliefs take place for at least a few reasons. First, it is a benefit to them that they review what they have come to know and believe prior to receiving the Lord's Supper as St. Paul encourages (1 Corinthians 11:28). Secondly, it is a benefit to the congregation as a whole that they might review the teachings they know and believe and that the Holy Spirit himself might be active among us through the proclamation of the Gospel to grow and increase faith (Romans 10:17). And finally, it gives these young men and women an opportunity to do exactly as the Lord encourages through Peter when he says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have (1 Peter 3:15)."

HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is | 552 1-6



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with



good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
Sav - ior gent - ly leads me, and where the ver - dant
yet in love he sought me and on his shoul - der
you, dear Lord, be - side me, your rod and staff my



I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feeds me.
gent - ly laid and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still, your cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 You spread a table in my sight,
a banquet here bestowing;
your oil of welcome, my delight;
my cup is overflowing!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt. Tune: Irish, 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON





THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

M: My dear young friends, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word He created faith in your hearts and adopted you into the family of believers. As you matured and heard and studied the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit enlightened your minds and preserved you as children of God.

You have expressed the desire to confess the truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with St. Paul, "I believed; therefore I have spoken." You have learned to examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love. We are bringing our prayers to the Savior's throne of grace and imploring Him to keep you faithful to Him and His Word until you join us and all believers in the glories of heaven. I now ask each of you:

M: Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshipping with you today?

R: **I am.**

M: Do you believe in God the Father?

R: **Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

M: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

R: **Yes, I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

M: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

R: **Yes, 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.**

M: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

R: **I do.**

M: Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?

R: **I do.**

M: Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God?

R: **I do.**

M: Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and His Word all the days of your life?

R: **Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

M: Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value His Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?

R: **Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

The minister addresses the congregation.

M: Friends in Christ, the Word of God urges us to pray for one another and especially for the youth of the church. On this special day, it is fitting that we bring our prayers before God, firmly believing that He alone is able to strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit and keep us faithful to the Savior until we die. Let us pray.

Gracious Father, in Holy Baptism you created faith in the hearts of these young people and gave them a new birth as members of your family. Help them remember their baptisms every day and find comfort in your promise that you will never leave them or forsake them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Give them strength to put down and drown the sinful nature that lives within them so that each day their faith may triumph in their living and loving and in their words and actions. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Lead them to see and believe that in the word of the gospel they find forgiveness for their sins and relief for their guilt. Use the remembrance of your commandments to drive them to the comfort of the gospel and then to guide them as they live for you and others. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Protect them from Satan when he tempts them to be careless with your Word and sacrament, to make plans for this life and not for the life to come, or to find popular theories more appealing than your truth. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Empower them by the gospel of your Son to live in their world with kindness, humility, and patience that others may see their good works and glorify their Father in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Help us to provide fitting examples of faithfulness to your Word and sacraments. Lead us to encourage and admonish them in wisdom and love even after they have left our homes and made new homes for themselves. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: When the end comes and we all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, have compassion on us despite our sins and accept us as eternal dwellers in your royal rooms, through the merits of Jesus our Savior, who became sin for us so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, what we as a Christian congregation have here asked our heavenly Father to confer on all of you, we now ask him to give each of you individually.

The confirmands, in turn, come forward. The minister may lay his hand on the head of each one.



2026 CONFIRMANDS

Elora Mae Barnes

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Dominic John Brander

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Dominic Samuel Faust

Romans 8:38,39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[a] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Noel Marie Iles

Psalms 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

Alyson Victoria Klein

Psalms 139:8-10

If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Elliana Hope Lyon

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Elise Elizabeth Weber

Psalms 46:5

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

After all the confirmands have received the blessing, the minister dismisses them, saying:

M: Your church now invites you to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's body and blood. Accept this invitation with deep reverence and holy joy. Regard your communing at the Lord's Table as a precious privilege given you by God through his Church; receive this Sacrament thankfully and often. The almighty and most merciful God—Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit—bless and keep you.

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want | 555 1-5



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; he
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain and
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet
4 My ta - ble thou hast fur - nish - ed in
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall



makes me down to lie in pas - tures green; he
me to walk doth make with - in the paths of
will I fear no ill; for thou art with me,
pres - ence of my foes; my head thou dost with
sure - ly fol - low me, and in God's house for -



lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
right - eous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650 Tune: William Gardiner, 1770–1853 Text and tune: Public domain

SERVING IN WORSHIP

PASTOR COLLIN VANDERHOOF, PRESIDING

PASTOR AARON WINKELMAN, PREACHING

DAVID PORTH, ORGANIST

News & Notes

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Irene Lape in memory of her husband Jim; and by Jake and Katie Brandt in celebration of Spring arriving!

Confirmation will be held during the 10:30am service today. Please keep our Confirmands in your prayers! Elora Barnes, Alyson Klein, Dominic Brander, Dominic Faust, Noel Iles, Elliana Lyon, Elise Weber.

Pilgrim moms, please join a new Bible study that focuses on glorifying God while we live as women in the world. Our next meeting is this coming Wednesday at 10am at the Schwartz Home: W170N8797 Sheridan Drive. See you soon!

What are you doing this summer? We need to paint the exterior of the Church! Please let the office or Jack Eagon propertymanager@pilgrimcares.org know if you can help and then we will work out a good schedule. With enough volunteers we can get this big job done quickly!

40 YEAR CELEBRATION: On Sunday, May 17th we at Pilgrim plan to celebrate Amy Kuske and her 40 years serving in the teaching ministry with recognition after the 8am service. A light dessert reception will follow in the church entryway. There will be a basket available for anyone wishing to offer gifts, cards, or well-wishes on that day. We hope you can join us in celebrating this milestone!

SAVE THE DATE: On Sunday, May 31st we at Pilgrim plan to celebrate Pastor and Tiffany Vanderhoof and send them off to Texas with a farewell reception. There will be a basket available for anyone wishing to offer gifts, cards, or well-wishes on that day. More details coming soon!

Calling all burrito lovers! Foil your dinner plans and stop by the Chipotle at W176N9360 River Crest Dr in Menomonee Falls for our fundraiser on Wednesday, May 6th from 4:00pm - 8:00pm. We're raising money to support Pilgrim Lutheran School, so grab a flyer from the shelf in the back of Church and they'll donate 25% of the proceeds to the cause! We can't wait to see you!

The Helping \$5- From now through Sunday May 9, we will be collecting \$5 (and \$10 if desired) gift cards for the Kingdom Workers Foster Support Program. *Kingdom Workers Foster Support program connects foster families with volunteers who provide them with the support they need to provide the best care possible to the children in their care.* **May is Foster Care Appreciation Month!** **We will be collecting \$5/\$10 gift cards that will be given to Kingdom workers to distribute. Ideas for gift cards are: Starbucks, Dunkin, Panera, Target, Chick-fil-a, Culvers.** Please place the gift cards in the box at church. Thank you for supporting the mission of Kingdom Workers! Call/text Gretchen Klug 920-253-8777 with questions.

The Spring Greenhouse Sale has begun! Shop at Shady Lane Greenhouse between now and June 30th, mention Pilgrim PTA and the school will receive 25% of the sale. There are flyers available on the shelf in the back of church.

The WELS Youth Rally is being held in Bowling Green, Ohio July 14-17. Pilgrim is blessed to have six teens that have signed up to attend. The cost is \$450 per person. We are hoping to find donors who would like to help out with that cost for our families. Are you able to give \$50? \$100 or half - \$225 to help out? Please put your donation in an envelope labeled youth rally and drop it in the offering box or in the school office. Thank you for considering helping out our youth!

Building Project Listening Sessions Sign-Up. As part of the building project planning process, the Steering Committee is hosting a series of small group listening sessions in April and May. These gatherings are designed to give members an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas about the future of Pilgrim’s worship space, classrooms, fellowship areas, and overall campus needs. Scan the QR code to attend one of these listening sessions, there are also sign up sheets available on the shelf in the back of church. Your participation will help ensure that the congregation’s input continues to shape the planning process.



New Lutheran Homeschool Co-Op Trinity Lutheran Church (ELS) near West Bend is exploring the possibility of establishing a WELS/ELS Homeschool Co-Op next year. This effort is being led by Trinity's Pastor Daniel Hartwig together with his wife Sarah. The core value of the Trinity Co-Op would be the truth of God's Word and the wonderful fellowship we enjoy in the WELS and ELS. If you or anyone you know would be interested in a WELS/ELS Homeschool Co-Op, please let them know by registering at this address: www.trinityels.org/homeschool

WLHS Student Council Work Days – April 25 & 26 - Do you have spring projects that need attention—raking, hedge trimming, window washing, or general yard work? Consider hiring hardworking members of the WLHS Student Council for a few hours in exchange for a free-will donation. All proceeds will support the 2025–26 WLHS mission project, benefiting the Vulnerable Children’s Foundation and Academia Cristo. Work Days will take place on Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26. To request a team, please email workdays@wlhs.org with your name, address, phone number, a description of the work, and your preferred day(s). Support a great cause while getting your spring projects done!

8:00am

10:30am

Ushers

4-26 Matt Lawonn
Tim Pankow
5-3 Phill Lepple
Scott Tyriver

Jim Prekop
Andy Steeno
Dave Chmielewski
Collin Mayer

Wednesday Ushers are Pat Renner and Jason Marten

Worship Hosts

4-26 Joe & Marlene Bedalov
5-3 Irene Lape & Pat Knack

Joel & Jenny Raasch
Paul & Kathy Arnhold

Attendance

4-15 28

4-19 159 + 129 = 288



Pilgrim Lutheran Church can receive offerings electronically through a secure website. Scan the QR code with your smart phone (you might need to download a free QR scanning app) to be directed to Pilgrim's giving page or visit pilgrimcares.org/giving. Save the check – give online!

Acknowledgments

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PILGRIM LUTHERAN SCHOOL
PTA PRESENTS
A

Spring GREENHOUSE SALE

April 27-June 30, 2026

at Shady Lane Greenhouse
W172N7388 Shady Lane, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Mention Pilgrim Lutheran School PTA at
checkout, and Pilgrim will earn 25% of the sale!



My Worship Notes

Name _____

What is the name of the church season or special day today?

What is the color of the church today? Circle one: Blue White Purple Red Green

The sermon text was:

This is in the: Old Testament New Testament



What is the sermon about?

Did we have a Sacrament today?



Baptism?

- Yes
 No



Communion?

- Yes
 No

My favorite song today was:

What did you learn about God today?

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What are you thankful for today?

Pilgrimcares.org

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Pastor Greg Hermanson

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Pastor Aaron Winkelman

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Principal Kevin Klug

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