

"I am the good shepherd...

I give up my life for the sheep"



Burlington Lutheran Church

Easter 4B

134 E Victoria Ave, Burlington, WA
April 21, 2024

Burlington Lutheran Church

134 East Victoria Avenue Burlington, Washington

Sunday Worship 10am

Children's Church after the Children's Message

Nursery available downstairs for all children aged four and younger

The mission of Burlington Lutheran is "Being God's Love in our Communities"

Welcome! It is good to be together today!

- *We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation, which means welcome is extended to all to become partners in the full life and ministry of Burlington Lutheran, regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, socioeconomic status, or any other societal or religious barrier.*
- *If you'd like to communicate with the church office and/or Pastor Charis (such as a request to meet, address change, prayer request, signing up for weekly enews, etc), please fill out the yellow contact sheet in your bulletin and drop in an offering plate.*
- *Absolutely all are welcome to the communion table. In addition to homemade bread, gluten free crackers are available. Individual pre-filled glass cups of wine (red) and juice (white) are provided. If you'd rather not come forward to receive communion please ask an usher for a single-use communion kit.*

- *A gender neutral restroom is to the right as you exit the sanctuary, and another is down the stairs, past the entrance to the fellowship hall.*
- *If you or your child need a quiet place to be during worship, you are welcome to use the room behind the sound board. In the quiet room you can hear and see the worship service, there is comfortable seating, a diaper changing station, and toys for small children.*
- *This worship service is livestreamed on both Facebook and YouTube. If you prefer not to be shown on camera, you are invited to sit in the last four rows on the main floor, or in the balcony. During communion backs are visible.*
- *Please ask an usher if you have any questions!*

April 21, 2024
EASTER 4B

PRELUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are on the ancestral homelands of the Upper Skagit peoples. We are grateful for their stewardship of our shared land and waterways since time immemorial. May we live consciously and respectfully, honoring treaties, and remembering that God created everything and we are to keep it sacred.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

See back of bulletin for calendar of upcoming events

GREETING FOR EASTER SEASON

We gather as a community who carries faith and hope in the Risen Christ.

We gather to celebrate

our God who dared to take on human flesh and dwell among us.

We gather to remember

that love will always be more powerful than death,

We gather to trust that

the future holds the wiping away of all tears

We gather to find strength

to be the hands of feet of Christ in this world.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Welcome to worship.

OPENING SONG: “The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing” ELW 531

1 The trumpets sound, the angels sing,

The feast is ready to begin.

The gates of heav’n are open wide,

And Jesus welcomes you inside.

Refrain:

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.

Come and revel in heaven’s love and light.

Take your place at the table of the King.

**The feast is ready to begin;
The feast is ready to begin.**

**2 Tables are laden with good things;
Oh, taste the peace and joy he brings.
He'll fill you up with love divine;
He'll turn your water into wine.**

Refrain

**3 The hunger heart he satisfies,
Offers the poor his paradise.
Now hear all heav'n and earth applaud
The amazing goodness of the Lord.**

Refrain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

Now in these waters you shower us with mercy.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

Breathe upon this water

and awaken your church once more

as beloved participants in your love and work.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,

our Shepherd and Lamb,

be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,

now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Good shepherd of the sheep, you seek and guide the lost into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. By the leading of your Spirit, help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days of our lives.

Amen.

First Reading: Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **God makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your Name's sake.

⁴ 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.

⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Second Reading: John 3:16-24

¹⁶ We know love by this, that God laid down God's life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ 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?

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

²³ And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of the Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as we have been commanded. ²⁴ All who obey God's commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit that God has given us.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Easter Alleluia" by Sean Bendickson
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is risen, praise the Lord!

(2x)

Gospel: John 10:11-18 (CEB)

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down their own life for the sheep. ¹² When the hired hand sees the wolf coming, that person leaves the sheep and runs away. That's because they aren't the shepherd; the sheep aren't really theirs. So the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ The sheep don't matter to a hired hand. ¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and they know me, ¹⁵ just as the God the Father knows me and I know God. I give up my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that don't belong to this sheep pen. I must lead them too. They will listen to my voice and there will be one flock, with one shepherd. ¹⁷ "This is why God loves me: I give up my life so that I can take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I give it up because I want to. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it up again. I received this commandment from my heavenly parent."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY: "Shepherd Me, O God" ELW 780

Refrain

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.**

**1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.**

Refrain

**2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name. *Refrain***

**3 Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.**

Refrain

**4 You have set me a banquet of love
in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.**

Refrain

**5 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.**

Refrain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to light a candle during the prayers.

When the reader says, "We bring you our prayers," the congregation sings:

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of God be with you always.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

OFFERING

Online giving is also available at burlingtonlutheran.org, Venmo @burlingtonlutheran, the Vanco Mobile app or by texting 360-727-0807.

MUSIC DURING OFFERING: "I Come with Joy" ELW 482

Offering Prayer

Risen One,

As you have generously given grace, you call us to live generously.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your body in the world, through Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

COMMUNION

At Burlington Lutheran Church we celebrate open table communion which means the table is open to ALL, no exceptions. For those who would rather not come forward for communion, ushers will provide single-serve communion (grape juice or wine).

If you are at home please gather your communion elements at this time. Come, taste and see that God is good!

Great Thanksgiving & Holy Communion

(To the tune of All Creatures of Our God and King)

Our Creator is with you

And Creator dwells with you, Alleluia, Alleluia

Lift up your hearts to our God

We lift them up and offer thanks

It is right to praise Creator

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

On the night Jesus was betrayed

At a shared table the Lord stayed

Alleluia, alleluia

He took the bread, said this is me

Blessed, broke and shared it, take and eat

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

After they ate Christ took the cup

Blessed, to the heavens held it up

Alleluia, alleluia

This is my blood that's shared for you

A covenant of love come true

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Christ said with bread remember me
And share this meal eternally

Alleluia, alleluia

All are welcome at this feast
Bread, cup, and love, come and receive

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Prayer of Jesus

(You are invited to say your heart's version of the Lord's Prayer)

Our loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sin, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Music During Communion: "The House of God Forever" by Jon Foreman

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us, nourished us with your love,
and you

send us forth to proclaim your goodness in this Easter season,
sharing the world-changing mission of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,

and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Psalm 23" by Sean Bendickson

Refrain

You restore my soul

And you guide me home

Oh, Lord you are the good shepherd.

1 The Lord is my good shepherd

I shall not want

He makes me lie down in green pastures

He leads me beside still waters

Oh...

Refrain

2 Tho I walk through the valley

**Of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil for you are with me
Your rod and your staff, they comfort me
Oh...**

Refrain

Bridge

**You prepare a table before me
As I face my enemies
You anoint my head with oil
And I overflow with peace**

**3 Surely goodness and mercy
Will follow me all my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever...**

Refrain

DISMISSAL

**Alleluia! Go in peace, rejoicing!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

Permission is granted for congregations to reproduce the Seasonal Worship Texts.

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Charis Weathers & Sean Bendickson

UPCOMING BLC EVENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

**TODAY: Earth Day/Easter service project at Van Loo farm,
12:30 - 2:30pm**

TODAY: Youth Group participating in Earth Day/Easter project!

Apr 28: Church 2.0: Veterans for Peace, with Xavi Thorne

May 3-5: Youth camping at Rasar State Park (all can come!)

May 9: Quilting @ 9:30am (all welcome!!)

May 14: Women’s Bible Study @ 10am

May 15: BLC Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

May 18: Synod Assembly at Grace Lutheran Church in Des Moines

June 15: BLC in Berry Dairy Days parade

Aug 16 - 18: BLC Camping at Bay View State Park



BEING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

We are all God's beloved children and are recipients of God's radical love and grace. All are welcome in this church community. You are welcome here if you have ever felt excluded or judged because of your gender, ethnicity, race, religion, status, ability, sexual orientation, doubts or questions. We are a community committed to racial equity, and we believe in Jesus' commandments to love God and love neighbor. Join us!

Matthew 22: 37-39



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