

"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

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

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

<sup>3</sup> You revive my soul 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 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.

<sup>6</sup> **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

<sup>16</sup> 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. <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 deed and truth. <sup>19</sup> And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God <sup>20</sup> whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and God 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 God whatever we ask, because we obey the commandments and do what pleases God.

<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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)

<sup>11</sup> "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down their own life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> The sheep don't matter to a hired hand. <sup>14</sup> "I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and they know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the God the Father knows me and I know God. I give up my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> "This is why God loves me: I give up my life so that I can take it up again. <sup>18</sup> 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](http://burlingtonlutheran.org), [Venmo @burlingtonlutheran](https://www.venmo.com/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**

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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**





**BURLINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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