

**OUR SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
GREENDALE, WISCONSIN**

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The Reverend Douglas W. Schroeder, Pastor

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

April 28, 2024

OUR THEME FOR THIS YEAR IS: *Adore God More in 2024!*

“Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.” ~ Psalm 95: 6-7a

We welcome you to Our Shepherd. It is a joy to have you with us today! We pray that you will be strengthened and uplifted through our worship.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Organ Prelude: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won . . . J. Bender

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: LSB 465 – Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Invocation:

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

Confession/Absolution:

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

C: *God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.*

P: He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

C: *he has put all things under his feet.*

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: *Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the tomb, you destroyed the power of sin and death.*

Hear us as we confess our failure to live the good news of the resurrection. Grant us the power of your grace. Forgive us, heal us and renew us, so that we may know the joy of life everlasting given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given his Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained 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.*

Hymn of Praise:

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

All: Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

C: *O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Scripture Readings (Back of Bulletin)

First Lesson: Acts 8: 26-40

Anthem (10:30 a.m.): Life Tree . . . D. Cherwien

O blessèd spring, where Word and sign

Embrace us into Christ the Vine:

Here Christ enjoins each one to be

A branch of this life-giving Tree.

Through summer heat of youthful years,

Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,

Sustained by Christ's infusing rain,

The boughs will shout for joy again.

When autumn cools and youth is cold,
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

As winter comes, as winters must,
We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
And trust the promise of the spring.

Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive
And join us to Your Tree of Life. Amen.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953
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Epistle: 1 John 4: 1-11

Holy Gospel: John 15: 1-8

P: The Gospel of the Lord
C: *Thanks be to God*

Hymn of the Day: LSB 919 – Abide, O Dearest Jesus (vs. 1-4 & 6)

Message from the Word:

Sermon Series: Adore God More in 2024 – Part 5, Pondering the Mystery of God
Sermon Text: Philippians 2: 5-11

Apostle’s Creed: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.

Offering

Responsive Prayer:

P: I will extol you, my God and King,
C: *and bless your name forever and ever.*
P: Every day I will bless you
C: *and praise your name forever and ever.*
P: The Lord is gracious and merciful,
C: *slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*
P: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
C: *and all your saints shall bless you!*
P: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
C: *and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.*

Prayers/Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution/The Lord’s Supper (10:30)

The Bible is specific about who should attend the Lord’s Supper (1 Corinthians 10: 16-17; 11: 27-30). We invite those who wish to confess their sins and believe they receive Christ’s body and blood in this sacrament, for their forgiveness, to join us at the Lord’s Table for their spiritual strengthening.

Communion Hymn: LSB 611 – Chief of Sinners Though I Be

Post-Communion Canticle:

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Closing Hymn: LSB 490 – Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won

Benediction

Postlude: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won . . . J. Bleresch

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS: You can place flowers on the altar in honor or remembrance. Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. The cost is \$20.00, and you can take the arrangement home after the late service. Payment can be left in the church office.

FIRST TIME VISITORS: Welcome to our guests and visitors! Please take home an Our Shepherd gift bag located on the table in the narthex as a "thank you" for being here!

TWT ANNIVERSARY AND COFFEE HOUR: Please plan to join us for a celebratory coffee hour on Sunday, May 5th between services in honor of The Word Today's 46th anniversary. Please be in prayer as you consider your special anniversary gift to the radio ministry that weekend.

THE WORD TODAY WALK: Join us for a fun walk around Scout Lake's half mile loop (5902 W. Loomis Road, Greendale) after the late service on Sunday, May 5th. We are celebrating TWT's 46th anniversary and will provide a tailgate lunch. Please sign up so we can plan for food. (In case of inclement weather, we will be at church.)

MILKMEN OUTING: Please sign up if you would like to attend the Milkmen game on Sunday, June 16 at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 and include a hat or drawstring bag! Tickets will be distributed closer to the date of the game.

TOY DRIVE: We are looking for gently used toys suitable for young children to update our nursery. If you have toys you no longer need, please bring them in!

SPRING CLEAN UP: Please sign up if you can help on our spring clean-up day on Saturday May 18 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

VBS SAVE THE DATE: This year our Vacation Bible School will be July 8 – 12 for children 4 – 10 years-old. The theme is "Camping Out With Jesus." Watch for further details in the coming weeks!

GUEST PASS: Please take as many as you would like of our "Guest Passes" inviting your family, friends, and neighbors to worship with us!

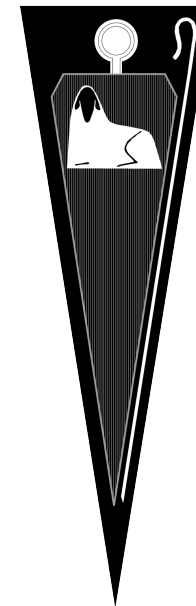
FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL AND GLORIES OF GREECE: Join Pastor Doug as we tour Thessaloniki (Thessalonica), Athens, Kalambaka, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos and Crete!! Full details are in the flyers on the tables in the entrance.

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Monday	Women's Bible Study	2:00 PM
Monday	Bell Choir	3:30 PM
Monday	Adult Bible Study	6:30 PM
Tuesday	Share Our Strengths (S.O.S.)	7:00 PM
Wednesday	Men's Bible Study	6:00 AM
Wednesday	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
Wednesday	Confirmation Class (Grades 5-8)	4:00 PM
Wednesday	Bell Choir	6:45 PM
Wednesday	Senior Choir	7:30 PM
Saturday	Worship Service	6:00 PM
Sunday	Worship Service	8:00 & 10:30 AM
Sunday	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 AM

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The Word Today is aired locally on Sunday mornings at 7:45 on WJYI 1340 AM and at 8:30 on WRJN 1400 AM.

Listener Responses to The Word Today

Arabic

- The messages I've heard through TWT radio program have positively influenced my beliefs, values, and actions. I've been struggling for so long with life, but I feel my burden has been taken off my shoulders bit by bit with every episode I listen to. Thank you, and I hope you keep sending me messages and support me with my relationship with Jesus.
- I cannot explain enough how the program has helped deepen my spiritual journey and brought me closer to God. It has provided guidance and direction in my life when I was feeling all alone among my family because I'm the only Christian among them. Pray for me and thank you.

Kirundi

- Good evening! The program TWT is a very interesting program. Thank you for the topics you discussed in it. They are very interesting and full of power to change. Had it not been for this program, I would still be a robber. Recently you shared as a topic "Robbery," and this raised in me a change to repent and be holy before God. Now I no longer rob but I glorify the Lord in all situations. Thank you for having changed my life. God bless you for your labor.
- Hello servant of God! I like the program very much. Since I started listening, there are many things that have changed in my life. I was fool but now I have a kind of wisdom. You tackled how folly is a bad thing and I find that folly in me. From that day. I began to pray God to grant me wisdom in order to please my Lord. I starved to get that gift of knowledge of God. Now I see a great change from folly to wisdom. I do not react according to my impulses or emotions. Thank you for what you did in my life and God bless you
- Greetings! Hope you are well. The program pleases my heart. I used not to have joy in my life. I used to be nervous of nothing. The Word rejoice in the Lord always" has changed my life. It encourages us to seek this peace and joy by taking my problems, my issues, my hassles, my persecutions and bringing and handing them to God the Father and letting him work on my behalf so that I can be at rest. Now I am in rest in opposite to my past. I take all to my Father God. Thank you for the program and may God bless you abundantly.

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