

# Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church

*"Growing Relationships with God, Each Other, and Our Neighbors in the Way of Jesus"*



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**Saturday, April 20, 2024, 4:00 PM**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024, 9:00 AM**

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# *Welcome... There's a place for you here!*

## *Welcome to the Lord's Table*

All Christians—including visitors of all denominations—are invited to the altar to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to remain at your seat, select a prefilled cup from a basket at the top of the ramps before the service begins.

Worshippers may come forward via the center aisle to receive communion at the altar, then return by the side aisles. Bread, wheat wafers or gluten-free wafers are offered, as is a choice of wine (lighter color, outer rings of tray) or grape juice (darker color, inner rings). Paper-towel lined baskets are provided for empty cups at the end of the first pew and at the top of the ramps. Those who are not yet communing may come forward to receive a blessing.

## *Children have a place here, too!*

During our Sunday services, children are invited to come forward for the children's time. They may also receive communion at whatever age their adult(s) agree(s) they may. "Busy bags" are hung along the wall in the sanctuary for use during services. Books and small toys can be found on a shelf under the window behind the choir/bells tables.

Our nursery is located at the bottom of the spiral staircase in the entryway and is staffed during the Sunday AM service. A changing table is found in the bathroom near the top of the stairs, and another is located around the corner through the sanctuary door past the bell tables.

*Restrooms* are located in the entryway on either side (mirrored cubes).

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*Note: our Sunday service is livestreamed, and some worshippers may be seen in the broadcast. Those seated behind the ramps will not be seen on camera.*

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PRELUDE

WELCOME

ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG

ELW 660

“Lift High The Cross”

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

CHILDREN’S SERMON (Sun.)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ELW Setting 3

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

SCRIPTURE READING: **Acts 17:1-9**

*A reading from Acts:*

<sup>1</sup>After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, <sup>3</sup>explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." <sup>4</sup>Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. <sup>5</sup>But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they

were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. <sup>6</sup>When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, <sup>7</sup>and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." <sup>8</sup>The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, <sup>9</sup>and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

God's story, our story. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING: **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*A reading from 1 Thessalonians:*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

God's story, our story. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: Pastor Sheila Rawn

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 576

"We all are One in Mission"

SONG FOR PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Tune: BALM IN GILEAD

“Only You, O God”

*(sing once before and once after prayer)*

**Only you, O God, and you alone, the broken heart console.  
Only you, O God, and you alone, the wounded world make whole.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

CHOIR ANTHEM (Sun.) “Now the Green Blade Rises” arr. Alan Bullard

OFFERTORY

Use the QR code to reach our online giving page:



HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

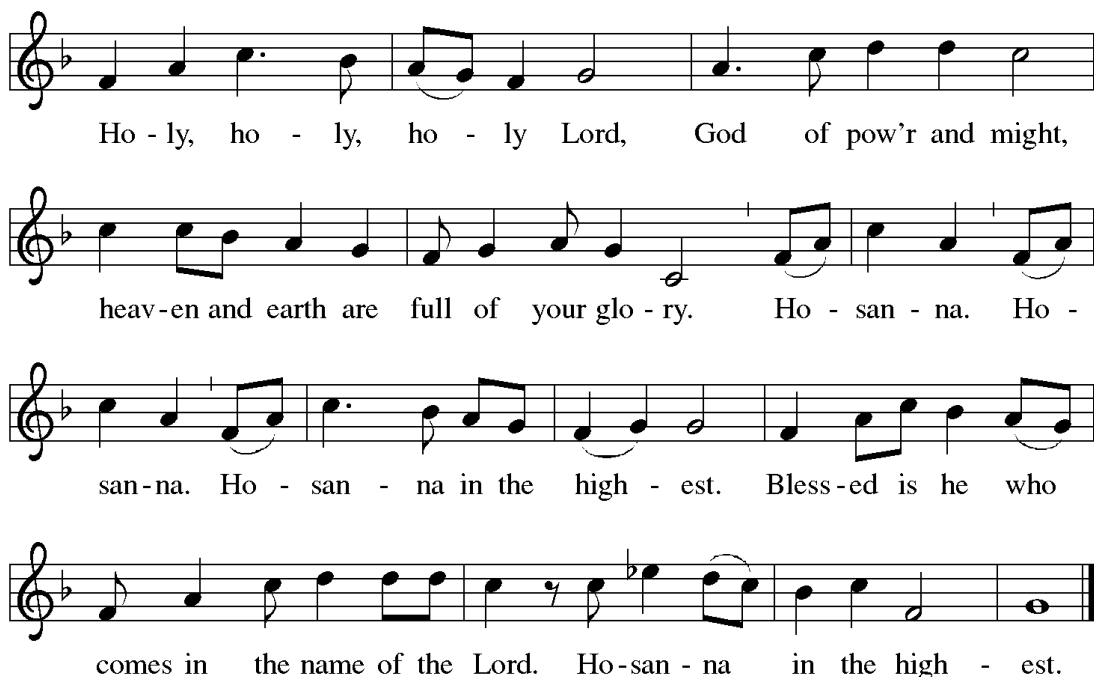
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . and join their unending hymn:

(ELW Setting 3)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

... For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

## 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.**

## INVITATION

DISTRIBUTION *(see inside of bulletin cover for communion instructions)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING AND SENDING OF PASTOR BETH ANN ON HER SABBATICAL

## BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! 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

ELW 548

“Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## THIS WEEK AT MPLC: April 21– April 28

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### **Sunday, April 21**

- 9:00 AM Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 AM Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30 AM Adult Ed (Mygatts)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School (Education Level, meet in Choir Rm)
- 4:00 PM Open Table (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 PM Youth Night at Luth. Ch. of Resurrection

### **Tuesday, April 23**

- 6:30 PM Bell Choir (Sanctuary)

### **Wednesday, April 24**

- 11:00 AM Wed. AM Bible Study (Mygatts)
- 1:00 PM Rummage Sale Planning Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM Adult Choir (Choir Room)

### **Thursday, April 25**

- 9:30 AM Quilters (Fellowship)

### **Saturday, April 27**

- 4:00 PM Worship (Sanctuary)

### **Sunday, April 28**

- 9:00 AM Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 AM Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30 AM Adult Ed (Mygatts)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School (Education Level, meet in Choir Rm)
- 6:00 PM Youth Night at Luth. Ch. of Resurrection



## Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher: Pastor Sheila Rawn  
Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov  
Sun. Greeter: Cindy Green  
Sat. Reader: *One needed*; Sun. Reader: *One needed*  
Sun. Communion assistant: Becky Arndt, Aaron Arndt, *One needed*  
Acolyte: Amelia Arndt  
Video Producer: John Simpson  
*(please see worship leader board for assistants needed)*

*Scan QR code with  
your phone or  
call the church office  
to sign up to be  
a worship leader next week*



## Worship Leaders for 3/27 & 3/28:

Sat Preacher: Rev. Stephen Gifford; Sun Preacher: Pastor Sheila Rawn  
Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov  
Sun. Greeter: Carol Wiechers  
Sat. Reader: *One needed*; Sun. Reader: *One needed*  
Sun. Communion assistant: *Three Needed*  
Acolyte: Natalie Thorn  
Video Producer: Becky Litwin  
*(please see worship leader board for assistants needed)*

## MPLC STAFF DIRECTORY

Senior Pastor Beth Ann L. Stone	<a href="mailto:bastone@mplc.us">bastone@mplc.us</a>
Transition Pastor Sheila Rawn	<a href="mailto:srawn@mplc.us">srawn@mplc.us</a>
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Communications Director (vacant)	
Council President Kim Haigh	<a href="mailto:khaigh@acosta.com">khaigh@acosta.com</a>

We are called by Jesus to **love God and one another**, to practice generous hospitality, and to serve all unconditionally. We fully welcome you to join us, embracing your race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical abilities, mental abilities, socioeconomic position, family status, background, and wherever you are in your faith journey. You are a unique and beloved child of God and are welcome here. You are accepted and openly affirmed just as you are. We commit ourselves to undertaking the work of racial equality and social and economic justice. We invite you to join us as we joyfully and inclusively love and serve God and our community, as **we are all one in Christ Jesus.**