

CALL FOR THE OFFERING:

L: As members of Jesus' flock, let us offer our gifts and our lives to his ministry

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
William Bradbury

***THE DOXOLOGY: (unison)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, you heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN

***THE BENEDICTION**

L: Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed!

L: Our Shepherd Savior lives!

P: He lives indeed, now and forever!

L: Let us go forth, honoring the Shepherd who leads us, feeds us, cares for us.

P: May the grace and hope, peace and love of God our Creator, our Savior, our Sustainer be with us now and always. AMEN.

***THE SONG:** "Lift High the Cross" #198

***POSTLUDE:** "Carry This Love With You"
Adam Mason

LISTEN TO THE SHEPHERD

May 11, 2025 Fourth Sunday after Easter
Peace United Church of Christ Elkader, Iowa

PRELUDE: "Mother" by Walter Price
BELL, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONCERNS

MOTHER'S DAY READING

***SONG FOR MOTHER'S DAY:**

"O God, Whose Steadfast Love" #426

***CALL FOR PASSING OF THE PEACE: (unison)**

God of Love, we confess that we are afraid and need your peace. We find it hard to know the way so we need your leading. We are not whole and need your shepherding. May you call us from our old lives so that we can follow you in new ways.

Be with us now as we reach out to others, forgiven, filled with grace, ready to share peace with each other and worship together. AMEN

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***INVITATION TO WORSHIP:**

L: God of Love, Creator of Life, we come to hear your voice.

P: You call to us in love and we answer.

L: Christ of Love, shepherd of your sheep, we come to have

you lead in love.

P: You walk in love and we follow you.

L: Holy Spirit, breath of love, you breathe life into that cannot be taken from us.

P: You fill us with your breath in our worship so that we can go forth to serve in love. Alleluia!

THE SHEPHERD'S WORD

LISTENING PRAYER: (unison)

Gentle Shepherd, in your Word, we listen for your voice; the voice of love, the voice of eternal life, the voice of hope. We listen now, ready to follow. AMEN

INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

Pastor Paula

THE STORY OF DORCAS (TABITHA)

Acts 9:36-43

Mary Webber

THE SHEPHERD STORY OF JESUS:

John 10:22-30

Pastor Paula

MESSAGE: "Shepherd Lingual"

MESSAGE SONG: "He Never Failed Me Yet"

Words, Music: Robert Ray Sung by the Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE:

(inspired by Revelation 7:9-17)

L: On this 4th Sunday of Easter, the cross draped in white helps us to remember, O God, your resurrection glory before us. You are our guide, our hope, our Shepherd. In this Easter season and always, may we follow you for you are a steady leader, a faithful friend, our Lord and Savior. We praise you, our Shepherd.

P: Blessing, glory and wisdom, honor, power and might be to our God forever and ever!

L: For mothers, for women around the world today, we give you thanks, O Shepherd God. We give thanks for the countless ways mothers and mother-figures nurture, educate, inspire. Bless the women who hold and heal, shelter and protect, liberate themselves and others from what discourages and curbs potential. May You help us to recognize Your image in all people of every nation and tribe. We praise you, Shepherd Savior,

P: Blessing, glory and wisdom; honor, power and might be to our God forever and ever!

L: Righteous God, Holy Spirit, in a world torn by war, may you keep us from hate that results in human lives lost, displaced, communities destroyed, dreams dashed. When our world is troubled, violence the chosen path, may you draw near to us, directing us to follow humbly with compassion, justice and love; to be fearless in working to build your kingdom on earth.

P: Blessing, glory and wisdom; honor, power and might be to our God forever and ever!

L: Healer God, we lift before you the names and needs of those we know and love. (prayer list)

May all these prayers, spoken and unspoken, rise to you, trusting that you will answer in ways that satisfy the needs of others and our needs. As the Body of Christ, we pray to Jesus our Shepherd who taught us to pray:

P: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

WELCOME

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Worship Leaders

Today-May 11th

Worship: Pastor Paula

Reader: Mary Webber

Fellowship: Cookie Cupboard

Organist: Laura Moser

Ushers: Sue Stott

**Opening/
Closing** Carl, Laura Moser

Next Sunday, May 18th

Pastor Paula

Sue Stott

Cookie Cupboard

Laura Moser

Florence Gifford

Sue Stott

PRAYER LIST: Bob, Cheryl, Greg Anderson, Gus Augustson, Eli Belser, Betty Buchholz, Jonah Burns and Burns family, Deb Dennler, Wayne and Kim Frentress; Karen Glesne, Linda Glesne, Ruth Grau, Penny Jacobson; Jerry Koons Ruth Olson, Elaine Radloff, Sharon Reichert, Alice Reimer, Payton Renschler, Father James

NEEDED: *The Church History working group is updating the church's history especially from 2016 to the present. They are asking for help especially with pictures and stories of the parsonage and education unit.*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9 a.m.-noon-----Monday, Wednesday. Thursday

8 a.m.-10:45 a.m.—Tuesday

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Monday: Office hours: 9-noon

5:30 p.m. Council minutes

Tuesday: Office hours: 9-10:45 a.m.

Clergy Text Study: 11 a.m.

Wednesday: Office hours: 9-noon

5:30-6:30 p.m. Bell Choir practice

Thursday: Office hours: 9-noon

BULLETIN DEADLINE 8 a.m.

1:30 p.m. Elkader Care Center worship

5-6:30 p.m. Grace Cafe

Friday: Pastor's Day Off

Saturday: Worship Prep

THANK YOU to Anne Franta for directing the Chancel and Bell Choirs. Today is the last Sunday that Anne will be directing the Chancel Choir. (The Bell Choir will play on May 25th.) You will be missed, Anne!

NEXT SUNDAY is graduation day at Central. Peace will be honoring our graduate, Ella Buckman.