



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We welcome you to Sunday Worship!
April 26, 2026 at 9:30 AM*

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow, and Go Serve

...with God's Love!

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, April 26, 2026 – 9:30 AM

Congregation participation is given in bold.

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

NFC = Now the Feast and Celebration Booklet (Back of Hymnal)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Land Acknowledgment

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole, as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Can you hear the voice of God?

We hear God calling us by name.

Are you troubled or distressed?

We come here to find a place to rest for awhile.

Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

**We come to praise our Shepherding God,
whose pathways and doors lead to life.**

Baptismal Hymn

Borning Cry

ELW 732

Children's Time

Ashley & Gunner Horstman – Parents

Kellen Kravik and Corinne Olson – Sponsors

Presentation for Holy Baptism

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors: *We present Adley for Holy Baptism.*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Parents: *We do.*

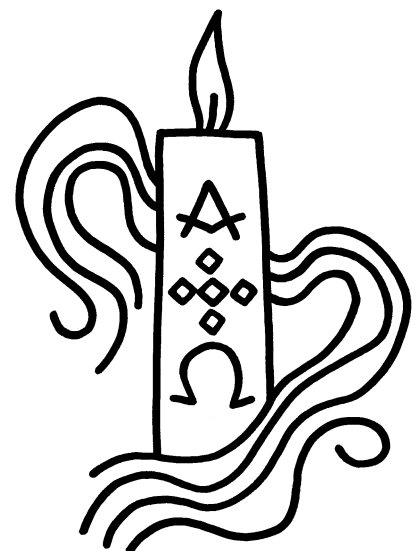
Parental Responsibilities

As you bring Adley to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that she may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Adley grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: *We do.*



Sponsor Responsibilities

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Adley in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: *We do.*

Congregational Responsibilities

People of God, do you promise to support Adley and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

Profession of Faith

I ask you all to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. In the river Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy Baptism of Adley

Adley Ann Horstman, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Let us pray: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Adley with the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

Sign of the Cross

Adley, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit, and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Welcome

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven!

Let us welcome the newly baptized:

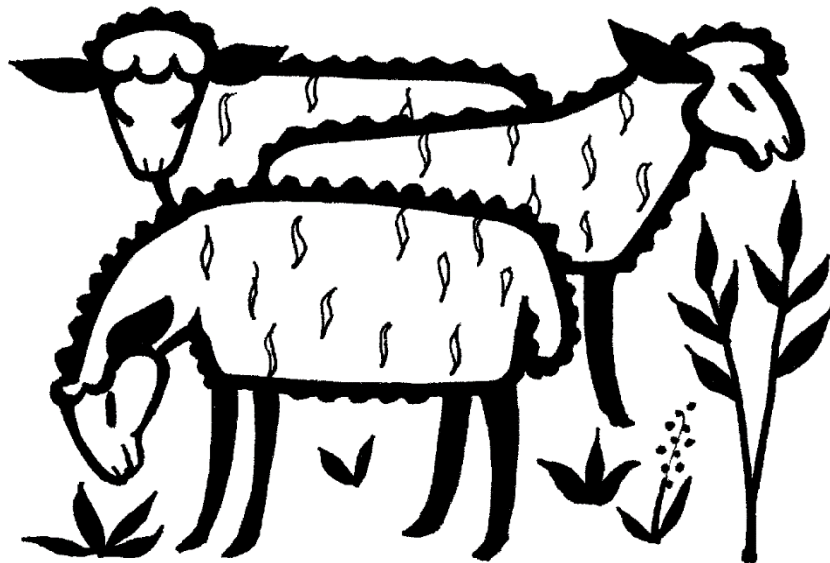
We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world!

Hymn of Praise – Now the Feast

NFC p. 4

Prayer of the Day

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning with the forty-second verse.

⁴² The baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 23

A responsive reading of Psalm twenty-three.

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

² **He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

Gospel Acclamation

NFC p. 8

Gospel

John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to John, the tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 764

Volunteer Appreciation and Prayer

Stoughton Clothing Center volunteers are invited forward as certificates of gratitude are presented.

It is not only what you do,
but how you connect and love
that can transform a role or task
into a gift from God.

God bless your showing up
and the details of your doing.

God bless your willingness
to fail and learn from the process.

God bless your humility and humor
in the heart of what you do best.

God bless your duty and joy
for this community and impact.

God bless your candor
about what really matters to you.

God bless your flexibility
about the details and outcome alike.

God bless your observations
about who else might be invited to help.

God bless your stepping back
so another can participate more fully.

God bless your openness
to a process of becoming together.

For these are the gifts of God.

And so are you.

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings: our table is richly furnished, our closet and tubs overflow. Bless

the hands and hearts of all who volunteer in the Stoughton Clothing Center. Grant us wisdom and joy in using your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured. Especially...

Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Exchange of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

Announcements

Offering and Offering Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

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,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

NFC p. 11

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God

NFC p. 14

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

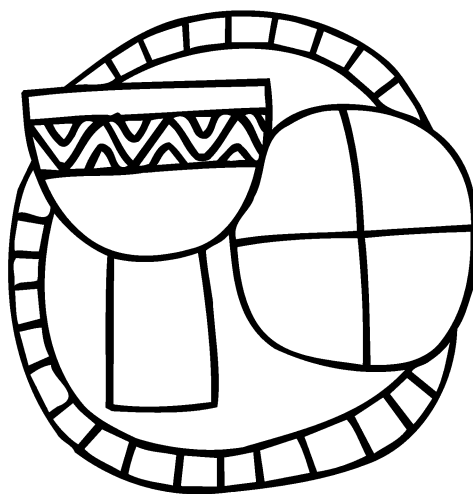
ELW 492

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**



SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

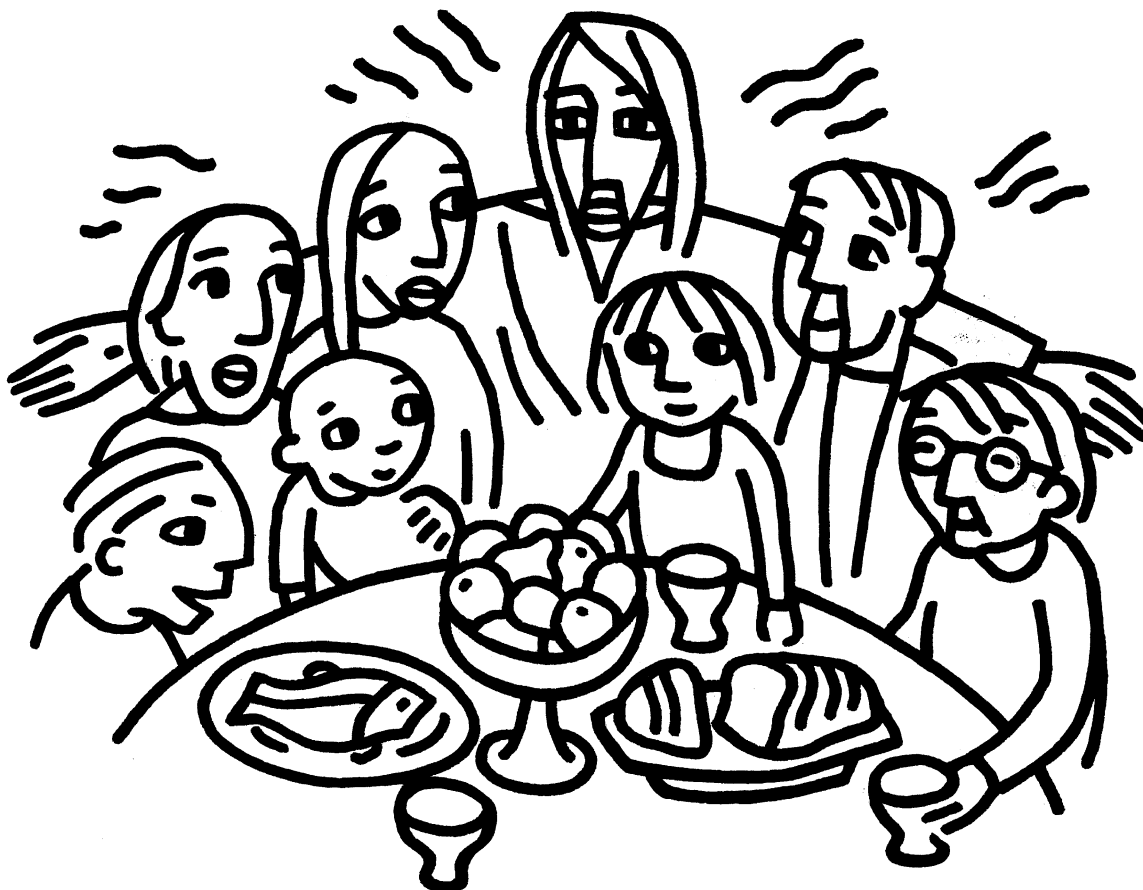
Sending Hymn *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

ELW 774

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Announcements:

- ✝ **Adley has been baptized! Thanks be to God!**
- ✝ **Red Cross Blood Drive** here tomorrow from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM—Walk-ins welcome
- ✝ **Education Team** meets this Tuesday at 6:00 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets this Tuesday at 7:00 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **Bible Study** is on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **Last Confirmation** class of the season is on Wednesday at 6:30 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **Confirmation Sunday** is next week, May 3, with worship at 9:30 AM, like usual
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch** will meet Wed, May 6, 11:30 AM at Deaks RSVP: Marijo (608) 873-0622

Pastor: *Pastor Wendy Moen* **Acolyte:** *Brayden*
Assistant Minister: *Deb Oakland* **Lector:** *George Craig*
Greeter: *Carol Pritchard*
Communion Worship Assistants: *Deb Oakland, Bill Cook, and Karen Hanson Cook*
Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper*
Ushers: *Thomas Chose, Jack Cope, and Peder Melhuse*
Sound/projection: *Jude Surrell*
Altar Guild: *Kirsten Almo & Larry Beck*
Communion Prep: *Wagner Family*
Fellowship Hosts: *Chose Family & Tamarine Westrand*
Altar Flowers: *Tom & Philayne Chose for their 55th Anniversary*

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