

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US: We hope you will find the service meaningful and our fellowship friendly. If you are a guest, please sign the guest book in the narthex.

All who seek the living presence of Jesus in their lives are welcome at the Lord's table.

Children who do not yet receive communion may come to receive a blessing.

Grape juice fills the center cups of each tray.

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER Rev. Emma Grinde
ACOLYTE AT MINDORO Ellie Sawyer
LECTORS Dave/Becky Whalen, Erin, Emmitt, and Aurora
ORGANIST Sharon Pfaff
AV VOLUNTEERS Jason Knipe, Russell Van Riper
..... Becky Whalen, Lara Hines, Kay Pfaff, Crystal Sbraggia
HEAD USHERS Jerome Nelson, Russell Van Riper, Dave Whalen
..... Bill Cox
USHERS Kevin & Nikki Christopherson, Rich & Mary Sinclair
COMMUNION HELPERS Rich Anderson, Lara Hines
FELLOWSHIP HOST Jackie Seidel-Garcia, Bill & Rita Cox
COUNTERS Karen Knutson, Becky Whalen, Alice Baumer, Sandy Stetzer

Coffee Fellowship Volunteers Needed at Mindoro Lutheran

If you would like to volunteer, there is a clipboard with a sign up sheet in the Narthex - or call Mona in the church office, 608-857-3474.

Volunteers are needed for all of May.

MINDORO AND LEWIS VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Pastor Emma Grinde: 515-203-1915

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Website: www.mindorolewisvalleychurches.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am to 3pm



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

8:30AM LEWIS VALLEY

10:00AM MINDORO

AND LIVE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGES

Please stand as able at parts marked *

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

We come to worship because we seek to abide in Christ.

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

We come to worship because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

We come to worship because we strive to be faithful disciples.

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God:

May our branches grow, rooted in the vine of Christ.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Merciful One,

you know when we are afraid to love;

you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy.

Remind us again

that perfect love casts out such fears.

Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love,

even in the face of our imperfections.

Fill us with a love so strong,

that we may cast aside our pride

and embrace the power of love.

Forgive us, Merciful One.

God is merciful. God forgives you.

Christ is the vine. We are simply branches.

If we abide in Christ, Christ's words will abide in us.

Amen.

***HYMN *For the Fruit of All Creation* 679**

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.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm 22:25-31 *read responsively*

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your
hearts live forever!**

- April 29 Campus Ministry Cookies to Mindoro Lutheran by 2:30pm
- April 30 Parsonage Team meets, 11:00am
- April 30 Worship Team meets, 3:30pm
- May 1..... Confirmation meets at Mindoro, 6:30pm-7:30pm
- May 3..... Church Office will be closed
- May 5..... Honors Sunday at both worships
- May 5..... Worship at Lewis Valley, 8:30am
- May 5..... Joint Sunday School at Mindoro, 9:00am
- May 5..... Worship at Mindoro, 10:00am
- May 6 Men’s Breakfast at Top Dawg’s, 8:00am
- May 8 Confirmation 7th & 8th graders & their families Banquet of Honor at
..... Mindoro, 6:30pm-7:30pm
- May 12 Worship at Lewis Valley, 8:30am
- May 12 It Sunday School at Mindoro (last day for this school year), 9:00am
- May 12 Sunday School sings at Mindoro’s Worship, 10:00am
- May 12 Confirmation Sunday at Mindoro’s Worship, 10:00am
- May 13 Councils meet at Lewis Valley, 6:30pm

We give thanks for all that Lewis Valley Custodian Jane Worman has done over the last 14 months! Her last day is 4/30. Thank you Jane!

We have just hired a new custodian, Nicole Tracey, and her first day will be 5/1. Thank you to the Lewis Valley Property Team and the Lewis Valley members of the joint M&LV Staff Support Team for their work in this hiring process.

Graduate Recognition Sunday is May 19, 2024.

Please let the church office know if you or a family member that is a member of Lewis Valley or Mindoro Lutheran will be graduating from High School, Tech School, Apprenticeship, University this Spring, or any higher education - or last December.

**MAY 19TH IS ALSO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF MINDORO’S
NEW ADDITION DEDICATION**

Sunday 05/19/2024, during worship at Mindoro, we will be remembering the 30-year anniversary of the dedication of the new addition to the church building.

If you have any pictures from the dedication day or the construction of the addition, please send or bring them to the church office so we can share them.

Last Sunday was Noisy Offering Sunday.

Our Noisy Offering last Sunday went to Holmen's Hope.

\$48.00 was collected at Lewis Valley and \$30.84 was collected at

Mindoro, totaling \$78.84.

WATER PROJECT FUNDRAISER

Each year for Synod Assembly all the congregations in the La Crosse Area Synod raise funds for the same project. You may remember a few years back the cow project where each congregation was challenged to raise enough funds to buy 1 cow through ELCA Good Gifts for people in

need around the world. Last year we took socks and underwear for local clothing closets. This year each congregation is raising funds for water projects around the world: wells, irrigation systems, latrines, and water filters. There is a metal bucket at each congregation with envelopes hanging above it. To participate, grab an envelope and fill it with the cash or check amount specified on the envelope. Drop the envelope in the bucket or in the offering plate to donate to this project.



We'll be having a friendly competition between Lewis Valley and Mindoro Lutheran Churches. Each week between now and June 2, we'll have running totals in the bulletin to see which congregation wins bragging rights for raising the most money!

PROPERTY SIGN-OUT FORMS FOR MINDORO LUTHERAN

Just a reminder that we have Property Sign-Out Forms to fill out when you are borrowing items from Mindoro Lutheran. If Mona isn't in the office to give you a form to fill out and leave with her, there are blank forms in the basement that you can fill out and leave on the kitchen counter. The blank forms are hanging on the outside door (on the inside of it) into the basement.

Please note that Lewis Valley doesn't lend items; all items must stay in the church/on the church grounds.

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before
the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Alleluia*.....page 151

* The holy gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

* John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

* The gospel of the Lord.

* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Rev. Emma Grinde

* HYMN.....*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*..... **708**

* APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Lord, we lay before you all of our needs and joys...we especially lift up in prayer today: **Gene Amann; Jack Card as he is in the hospital recovering from pneumonia; Louie Christopherson; in celebration with Great-Grandpa Bill & Great-Grandma Rita Cox on the birth of their first great-grandchild Thatcher Hazen Guy; Carol Dobbs; Mike Dobbs; Lori Ernstes; Emma Goodenough as she recovers from surgery; in celebration with Pastor Emma & Heather on their wedding last Sunday; Lori Hudson; Mary Kastenschmidt; Bob Kean; Brian Koss; Ila Krueger; Jim & Paula Maki; Diana Mikkelson; Rusty Opland; Ben Pfaff; Mary Christina Pfaff; Christopher Phillips; John & Dawn Pierce & family; Chuck Pietscher; Amelia Pike's mom; Jeff Severson; Brian Sinotte; Monroe Skotak; Nancy Spangler; Gary "Jingles" Stetzer; Laurie Strano; Sam Tracey; Russell Van Riper; Gary Wortman; Heather Young; our healthcare workers; our military men & women; Family & Friends of Dale Lockington; and Family & Friends of Gary Gilbertson.** Today we also lift up all of our home and nursing home bound, especially **Audrey Baker, Joan Danielson, Bob Everitt, Grace Kastenschmidt, Gail Kirchner, Ruby Knudson, Audrey Mades, Yvonne Meyer, Ron & Mary Phillips, Chauncey & Mary Stetzer, and Eloise Thum.**

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
You may choose to share the peace with a handshake, wave, peace sign, or touching elbows. In the midst of cold and flu season, and always, you are encouraged to share the peace in whatever way is most comfortable for you.

OFFERING

* OFFERTORY HYMN*Give Thanks*screen

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

* GREAT THANKSGIVINGpage 152

* PREFACE.....Pastor Emma Grinde

* SANCTUS *Holy, holy, holy Lord*page 153

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* THE 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

* HYMN.....*Just As I Am, without One Plea* v. 1 & 4..... 592

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

* SENDING HYMN.....*I Know That My Redeemer Lives!* v. 1 & 2 619

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

*BLESSING.....*Go Now in Peace*Pastor Emma

* POSTLUDE

Call to Worship by Joanna Harader, Confession and Forgiveness adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012, © 2011 Abingdon Press, Prayers of Intercession by Rev MaryAnn Rennie