

SATURDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE
MARCH 28, 2026
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: Pastor White will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People. This evening's service includes Holy Communion. Please make sure you have a communion cup.

Tonight's Joyful Noise benefits the SpikeK9 Fund. This organization takes care of dogs that are working in the field and supplies care when they are injured.

GATHERING

Gathering Words

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

The Lord is our shepherd.

We are Christ's sheep.

The shepherd shelters us in green pastures.

In Christ, we dwell secure.

The shepherd nourishes us and restores our souls.

Christ is our shepherd and gate to the Most High.



Moved by the Holy Spirit, we share our gifts by scanning the QR code.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray together: **Loving Shepherd, you call us as your own. When danger is close at hand, you gather us to yourself, that we might dwell secure. When evil surrounds us, you give us a home and a safe place to rest. When foes threaten our fellowship, you rescue us from peril. Restore our souls, Gentle Savior, and lead us in the paths of righteousness, that we may walk in the ways of goodness and mercy, all the days of our lives. Amen.**

Gathering song: "Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us" – Leigh Nash

Welcome: Pastor Cindy White

Sharing of Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Godsightings:

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD (John 10:1-10)

Gospel reading

Holy God, may we taste and see the good things you are doing in our lives.

May the words we hear inspire us to be your faithful followers.

Amen.

“Have Your Way” – Don Moen

A reading from John: **10** “Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. **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 listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **4** When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. **5** But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” **6** Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

7 Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. **8** All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. **9** I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.^[a] They will come in and go out, and find pasture. **10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ!

Today’s message – Pastor Cindy White

Praise & Prayer

The Offering Moment

“Doxology” – The Vagle Brothers

Let us pray together: **Shepherd of our souls, we thank you for the love that flows through our lives. May this love flow through these gifts, that no one may be in need.**

Work through this offering and through our very lives, that your community of love may be established here on earth for all the sheep of your fold. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Here at the table, we see most clearly that we are part of the body of Christ. We are no longer divided into people of different ages, different ideas, different backgrounds, different gifts.

Here unique individuals become a single body, made richer for the multitude of gifts shared. Here, we feast on one bread and one cup, and become one body in service to the world.

The preparation – Please remain seated

God be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

We offer our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, O God, for you are the Ground of our being, in whom we live and move. At the beginning you created the galaxies and planets, our sun, the earth and moon, plants and animals, individuals and nations, every substance and spirit.

You gave us your creative spirit to make friendships and families, art and music, love and compassion.

You gave us power to acquire the secrets of our mother earth, to honor her and care for her, as she cares for us. And so we join with all the creation that praises you, in every time and place.

God of eternity, spirit and matter all express your splendor.

We take this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Spirit we who eat and drink them may know a closer experience of your presence. On the night before Jesus died, he shared food with his disciples. He took

bread, blessed and broke it, and giving it to them said: "Take and eat, this is my body which is given for you and for many. Do this to remember me," He took wine, blessed it, and giving it to them said: "Drink this all of you. This is my blood which is shed for you and for many; do this to remember me".

To God be glory forever. Amen.

We who are many are one body

For we all share in the one bread

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us receive this Holy Sacrament remembering that Jesus died for us, and hold him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Distribution

For those of you worshiping at home

Please take the host

(Pause)

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen

(Pause)

Please take the cup

(Pause)

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen

(Invite the in-person people forward for Communion)

Post-Communion prayer

Loving God, you have created all humanity in your image and likeness, and have revealed your plan and purpose in calling us your beloved.

We commit ourselves to you.

As we have shared this holy meal, inspire our hearts to see every man, woman and child given the dignity and value which is your purpose and your gift.

We commit ourselves to you. Amen.

Prayers of the People

God calls us to be a praying people. Let us join in prayer, offering our praise, thanksgiving, and concerns to God ...

Lord in your mercy ...

Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Spoken

Now together, let us join the countless numbers across the centuries who have prayed as our Lord instructed us to pray. . . “Our Father ..”

The sending

Announcements

Benediction

And now let us close with these words The Lord is our shepherd. We shall not want. In pastures green, we rest secure. By still waters, we rest secure. Go with the blessings of our shepherd.

And all God's people say

Thanks be to God.

Sending song: “Shepherd Me, O God” – Marty Haugen

Postlude

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.