Easter Sunday Vigil / Sunrise Service

5 April 2026



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA)

118 East Mason Street
Lena, IL 61048

(815) 369-5552

goodshepherdlena@outlook.com

Pastor: Thomas Mosbo

SERVICE OF LIGHT-ELW page 266

* Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

P: Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy morning when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water, bread and wine, we proclaim his death and resurrection, share his triumph over sin and death, and await his coming again in glory.

The Paschal Candle is lit.

P: Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ
you have given the light of life to all the world.
Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth
with the brightness of Christ's rising,
until we feast at the banquet of eternal light;
through the Sun of Righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: The light of Christ, rising in glory,
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

* Easter Proclamation

P: Rejoice now, all heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ is risen!
Celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation;
and for so great a victory, sound the trumpet of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your king!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes forever.

Rejoice, O holy church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people.

The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that with full devotion of heart, and mind, and voice
we should praise the invisible God, the Father Almighty,
and his only Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ;
who by his precious blood, redeemed us
from bondage to the ancient sin.
For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain,
by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This was the night in which, in ancient times,
you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel,
and led them, dry-shod, through the sea.

This is the morning in which all who believe in Christ
are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin,
are renewed in grace and holiness, by the rising brightness.

This is the morning in which, breaking the chains of death,
Christ arises from death in triumph.

O morn truly blessed, which alone was worthy
to know the time and the hour wherein Christ arose again from death!

O morn truly blessed in which heaven and earth are joined -
things human and things divine.

We, therefore, pray to you, O Lord, that he
in whose honour this candle burns,
will continue to vanquish the darkness of the night
and faithfully shed light on all the human race;
through the same Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

* Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence.

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and kindle us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD-ELW page 269

1st Reading: *Genesis 1:1 – 2:2*

L: A reading from Genesis…

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of him who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

2nd Reading: *Exodus 14:10-31*

L: A reading from Exodus…

P: Let us pray.

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham and may rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

3rd Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-11*

L: A reading from the prophet Isaiah…

P: Let us pray.

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

4th Reading: *Romans 6:3-11*

L: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans…

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn # 365: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Gospel: *John 20:1-18*

P: The holy Gospel according to John.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

P: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

SERVICE OF AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM-ELW page 234

P: We who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Let us therefore affirm our baptism into Christ.

Water may be poured into the font.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.
C: Amen.

P: I ask all of you, then, to affirm your baptism, 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?
C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?
C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
C: 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 again to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
C: 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.

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ
through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth,
cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.
Stir up in your people 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.

C: Amen.

Hymn # 367: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.