

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



JOB 19:1-27 AND JOHN 10:1-10

"The Good Shepherd 2026"

**ANTE COMMUNION
4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
APRIL 26, 2026**

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION**

*BOLD indicates congregational responses - * Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

GATHER

PRELUDE

"Praise"

W.G. Alcock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery; you shall have no other gods.**
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.**
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.**
- 4. Honor your father and mother.**
- 5. You shall not murder.**
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 7. You shall not steal.**
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).**

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:28-31

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

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.

***THE KYRIE**

Mark 10:47, pg. 147

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

***GLORY TO GOD**

Luke 2:14, John 1:29, pg. 148

AM: Glory to God in the highest; and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

C: 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

MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All who want to come forward for the Message are welcome to do so.

- ¹ Then Job answered:
- ² “How long will you torment me
and break me in pieces with words?
- ³ These ten times you have cast reproach upon me;
are you not ashamed to wrong me?
- ⁴ And even if it is true that I have erred,
my error remains with me.
- ⁵ If indeed you magnify yourselves against me
and make my humiliation an argument against me,
- ⁶ know then that God has put me in the wrong
and closed his net around me.
- ⁷ Even when I cry out, ‘Violence!’ I am not answered;
I call aloud, but there is no justice.
- ⁸ He has walled up my way so that I cannot pass,
and he has set darkness upon my paths.
- ⁹ He has stripped my glory from me
and taken the crown from my head.
- ¹⁰ He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone;
he has uprooted my hope like a tree.
- ¹¹ He has kindled his wrath against me
and counts me as his adversary.
- ¹² His troops come on together;
they have thrown up siegeworks against me
and encamp around my tent.
- ¹³ “He has put my family far from me,
and my acquaintances are wholly estranged from me.
- ¹⁴ My relatives and my close friends have failed me;
¹⁵ the guests in my house have forgotten me;
my female servants count me as a stranger;
I have become an alien in their eyes.
- ¹⁶ I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer;
I must myself plead with him.
- ¹⁷ My breath is repulsive to my wife;
I am loathsome to my own family.
- ¹⁸ Even young children despise me;
when I rise, they talk against me.
- ¹⁹ All my intimate friends abhor me,
and those whom I love have turned against me.
- ²⁰ My bones cling to my skin and to my flesh,
and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.
- ²¹ Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends,
for the hand of God has touched me!
- ²² Why do you, like God, pursue me,
never satisfied with my flesh?

23 “O that my words were written down!
 O that they were inscribed in a book!
 24 O that with an iron pen and with lead
 they were engraved on a rock forever!
 25 **For I know that my vindicator lives**
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
 26 **and after my skin has been destroyed,**
then in my flesh I shall see God,
 27 whom I shall see on my side,
 and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
 My heart faints within me!

L: The Word of the Lord.

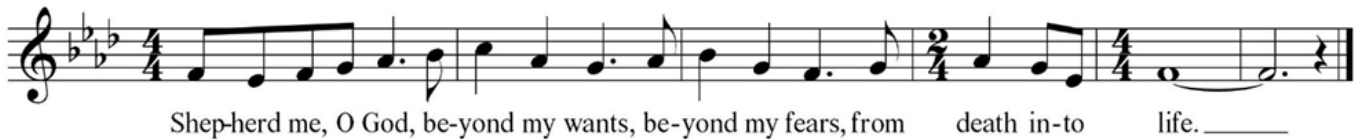
C: **Thanks be to God.**

STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. Memory verse is in bold.

Creation : Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : Judges: **Kings and Prophets** : Exile :
 Restoration : 2nd Temple : **JESUS** : +Apostles : Last Day : New Creation

PSALM 23



Text: Para. by Marty Haugen
 Tune: Marty Haugen
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God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
 I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
 I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Refrain

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
 You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
 My spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Refrain

Though I should wander the valley of death,
 I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
 Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Refrain

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
 Crowning me with love beyond my power to hold

Refrain

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
All the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God for evermore.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 2:19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 6:68

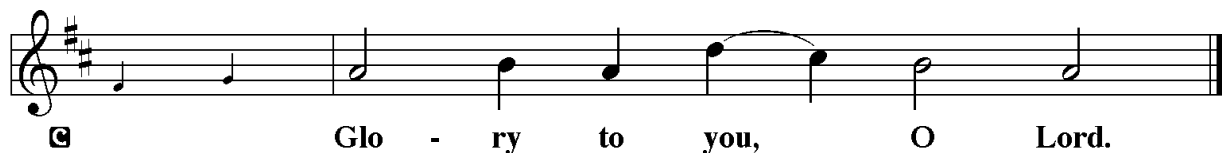
Alleluia. Lord to who shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

***GOSPEL**

JOHN 10:1-10

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

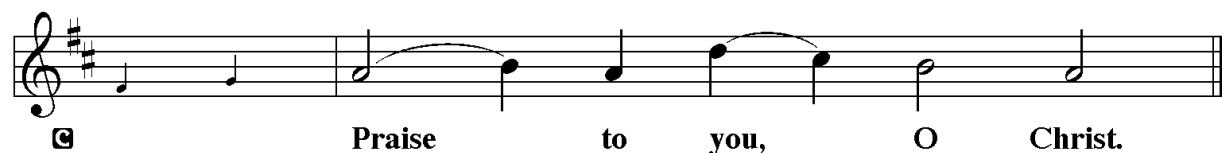
Response after the announcement:



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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“The Good Shepherd 2026”

Living in the Broken World – A Story of Suffering Job

The Risen Jesus is Our Good Shepherd

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: I want to go my way and follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd. How stupid am I?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: The Good Shepherd, the risen Jesus Christ, guides us through brokenness to true peace and wholeness.

So What?/Plain Sense: Put Psalm 23 in your heart. Listen to Him day by day in the Word, prayer, and in good Christian fellowship you trust.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

ELW #778

*THE APOSTLES’ CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and

sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body

and the life + everlasting. Amen.

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Philippians 4:7

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

“God is My Shepherd”

Kerry Pryor

***OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalm 51:10-1

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(In Unison)

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

AM: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

ELW #883

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.



In Honor &
MEMORY 

OUR ALTAR FLOWERS: Given by Steve and Susan Jackson for their 58th Wedding Anniversary to the Glory of God.

Serving the
CHURCH 

- Ministers.....People of Lutheran Chapel
- Pastor.....Michael Comer
- Administrative Assistant.....Susan Hibsich
- Director of Music Ministries.....Kathie Riebe
- Choir Accompanist.....Anna Gilreath
- Assistant Minister.....Jeanette Myers
- Acolyte.....Renwick Royston
- Lector.....Kailey Perkins
- Crucifer.....Jordan Hoffman
- Head Ushers.....Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
- First Aid/AED/CPR.....Ervin Hoffman
- Council Members of the Month.....David Zibell and Jenny Williamson

Upcoming EVENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION: If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE: This QR code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



HICKORY CRAWDADS BASEBALL OUTING: Join us on **Friday, June 5th at 7:00 pm**. Price includes all-you-can-eat picnic and tickets to the game for \$34.00. Make checks payable to Hickory Crawdads. Please return forms no later than June 1st.

LOVE OFFERING FOR APRIL: Our love offering for April is the Lutheran Services Carolinas, a faith-based health and human resources organization serving children, families and seniors in the Carolinas. They serve in **Gaston County** through adoption, adult residential services, child and youth residential services, disaster preparedness and response, family counseling, foster care and homelessness prevention, refugee and resettlement and immigration, and veterans services.

CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES: Please remember that we will continue to collect food for the Crisis Assistance Ministry throughout the year. You may place food in the blue collection box in the hallway near our fellowship hall and in the CAM basket in the narthex of the sanctuary. The Social Ministry team will deliver to CAM when the box is full – so keep us busy! Thank you so much!

Weekly **CALENDAR**



Sunday, April 26

- 8:30 am Fellowship
- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 am Table Talks (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
- 4-6 pm Life in Christ Lutheran Mission (Chosen Mission)
- 8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, April 27

- 8:30 am Preschool

Tuesday, April 28

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday
- 4-6 pm Gaston Gators (Family Life Center)
- 5:30 pm Chapel Ringers (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, April 29

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 7:00 pm Evening Suffrages, The Chosen (Chapel)

Thursday, April 30

- 8:30 am Preschool

Friday, May 1

- 9:00 am Men's Community Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, May 2

- 9:30 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)

Let's PRAY

DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Sunrise, noon, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1, 55:17*). *May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.*

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 17 April 26 to May 3, 2026. Read the whole Bible.

- 04/26 Morning Reading: Luke 19:1-27—Evening Reading: 2 Samuel 23, 24
- 04/27 Morning Reading: Luke 19:28-48—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 1, 2
- 04/28 Morning Reading: Luke 20:1-26—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 3, 4, 5
- 04/29 Morning Reading: Luke 20:27-47—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 6, 7
- 04/30 Morning Reading: Luke 21:1-19—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 8, 9
- 05/01 Morning Reading: Luke 21:20-38—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 10, 11
- 05/02 Morning Reading: Luke 22:1-20—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 12, 13
- 05/03 Morning Reading: Luke 22:21-46—Evening Reading: 1 Kings 14, 15

The Psalter - Prayerbook of the Bible: Psalms for Easter

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	95, 9	95, 16	95, 23	95, 24	95, 47	95, 100	95, 111
Evening	118	145	146	147	148	149	150

Invitatory (with Psalm 95): The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! O come, let us worship Him.

Antiphon for Easter: Alleluia! The Lord has risen. Alleluia! Just as He told you. Alleluia! Alleluia! (Luke 24:34, Mark 16:7)



This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that lists the commemorations and Psalms appointments for the week.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Ann Behringer, Olivia Berghello, Shirley Bradley, Miles Carpenter, Shirley Carpenter, George Cashion, Judy Gault, Baker Hampton, Henry Hoffman, Jason Lineberger, **Pat Robinson**, Pam Thornburg, Fred Ward, and Jenny Williamson.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Susan Anthony, Kathy Bradley, Faye Breedlove, Gage Brown, Deborah Carpenter, Zandra Chavis, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Genniser Devega, Tucker Doyne, Ralph Euchner, Kenny Falls, Jack Fitzgerrel, Jameson Franklin, Les Frye, Carolyn Gantt, Abi Gordon, Jan Green, Jerry Green, Terri Hartsfield, John, Kathy Jenkins, Don Kincaid, Sherry McCart, Betty Parlier, John and Ann Peters, Rita Pasour, Carol Shehan, Jeff Smith, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Judy Turner, Kennedy Williams and For our Nation and Military during Operation Epic Fury.

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

Wednesday, April 29 ~ Vespers and the Chosen

Psalm 106 “*Story of Israel, Our Story Part 2*” and the Chosen “*House of Cards*”

Sunday, May 3 ~ Holy Communion

Psalm 1 and John 14:1-14 - “*The Risen Jesus – the Way, the Truth, and the Life*”

O Christ, Our Hope

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry

might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

The Lord's My Shepherd

1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,

in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;

He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895-1984
 Arr. © Oxford University Press.

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All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy
5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom

Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
aid he did us make. We are his folk, he
joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times
heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the

praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561