



## The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

10 A.M. Worship

*Celebrating the Risen Christ through Acts of Love, Care and Justice*

### THEME OF THE DAY (YEAR A)

*Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.*

#### PRELUDE

*My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*

*Robert A. Hobby*

#### TOLLING THE WORSHIP HOUR

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!  
**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

**(CONTINUED)**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.  
Amen.

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**All People That on Earth Do Dwell**

**ELW #883**

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

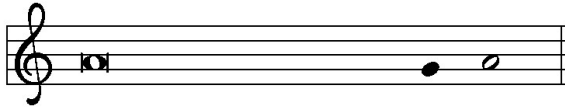
praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - joice.  
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.  
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.  
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.  
an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594  
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

**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.**



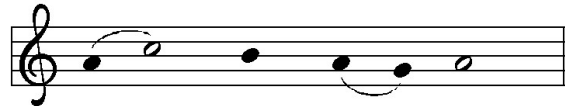
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



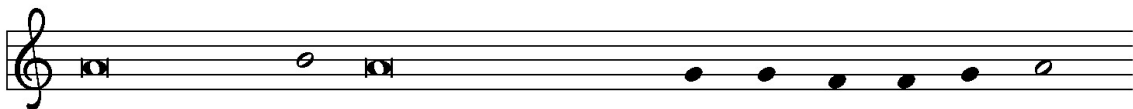
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



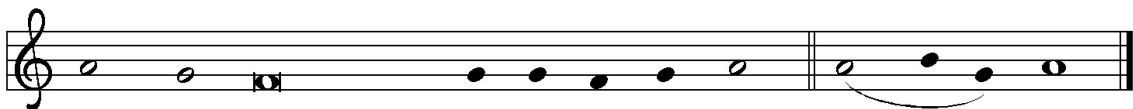
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*Assisting minister*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

*All*



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with You.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray... 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.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON / ANNOUNCEMENTS

# WORD

### FIRST READING

**Acts 2:42-47**

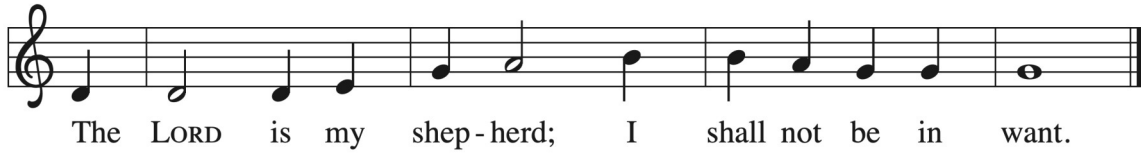
**Pew Bible, pg. 886**

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the

proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> 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, <sup>47</sup> 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.



Psalm 23:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress  
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*(sung responsively)*

- <sup>1</sup>The LORD <sup>|</sup> is my shepherd;  
 I shall not <sup>|</sup> be in want.
- <sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down <sup>|</sup> in green pastures  
 and leads me be- <sup>|</sup> side still waters.**
- <sup>3</sup>You restore my <sup>|</sup> soul, O LORD,  
 and guide me along right pathways <sup>|</sup> for your name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall <sup>|</sup> fear no evil;  
 for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they <sup>|</sup> comfort me. R**
- <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence <sup>|</sup> of my enemies;  
 you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is <sup>|</sup> running over.
- <sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days <sup>|</sup> of my life,  
 and I will dwell in the house of the <sup>|</sup> LORD forever. R**

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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.

<sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin, and no deceit

was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

**ALLELUIA VERSE** (ALL sing)

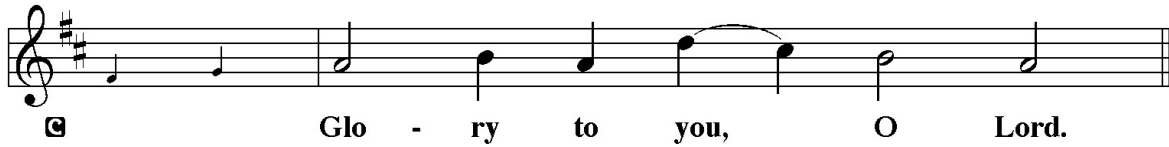
ELW pg. 151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter 10

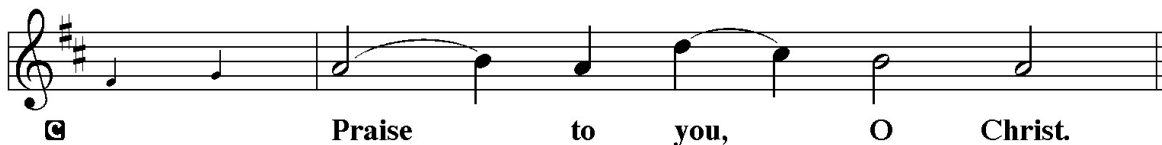


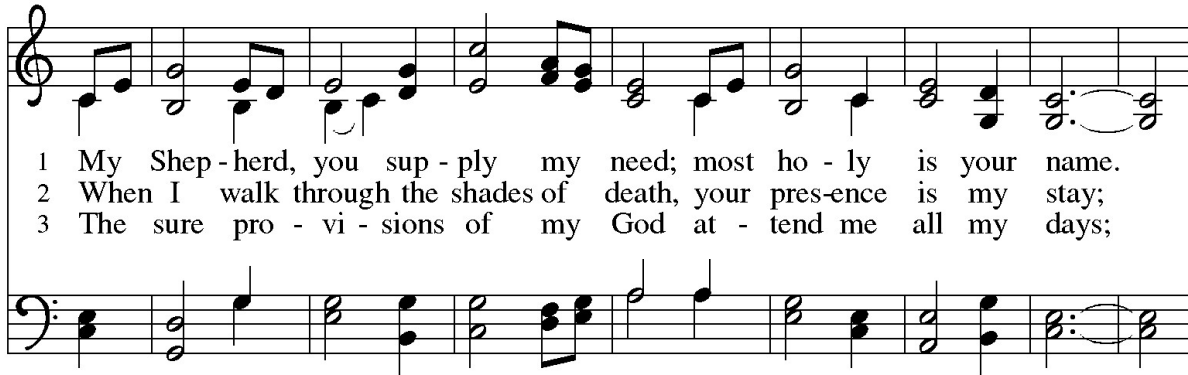
[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the

voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

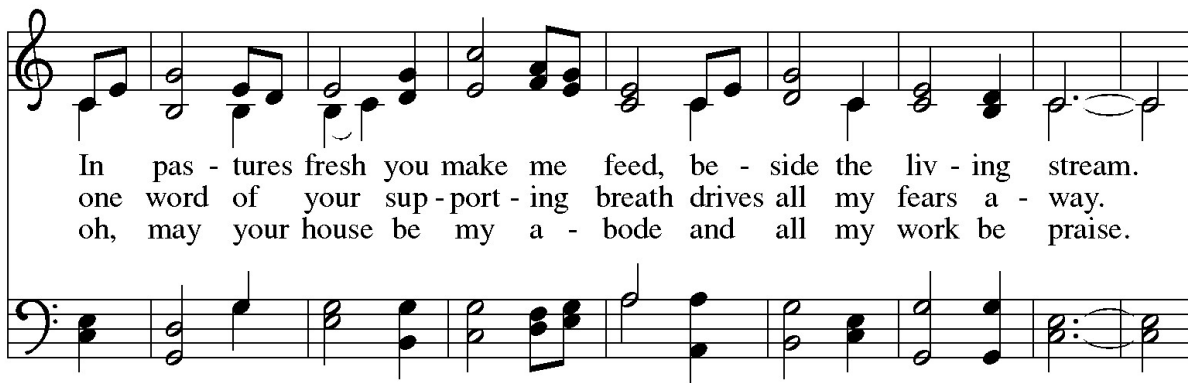
<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.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

The Gospel of Our Lord!





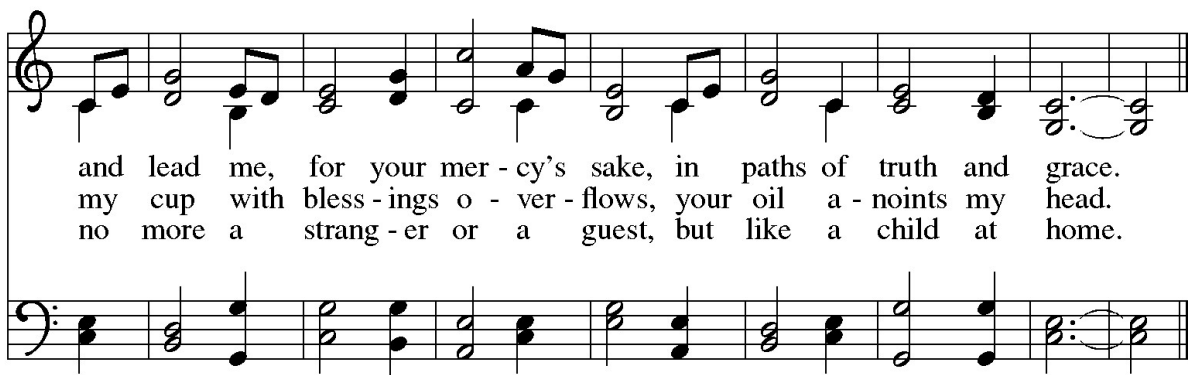
1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.  
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;  
 3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.  
 one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.  
 oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,  
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;  
 Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
 my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.  
 no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.



# MEAL

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

(Chancel Choir)

*They Follow Me*

Leland B. Sateren

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:  
and I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish,  
neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

John 10:27-28

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Scan here to give online.

You may also make your offering via US mail, or at: [give.rlcplano.org](https://give.rlcplano.org),

Thank you!





Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...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.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'.

*"It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn :*

## SANCTUS

ELW pg. 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff has two measures: 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (traditional text)

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.

## LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;  
 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude  
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?  
 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:  
 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.  
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.  
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997  
 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996  
 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

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## TABLE BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...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

## BENEDICTION

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.

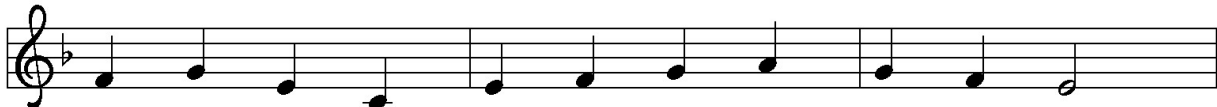
## SENDING HYMN

### Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing

ELW #544



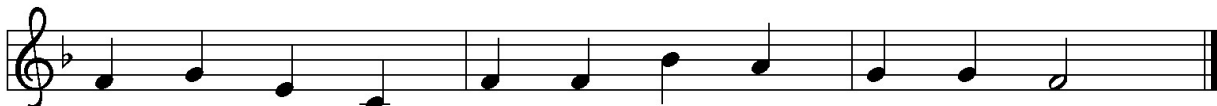
1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -  
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,  
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing; glo - ry be to God on high!  
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;  
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -  
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,  
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.  
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.  
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.  
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.  
Text © Oxford University Press.

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

*The King of Love, My Shepherd Is*

Jim Loeffler



# Resurrection Lutheran Church



## Ministers

Pastor [ext. 115]

Office Administrator [ext. 110]

Director of Children's Ministry and Education [Ext 116]

Director of Youth Ministry [ext. 118]

Director of Worship & Music [ext. 114]

Rev. William Jon Irons [pastorbill@rlcplano.org]

Misti Retan [misti@rlcplano.org]

Betsy Boyd [betsy@rlcplano.org]

Ann Loeffler [ann@rlcplano.org]

Jim Loeffler [jim@rlcplano.org]

## Volunteer Staff & Leadership

Council President

Council Vice President

Council Secretary

Council Treasurer

Liaison for Worship

Liaison for Witness

Liaison for Learn

Liaison for Serve

Liaison for Ancillary Ministries

Liaison for Support / Facility Supervision

Butterfly Editor (Newsletter)

School Supply Project

AM's & Acolyte Coordinator

Altar Guild & Flowers

Kathy Barrett [kwbarret@verizon.net]

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