

Thank you for worshipping with us this day.

If you are visiting with us today, please sign the guest book located in the Narthex.

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### Calendar of Events

Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal  
4/29 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Sun. Holy Communion**

5/3 9:00AM Sunday School  
9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group  
("Images of Christians" - Ambassadors - 2 Corinthians 5:14-21)  
10:00AM Worship Service

Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal  
5/6 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Sun. Mother's Day/Mission Sunday**

5/10 9:00AM Sunday School  
9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group  
("Images of Christians" - Rescuers - Colossians 1: 9-14, 21-23)  
10:00AM Worship Service with Mission Presentation

Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal  
5/13 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thur. (5/14) Ascension Day

Sat. 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport  
5/16 7-10PM Community Hoedown at the Fellowship Hall  
Food and Ice Cream beginning at 5:30

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Acknowledgements:

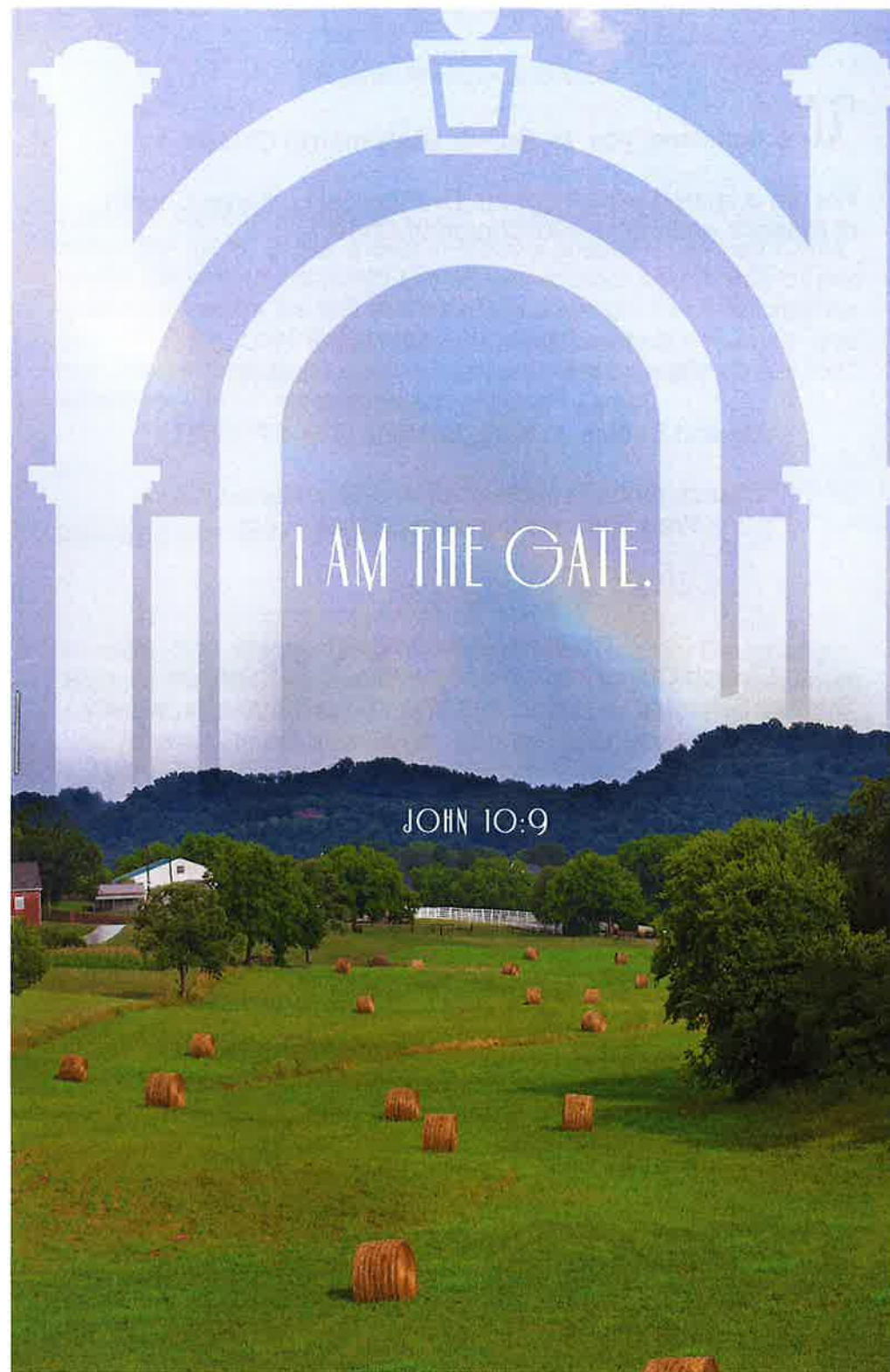
Permission by CCLI license #2391601

The Lutheran book of Worship—Augsburg Publishing, 1978

Book of Worship, United Church of Christ, Office for Church Life and Leadership, 1986

The Worship Sourcebook of CRC Publications, 2004

Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023* (p. 83-84). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.



We welcome you to Salem (Belleman's) Church.

We are a shared ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and the United Church of Christ.

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Rev. Kevin Fruchtl, Pastor  
Oliver Blatt, Director of Music Ministry  
James Fitterling, Administrator  
Joe and Bobbie Jo King, Sextons (484-671-2531)

Church email: [salembellemans@frontiernet.net](mailto:salembellemans@frontiernet.net)  
Web Site: [www.bellemanschurch.org](http://www.bellemanschurch.org)

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Church: 610-926-0461
Church Office: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. and Worship at 10:00 a.m. weekly

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*Children's Bulletins are available in the pink crate in the entrance of the church.*

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Mission Statement:

**With the strength of our combined traditions
We strive to be unified through CHRIST as...
A community that reaches out and welcomes
individuals of various ages and faith
backgrounds... offering a diversity of
opportunities in worship and service... so that
we are spiritually enriched by the power,
promise and presence of the Holy Spirit.**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

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 in the midst of the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

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*Welcome and Announcements*

*Prayers for Healing*

Mark Zipp, Peggy Hartman, Maya Hein, Dorothy Dougherty, Richard Hartman, Richard Bausher, Livia Kiwak, Sindy Bachman, Robert Elliott, Shirley Felix, Mathew Machmer, Gene Kemp, Arlene Gilmer, Joan Huey, Audrey Hess, Xavier Shaffer, Larry Blatt, Sophia Moore, Brenda Anderson, Batdorf Family

Note: Please know that not all hospitals notify the church when a parishioner has been admitted. Please make the office or Pastor Kevin aware if anyone from our Belleman's family has been hospitalized. Thank you!

*Military*

Alfred Cross, Bradley Hoppes, John R. Wesner, Phillip Spatz, Cydney Lawrence, CWO2 Josh Linderman, Andrew Cichowicz, J. Michael Fluck, David Peterman, MSgt Kevin Mohn, Nathan P. Stump, Andrew D. Potts, Anthony Butt, Alex Hoffman, Dakotah Dailey, MAJ Michael Kufro, SSgt. Matthew Wurster, Dustin Spatz and all men and women serving our country.

*Prelude*

*\*Gathering Hymn*

- 1. Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us, Much we need Thy ten - der care;  
 - 2. We are Thine; do Thou be - friend us, Be the Guard - ian of our way;  
 3. Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and sin - ful though we be;  
 - 4. Ear - ly let us seek Thy fa - vor; Ear - ly let us do Thy will;

In Thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, For our use Thy folds pre - pare:  
 Keep Thy flock, from sin de - fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray:  
 Thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:  
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, With Thy love our bos - oms fill:

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear, O hear us when we pray;  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to Thee;  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear, O hear us when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to Thee.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

*\*Call to Worship*

Hear Jesus's great truth: I am the gate for the sheep!  
**We recognize this voice. We've heard these words before.**  
 Come in! You belong here! You are safe and cared for here!  
**We recognize the voice of our shepherd.**  
 Follow and find green pastures and still waters!  
**We hear his voice.**  
 I come to give life and give it abundantly.  
**Come one, come all!**

*\* Call to Confession*

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**  
**Loving Savior, Shepherd with the voice we know, be with us when we stray. For we often hear the voices of strangers and follow them to dry pastures and dark valleys. We forget your voice of love and begin to feel small and lost. We fear that we will not have enough to go on, much less have a surplus to offer others. And yet you know us by heart and by name. Call us once again. Restore our souls. Walk ahead of us on the right paths, and we will follow you. Remembering your voice, we pray. Amen.**

*\*Acknowledgment of God's Forgiveness*

Praise the Lord!  
**The Lord's name be praised.**  
 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.**

*Share a sign of God's peace with those around you!  
 (The sharing of hands/hugs are optional.)*

*\*Praise Hymn (Sung)*

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise;  
 Sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
 Sing to God a hymn of praise.  
 He who on the cross as Savior  
 For the world's salvation bled,  
 Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  
 Now is risen from the dead.**

*\*PRAYER OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray...

**Risen Savior, Reliable Shepherd, we hear your voice calling us to follow. We remember our ancient brothers and sisters who gathered in prayer and praise. Today, we too gather in prayer and praise. Enliven us with your resurrection power—a power that frees us from despair. Enliven us with your abundant life. May your living power flow through us in all we are and do! Amen.**

*Proclaiming The Word - Read by Kylee Cammauf*

*SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 2:42–47*

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 by 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: Psalm 23*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;**

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*\*Alleluia (Sung)*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

*\*The Holy Gospel*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th Chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: *John 10:1–10*

Jesus said: "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 the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children's Message*

*Jingle Offering: Relay For Life - Live Long and Prosper Team*

Hymn

1. All hail the power of Je - sus' name, Let an - gels pros - trate fall!  
 2. Crown Him, ye mar - tyrs of your God Who from His al - tar call;  
 3. Sin - ners, whose love 'can ne'er for - get The worm - wood and the gall,  
 4. Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe On this ter - res - trial ball,  
 5. O that with yon - der sa - cred throng We at His feet may fall;

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, And crown Him Lord of all;  
 Ex - tol the Stem of Jes - se's rod, And crown Him Lord of all;  
 Go, spread your tro - phies at His feet, And crown Him Lord of all;  
 To Him all maj - es - ty as - crite, And crown Him Lord of all;  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, And crown Him Lord of all;

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Ex - tol the Stem of Jes - se's rod, And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Go, spread your tro - phies at His feet, And crown Him Lord of all.  
 To Him all ma - jes - ty as - crite, And crown Him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, And crown Him Lord of all. A-MEN.

Sermon

Response to the Word

*\*The Apostles' Creed*

In response to hearing God's word for us, we confess our faith.  
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

Offering

Choir Anthem

*\*Offering Response (Sung)*

**Because He lives, I can face tomorrow!  
 Because He lives, All fear is gone.  
 Because I know He holds the future,  
 And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!**

*\* Pastoral Prayer*

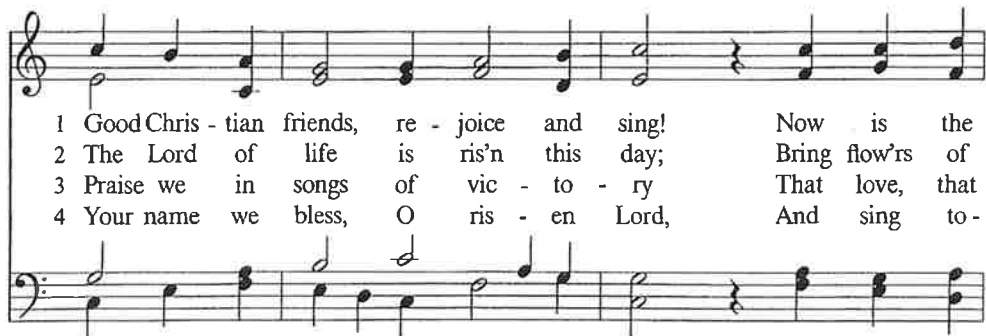
*\*The Lord's Prayer*

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.**

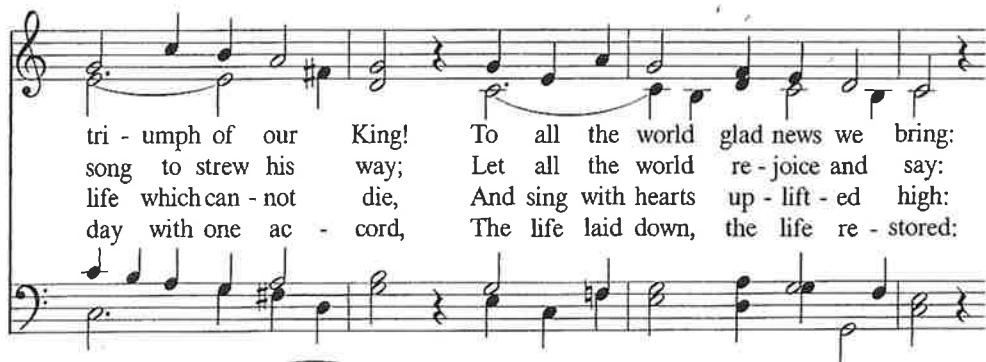
*\*The Benediction*

*\*3-Fold Amen (Sung)*

*\*Sending Hymn*



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the  
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of  
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that  
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to -



tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 song to strew his way; Let all the world re - joice and say:  
 life which can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
 day with one ac - cord, The life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*Postlude*

**Upcoming Events**

**Magic Lantern Show**  
 Presented by  
 Patriotic Order Sons of America and  
 Belleman's Historian, John Rausch  
 Saturday, May 2, 2026  
 Doors Open at 6 p.m.  
 Show begins at 7 p.m.



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Community Hoedown
 Featuring Caller Ken Saul
 Saturday, May 16 at the Hall
 Food and Homemade Ice Cream at 5:30
 p.m.; Hoedown 7-10 p.m.



Join us for the Relay for LIFE of Kutztown & Eastern Berks to benefit the American Cancer Society.

It;s more than a walk. There will be food, drink, raffles, fun activities and the Way Har ice cream trailer.

Has your life been touched by cancer? Consider dedicating a Luminary for a love one, who is a survivor or a loved one lost to cancer. Luminary's are lit at sunset!

Are you a survivor?? you are invited to come at 4 pm for a Cancer Survivor Ceremony followed by a FREE dinner along with other Cancer Survivors.

WHAT.....Hometown Hero's Walk for Cancer
 WHEN.....May 16,2026
 Time.....12 noon to 9pm
 WHERE.....Bower's Park,235 Bower Rd, Mertztown,Pa

For more Information: Ann or Mark Stump -6109263416
 email: mstarduster@aol.com