

# After Easter: A Journey to Pentecost

# THE GREAT COMMISSION

Fourth Sunday of Easter | April 26, 2026 – 11:00 AM

## AS WE GATHER

The Great Commission is a calling that defines the mission of every believer. Before ascending to heaven, Jesus entrusted His disciples with the task of making more disciples, baptizing them, and teaching them to follow His ways. This mission continues today, and we can step into it with confidence, knowing that Jesus, who has all authority in heaven and on earth, is with us always.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE CALL ON THE LORD

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

**C: Amen**

### WE SING

**“Stir Up A Hunger”**

### WE CONFESS OUR SINS

P: Lord Jesus, You call us to follow You,

**C: But we often go our own way.**

P: You want us to learn from You,

**C: But we often turn ourselves away from Your teaching.**

P: You want us to love others as You have loved us,

**C: But we too often fail to even be concerned about how others are doing and focus only on making sure our own wishes are met.**

P: You call us to be Your disciples,

**C: Yet we struggle to learn from You and follow You. Our sinfulness stands in the way. Forgive our sins, Lord Jesus, for the sake of Your life given for us on the cross. Make us new, Lord, and teach us Your ways, that we might walk in Your truth. Amen.**

(Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination)

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

### WE SING

**“The Commission”**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

# WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; <sup>2</sup>look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was but one, and I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; He will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to Me, My people; hear Me, My nation: The law will go out from Me; My justice will become a light to the nations. <sup>5</sup>My righteousness draws near speedily, My salvation is on the way, and My arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to Me and wait in hope for My arm. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But My salvation will last forever, My righteousness will never fail.

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 28:16-20

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

## KIDS' TIME

*DCE Liz Peters*

## MESSAGE

**"Go"**

*Pastor Doug Slavens*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – Apostles' Creed

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

## WE CALL ON GOD'S NAME IN PRAYER

# SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**WE PRAY**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.      **C: And also with you.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD**

**WE SING**      "I Will Go"  
                         "Glory To God Forever"

**COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

**THE CLOSING BLESSING**

**WE SING**      "Use Me Here"

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## OUR OFFERINGS

All that we have and all that we are, belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good!  
We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online [memoriallutheran.net](http://memoriallutheran.net) or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.