



Preparation for Worship: As we approach the throne of grace, O Lord, help us to receive and reflect on all the words you have for us.

Please stand as you are able **Bold Items read in unison*

GATHERING We come together to worship God

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation/Call to Worship: **As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds, of your saving acts all day long.** (Psalm 71:14-15)

Opening Prayer

* Opening Hymn – *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* Red **#582**

Communion Exhortation

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Response:(sung,#205, v. 4) **He sent His Son with pow'r to save, From guilt and dark-ness, and the grave: Won-ders of grace to God be-long; Re-peat His mer-cies in your song.**

Declaration of Grace

Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: Hear our prayer.)

* 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, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall 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.**

* Gloria Patri: (sung, p. 4 for melody) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

Confirmation of Layla Ann Ziegler

Confirmation Hymn – *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* Red **#71**

WORD We seek guidance from God's Word

Acts 2:42-47

New Testament

Psalm 23

Responsive Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

Epistle

*Offertory (sung, p. 33 for melody) **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 unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Children's Sermon

* John 10:1-10

* Gospel

Sermon – *Listening to the Voice of the Shepherd* Pastor Barry

* Hymn – *Come unto Me, Ye Weary* Red **#424**

MEAL The Table of Our Lord

* 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 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.**

Holy Communion – By tables (Layla Ziegler family first)

SENDING We go out to live in & share God's Word

* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Amen.**

* Dismissal L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

A Hymn Mix-Up With a Message

C. Gray Norsworthy, a pastor in Atlanta, once shared a story about the woman who prepared his worship bulletin. She was faithful in her work but didn't have much background in church hymns. One week, Pastor Norsworthy handed her a draft of the service and hoped she could decipher his handwriting.

When he reviewed the finished bulletin, he noticed the final hymn was titled "Just As I Am, Without a Clue."

Whether it's "without a clue" or "without a plea," the truth remains the same: we all come to Jesus just as we are — and we all need him.



This Week in the Parish - April 26 – May 3

SUNDAY 9:00 am Worship at First American w/Holy Communion
9:30 am Hope Sunday School
10:15 am First American Sunday School
10:45 am Worship at Hope with Holy Communion &
Confirmation Sunday

Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – April 19, 2026

First American: General—\$210. Budget per Sunday—\$2068.

Welcome! The welcome mat is out for you! We are happy to have you here today as a partner in prayer, in song and in the hearing of God's word. Please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Barry and sign our guest register as you leave.

Prayer in our corporate worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please send an update to Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off will be in italics.

Health Needs of our Members: Mike Fechner. Allan Hale. Dawsyn Johnston. Bob Kurtz. Robert Kurtz. Norma Mogck. Sue Neumeister.

Health Needs: Mike Brezina (Tripp Community). Gary Frank (friend of Mike & Lila Fechner). Richard Jones (father of Melissa Schmidt). Karalin Lyons (cousin of Katy Brock).

Sympathy: Prayers of comfort for the family & friends of John Sedlacek (brother-in-law of Myra Weber).

AFLC Churches: Grace Free Lutheran, Pelkie, MI; Hope Lutheran, Minneapolis, MN; Victory Free Lutheran, Park River, ND.

Mission: Paul & Becky Abel, AFLC Missionaries in Brazil



Members of First American: We wish to extend our deepest gratitude to all who attended and worshiped with us on our 125th Anniversary. Thank you for the beautiful bouquets. Your thoughtfulness and support are very much appreciated. God's Blessings to you!

Hope Lutheran Congregation

Yes, I can! I cannot end poverty, but I can feed one hungry person. I cannot stop war, but I can offer peace to my neighbor. I cannot prevent death, but I can hold the hand of someone who is dying.

These may seem like small acts, yet they are far harder—and far more meaningful—than any grand plan for social change. Christ reminds us of their worth: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40, NIV).

Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches

Pastor Barry Nelson

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Hope Lutheran Church

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Today's Readings

April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

New Testament

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.**

³ He restores my soul;

He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

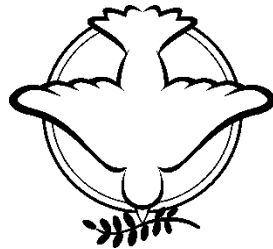
Sermon Text: Gospel

John 10:1-10

"Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 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 listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them. ⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Jesus, keep me near the Cross,
There a precious fountain;
Free to all – a healing stream,
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.
In the Cross, In the Cross, Be my glory ever;
Till my raptured soul shall find,
Rest beyond the river.

*Dear friend,
We rejoice that you now desire
to make public profession
of your faith and assume
greater responsibility in the life of
First American Lutheran Church
and its mission in the world.*



Layla Ann Ziegler

Daughter of Chris Ziegler and Lynette Deglman

Birth date: February 27, 2010

Baptism: December 5, 2010 by Rev. Greg Way

First American Lutheran Church, Tripp, SD

Confirmation: April 26, 2026

First American Lutheran Church, Tripp, SD

Confirmation verse: Luke 15:32

*“But we had to celebrate and be glad,
because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again;
he was lost and is found.”*

John 10:1-10

“Listening to the Voice of Our Shepherd”

April 26, 2026

1. Only Way

2. True Voice

3. Full Life

