Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024 9:30 a.m. Worship



Como Park Lutheran Church

1376 Hoyt Ave W | Saint Paul, MN 55108 (651) 646-7127

www.ComoParkLutheran.org



We welcome all to worship here: those who are strong in faith and those who are seeking, those who are hurting, and those

who give comfort; all who are drawn to worship and faith. We represent a variety of backgrounds, personal orientations, political positions, races and ethnicities. We recognize that we are not of one mind or persuasion on many significant issues, and yet, we gather in Christ to worship God together. If you have questions or need assistance, please ask. If you have concerns, please let us know. We are glad that you are here with us today.

~ The people of Como Park Lutheran Church

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR

will immediately follow the service.

Coffee and light snacks will be served in the Narthex.

This service will be broadcast live on YouTube and recorded for later viewing.

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE

TODAY	$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{p}$	C 1M D .	
TODAY	Pastor Martin Ericson	Congregational Meeting Preview	X7
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04/28/2024 Pastor Martin Ericson Congregational Meeting 05/05/2024 Emma Wagner Lutheran World Relief



Regular - Liturgist **Bold - Congregation**★ - Stand as able



ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Dale Wood

WELCOME, GREETING, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

~ Silence is kept for reflection. ~

Most merciful God,

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.

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.

Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia

ELW 369

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING (2 Corinthians 13:14)

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.



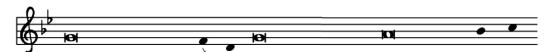
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





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





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

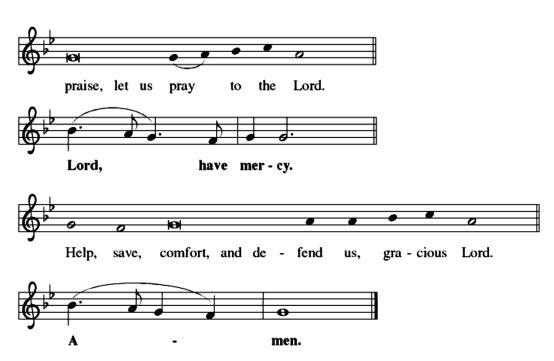


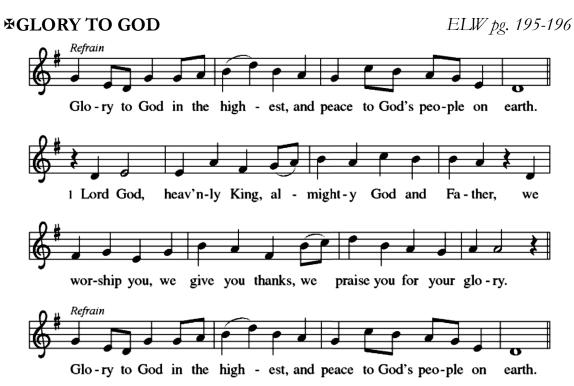
God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and







***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray...

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

₽PSALM 23



¹The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴Though 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.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

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

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

★GOSPEL VERSE

ELW pg. 198



★GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the Tenth Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rebecca Numainville

(Jesus Loves Me! ELW 595)

SERMON

Pastor Martin Ericson

*HYMN OF THE DAY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ELW 502

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

***PRAYERS**

... Lord, in your mercy, ... hear our prayer.

***THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(In sharing God's Peace we share with each other our hope for God's blessing by shaking hands, or turning to one another and nodding, or bumping fists and saying "God's peace be with you.")

THE MEAL

OFFERING

Shepherd Me, O God

Marty Haugen

CPLChoir, Sue Woodhall, flute; Allison Steinmaus, violin; Anna Popp, viola; Max Popp, cello

Electronic offerings can be made using smart phones and tablet devices by going to www.ComoParkLutheran.org and clicking on the "donate" button. You may also use the giving kiosk in the narthex located by the staircase.

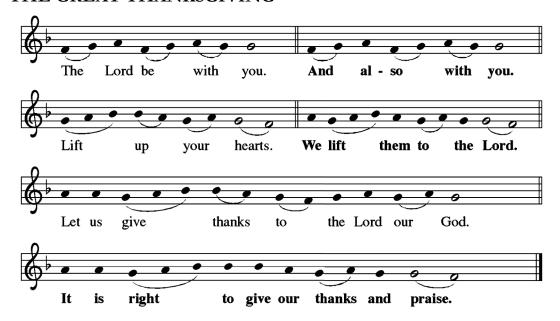


★OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...

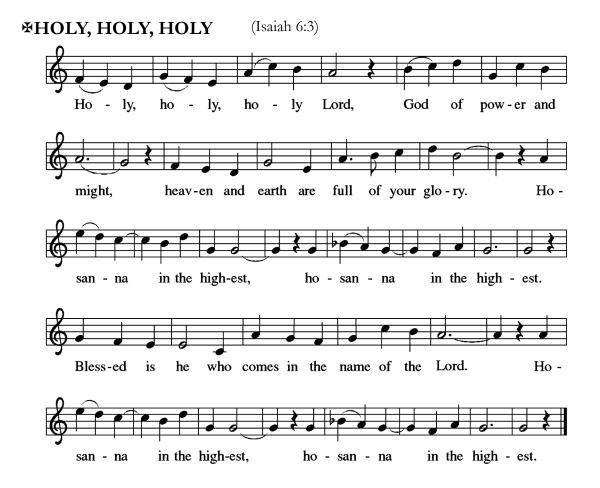
Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



★WORDS OF INSTITUTION (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

In the night in which he was betrayed...

... Do this for the remembrance of me.

(Matthew 6:9-13; Revelation 11:15)

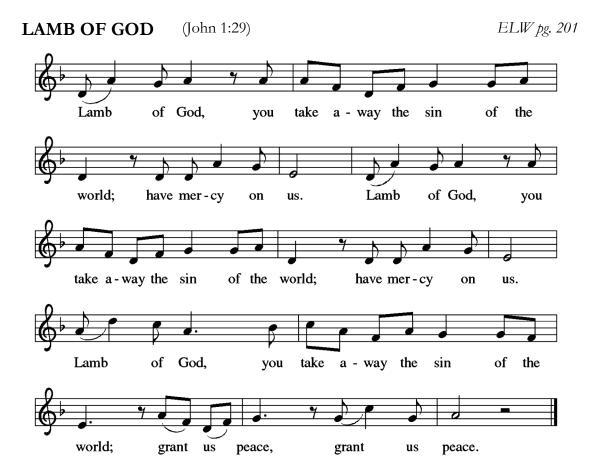
★THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

All who believe Christ is truly present in the sacrament are invited to receive communion. At the server, hold out the flat of your palm to receive the wafer. If you desire gluten-free wafers, simply say to the first server "gluten-free." Then, step to the second server and take the wine in the small cup. The cups hold red wine and grape juice. If you are allergic to grapes, you are free to receive only the bread, knowing that Christ is fully present within each element. Children who do not yet commune will receive a blessing from pastor or first server.



COMMUNION HYMN

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

ELW 484

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his peace.

Amen.

₹POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us, bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal. Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

*BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

ELW 619

Vs. 1-3, 7, 8

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Final from Symphony No. 1

Louis Vierne

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ST. COLUMBA Music: Irish Tune, public domain

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The King of Love My Shepherd Is setting by Dale Wood © 1970 The Sacred Music Press

Shepherd Me, O God by Marty Haugen © 1986 GIA Publications

Finale from Symphony No 1 by Louis Vierne, pubic domain

Please pray for...

Ann L.

Erik M.

Connie P.

Carol S.

Cliff F. (brother of Ginger F.)

J.J. K. (great grandson of Bill H.)

Jeaula M.L. (cousin of Jeanette M.N.)

Cheryl & Jim (quilter & husband)

Joe (friend of Sandra H.)

Nick (nephew of Jim & Margo C.)

Tyler (brother-in-law of Ginger F.)

... and all in need of prayers

Justin K. (friend of Sandra H.)

We welcome names of members, family, and friends on our prayer list.

Serving in the Military

Dane Beecham, Noel Krum, Jonathan Lund, Kristian Nelson ... and all others who serve

We pray regularly for all members and friends of our congregation. This week in worship, we pray for:

Darlene Amlotte
Darrell Anderson
David & Donna Anderson
Pam Ballis
Heidi Banitt
Andrew & Melissa Becker, Claire, Evelyn, Charlotte
Mark & Joann Becker

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Pastor: Martin Ericson

Director of Music Ministry: Tom Ferry

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Date	April 21, 2024	
Time	9:30 AM	
Acolyte	Imogen O'Brien	
Communion Prep	Meg Duncan	
Assisting Minister	Shirley Dingman	
Communion Asst 1	Tom Spivey	
Communion Asst 2	Meg Duncan	
Greeter	Jean Milton	
Coffee Servers	Barbara Reiter	
Children's Sermon	Rebecca Numainville	
Reader	Jeanette Maynard-Nelson	
Liturgist	Ken Purdham	
Ushers	Team 1	
Welcome Desk	Val Negaard	
Bus Helper	Shirley Dingman	
Bus Driver	Lowell Lundy	
Video Tech	Ruth Pechauer	

USHER TEAM

Team 1: Fred Halberg, Sam Schultz, Darrell Anderson



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Talk or think about a time you experienced fear or anxiety.
- · How does Jesus, the Good Shepherd, comfort and protect you during fearful times?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 10:11-18.

The focus in John 10 on being the good shepherd is directly related to Jesus healing the man born blind in John 9. The man born blind was cast out of the synagogue, out of the religious community, out of a protective sheepfold. Jesus as the good shepherd knows us and loves us enough to lay down his life for us. Jesus does not abandon us or cast us out. Unlike the disinterest of a hired hand who runs away when our needs are the greatest, Jesus cares for us as those who need the protection of a shepherd. This is the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has power and he uses that power to care for us and to give us the abundant life, the life overflowing with goodness (John 10:10). All of this power to love, to give us life overflowing with goodness and abundance, comes not from the abusive power of Pharisees, synagogues, or any disinterested individuals or institutions, but from the divine. This is the command that Jesus has received from God and passes on to us, the command to love sacrificially. *Discuss:* When has your life been blessed by the sacrificial love of another?

Pray: Loving God, help us to know that we are not abandoned in our time of need, but blessed with overflowing love through the power and grace of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Amen.

SERVICE &

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you give sacrificially to someone in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Both readings from John 10 and Psalm 23 follow the theme of shepherd. Draw the shape of a sheep on a sheet of paper. Write Jesus in the center of the shape and then words you would use to describe a good shepherd. Think or talk about what the words you wrote mean to you. Finish with prayer using the words from Psalm 23:6 as a reminder of God's comfort: You, LORD, are my shepherd. I will never be in need. Your kindness and love will always be with me each day of my life, and I will live forever in your house, LORD. Amen. (CEV)



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

APRIL 21, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Good Shepherd comes with power to love.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 10:11-18	The Good Shepherd
Monday	Acts 4:5-12	Peter and John before the council
Tuesday	1 John 3:16-24	Love one another
Wednesday	Luke 15:1-7	Parable of the lost sheep
Thursday	Ezekiel 34:11-16	God, the true shepherd
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	The resurrection of Christ
Saturday	Psalm 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. Psalm 23:4 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Shepherding God, we thank you that your care for us is never ending and filled with your abundant goodness and mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Jesus, just as you are with us and protect us each day like a good shepherd, we thank you for feeding us with this food, a sign of your abundant love. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the love of God in Jesus, the Good Shepherd, give you comfort and peace.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 21ST

SPECIAL EVENTS



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON - MAY 9—Join us for lunch on Thursday, May 9th at 12 PM noon in the Fellowship Hall or pick up your lunch to-go at 11:30 AM at the front turnaround entrance. Our menu for this month is Turkey Tetrazzini, French bread, salad, and dessert. Suggested donation is \$10 per meal. Bus services are available; request for a bus ride upon RSVP. Last day to RSVP is Thursday, May 2nd. Contact the church office at 651-646-7127 or office@comoparklutheran.org.

CHURCH DAY CAMP (VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL) - JULY 15-18—Save the date! Kids aged Pre-K through 6th grade are invited to join us from July 15th through July 18th for songs, Bible stories, games, crafts, and more, in partnership with counselors from Camp Onomia. Teens and adults are invited to help as volunteers. Contact osterhouse@comoparklutheran.org.



RECURRING EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2023-2024 - EVERY SUNDAY—Our classes begin immediately **after Sunday worship service on the 3rd floor**. Register your child at no cost. Visit us at: www.comoparklutheran.org/sunday-school



TECH SHADOWS - EVERY SUNDAY—Come sit with us any Sunday during worship service in the sanctuary, and watch the technical side of worship! Find out if you'd like to be a CPLC Tech. Contact Ed Krum at ed.krum01@gmail.com.

FAITH TALK - EVERY TUESDAY—Join us every Tuesday at 9 AM in the Fireside Room as we talk about our faith. Newcomers are welcome. To receive our weekly invitation, email Pastor Marty at ericson@comoparklutheran.org.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - EVERY TUESDAY—Let's make a difference together by making quilts every Tuesday at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. At the end of the year, we donate our quilts to homeless shelters. We always accept & appreciate donations (bed sheets, pillow cases, & materials), which can be dropped off at CPLC. Join us whether you know how to sew or not. Contact Jan Lathrop (janetklathrop@gmail.com).



CONFIRMATION (7-8TH) - EVERY WEDNESDAY—We meet **every Wednesday at 7 PM in the Fireside Room**. Contact Pastor Marty at ericson@comoparklutheran.org.



YOUTH GROUP MEETING (9-12TH) - EVERY WEDNESDAY—We meet every Wednesday at 7 PM in the Youth Room. Contact David Osterhouse at osterhouse@comoparklutheran.org.

BIBLE STUDY - EVERY THURSDAY—Join us **every Thursday at 9 AM in the Fireside Room** as we study the Bible. If you'd like to receive our weekly invitation, email Pastor Marty at ericson@comoparklutheran.org.

WEEKEND MEAL PROGRAM - EVERY END OF WEEK—We are partnered with Every Meal to address child hunger through the Weekend Meal Program. Join us every week as we distribute meal bags for students at Chelsea Heights Elementary School from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM . Contact Sue@comoparklutheran.org. Sign up to volunteer at: www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EA4AE2BA4FA7-backpack2



HOLY COMMUNION—If you would like to receive Holy Communion in your home, please contact Pastor Marty (651-646-7127 Ext. 2202 or ericson@comoparklutheran.org). He is happy to schedule a visit.



BUS SERVICES—If you would like a ride to Sunday worship services, please request for one by contacting the church office at 651-646-7127 or office@comoparklutheran.org.

NURSERY ROOM—Our Nursery Room is available for families with children ages 3 & under. Drop off your children before service, pick them up after service, or join them and enjoy your time in the Nursery Room. The Parents Room is also available.

Please visit the Welcome Desk in the narthex if you have any questions about our facility or upcoming events.

Adult Forums, Membership Classes, Visitations, & General Ministries

Pastor Martin Ericson - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2202 ericson@comoparklutheran.org

Youth Director

David Osterhouse - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2204 osterhouse@comoparklutheran.org

Director of Music Ministries

Tom Ferry - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2209 ferry@comoparklutheran.org

Sunday School Superintendent

Sadie Fischer - 651-208-9283 (c) sadiemeissnerfischer@gmail.com

Nursery

Jessica Vargas - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2219

Groundskeeper, Senior Ministry, & Volunteers Engagement Coordinator

Jonathan Nye - 612-839-2527 (c) jonathan@comoparklutheran.org

Social Ministries

Sue Brogger - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2203 sue@comoparklutheran.org Ruth Pechauer - 651-641-1654 (c) ruthpechauer@gmail.com

Prayer Chain

Mary Ann Schmidt - 720-357-3558 (c) schmidt.m795@gmail.com prayerrequest@comoparklutheran.org

Hunger Ministries, Kitchen, & Events Coordinator

Sue Brogger - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2203 sue@comoparklutheran.org

Finance Comptroller & Trust Fund Donations

David Laden - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2211 laden@comoparklutheran.org

Como Connects/Block Nurse Program

Lisa Kane - 651-642-1127 director@comobnp.org Stephanie Bugner - 651-642-1127 coordinator@comobnp.org Heidi Schultz - 651-642-1127 office@comobnp.org

Living At Home, Inc.

Kristin Rigg - 651-649-0315 kristin@lahnetwork.org

Senior Services Consortium of Ramsey County (Meals on Wheels Ramsey County)

Denise Wickiser - 651-343-6875 (c) denise@mealsonwheels-rc.org

Custodians

Doug Block - 651-646-7127 (Monday-Friday) custodian@comoparklutheran.org Doug Weber - 651-646-7127 (Sunday)

CHURCH OFFICE:

General Information, Office, Communications, & Parish Secretary Malia Lor - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2200

office@comoparklutheran.org