

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Holy Baptism

Holy Communion



"The shepherd," Image by Joseph D'Mello via Flickr, licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0.

April 21, 2024
10:00 a.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
1479 Morse Road + Columbus, OH 43229

"Our mission is to welcome all people in learning, living, and sharing God's grace."

A few notes about worship:

- Ascension strives to be a welcoming and safe place for all. Masks are optional: anyone may choose to wear a mask for any reason. Masks may be found on the back table in the sanctuary.
- Unchanged is our commitment to an excellent virtual worship experience. If you are unable to join in the sanctuary, worship services are streamed live on Facebook. Instructions on how to participate or view later the on-line (with or without a Facebook account) is on our website.
- **There are now three different options for receiving Holy Communion.** You may come forward and receive communion at the front in a continuous fashion (instructions will be given). Or, you may pick up communion elements on the back table as you arrive to commune yourself in the pew at the appropriate time. Or, you may remain in your pew, and communion will be brought to you (please inform the usher).

PLEASE NOTE:

Gluten-free wafers are available. Indicate to Pastor this preference as you come forward.

Grape juice is available: The white cups on the tray are grape juice; the red cups are wine.

- We are glad to have children in worship. We also know that children sometimes need to move and express themselves in ways that the pews don't accommodate. There is a family break room; and you are free to use it as needed. It is located in the back of the sanctuary.

ELW - indicates Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal - in the pew.

ACS - indicates All Creation Sings

W&P - indicates Worship & Praise

WOV - indicates With One Voice - in the pew

Bold print indicates Congregation.

Please rise as you are able at the titles marked with a plus sign - +.

At places where the cross + appears, it is customary to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.

Worship Notes:

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.



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Please like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AscensionLutheranChurch>

✠ Gathering ✠

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude Music

Welcome

+Easter Litany of Praise

A: The risen Christ meets us at the tomb, and turns our tears to joy.
For your love and goodness

C: **we give you thanks, O God.**

A: Christ comes through our locked doors, and turns our fear to courage.
For your love and goodness

C: **we give you thanks, O God.**

A: Christ comes to daily life and work, and turns our failure to new vision.
For your love and goodness

C: **we give you thanks, O God.**

A: Christ breaks the bread, and turns our despair to hope.
For your love and goodness

C: **we give you thanks, O God.**

C Dm G/B C

Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his

F/A G F C/E Dm⁷ C C Dm

pow - er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is

G/B C F/A G

faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is

F C/E Dm⁷ C B \flat /C F/C B \flat /C F C/E Dm⁷ C

love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.

B \flat /C F/C B \flat /C G/C C B \flat /C F/C B \flat /C

Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of praise. Great is the Lord, now

D G E Am Dm G^{sus} G

lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the

Am Am⁷/G Dm G^{sus} G C C^{sus} C

Lord! Great is the Lord!

+Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: This is the day which the Lord has made.

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

+Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

C: **Amen.** *Please be seated.*

✠ Word ✠

God speaks to us in scriptures reading, preaching, and song.

First Lesson

Christ the cornerstone

Acts 4:5-11

A: A reading from Acts.

⁵The next day their 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 Peter and John 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.'

A: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A: A reading from First John.

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 God ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and God knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey the commandments and do what pleases God.

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

A: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalmody

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

Psalm 23

*Read responsively – congregation in **bold print**.*

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴**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.**

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

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

+Gospel Song

“Open Our Eyes, Lord”

W&P 113

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him

Open our ears Lord
And help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C: **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.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon



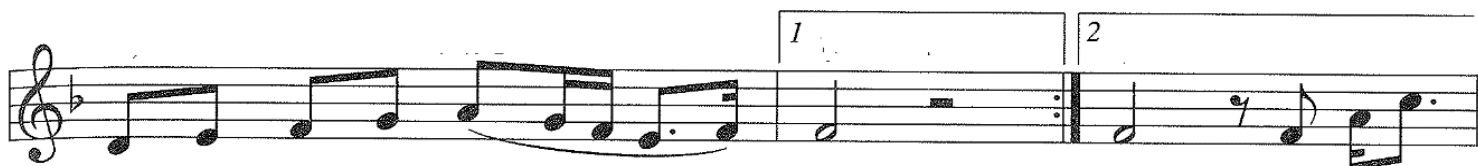
(Please remain seated).



1 Come and see the glo - ry of the Lord. Come, be - hold the
 2 Come and give thanks un - to the Lord. Come, be - hold the



Lamb. Come and see the mer - cy of the King,
 Lamb. Come and sing the prais - es of the King,



bow - ing down be - fore him.
 bow - ing down be - fore him. For he is



Lord a - bove the heav - ens, Lord in all the earth,



Lord of all the an - gels, wor - thy to be served.



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, Lord.

✠ Sacrament of Holy Baptism ✠

with Affirmation of Baptism

Introduction

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Presentation for Baptism

(Sponsor) I present Daniel Hayden Ewald and Adeline Rose Ewald for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

(Parent) I do

As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,
bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that your children may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

(Parent) I do

Do you promise to nurture Daniel and Adeline in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

(Sponsor) I do

Presentation for Affirmation of Baptism

(Congregational Representative) I present Erinn Ewald who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this new sister in Christ,
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.
You have called her to yourself,
Enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished her in the community of faith.
Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.
We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

+Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

(ALL) I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

+Affirmation of Baptism

Erinn, as you affirm your baptism today:

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

(Erinn) : I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God,

do you promise to support Daniel and Adeline who are baptized today,

and Erinn who is making public affirmation of her baptism,

and to pray for this family in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

+Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters

and by your Word you created the world,

calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family,

and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection

you set us free from the power of sin and death

and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word,

that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen. *The congregation may be seated.*

Baptism



Daniel Hayden Ewald / Adeline Rose Ewald I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer and Anointing of the Spirit for the Newly Baptized

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
that through water and the Holy Spirit
you give your daughters and sons new birth,
cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.
Sustain Daniel / Adeline with the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Daniel / Adeline, child of God,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Prayer of the Spirit for the Newly Affirmed in Her Baptism

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth,
cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.
Stir up in Erinn, the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the
spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of
joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Welcome

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me
will have the light of life.

Let us welcome the newly baptized, Daniel and Adeline,
and rejoice with Erinn making public affirmation of her baptism.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Please join in an acclamation of applause to the praise of God!

1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

+Prayers of Intercession

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

A: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins more deeply. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

+Sharing of Christ's Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share with one another Christ's peace, and then be seated.

Offering

An offering will be taken up today and the ushers will come to you; or you may go to www.ascension-columbus.org to give electronically. We give thanks to you for your generosity of spirit.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Offering Prayer

A: Risen One,
 you call us to believe and bear fruit.
 May the gifts that we offer here
 be signs of your abiding love.
 Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
 through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

✕ Meal ✕

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

+Thanksgiving at the Table

God is with you.

And also with you.

Rejoice with full hearts.

We offer them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

+Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C: 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.**

+Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
The gifts of God, for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.



Sharing of the Bread and Cup

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Please see the "Worship Notes" at the front of the bulletin regarding the options to receive communion, plus the options (gluten-free, grape juice...) for communion elements.

Refrain

Seed scattered and sown
 Wheat gathered and grown
 Bread broken and shared as one
 The Living Bread of God
 Vine fruit of the land
 Wine work of our hands
 One cup that is shared by all
 The Living Cup
 The Living Bread of God

Verse 1

Is not the bread we break
 A sharing in our Lord
 Is not the cup we bless
 The Blood of Christ outpoured

Refrain**Verse 2**

The seed which falls on rock
 Will wither and will die
 The seed within good ground
 Will flower and have life

Refrain**Verse 3**

As wheat upon the hills
 Was gathered and was grown
 So may the church of God
 Be gathered into one

Refrain**Blessing at the Table**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A: Shepherding God,
 you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
 Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
 and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: **Amen.**

✠ Sending ✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Ministry Announcements**+Benediction**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
 the Christ of unending joy,
 and the Spirit of Easter hope
 † bless you now and always.

Amen.



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911

Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

+Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

+++

Serving in Worship

Presider and Preacher: Pastor Karen Asmus-Alsnauer

Assisting Minister: Amanda Wiesehan

Organist and Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Ed Duling

CWS Band: Tom Martin (Director and bass), Ed Hinton (drums), Von Smith (guitar), Chris Young (piano).

Ascending Tones Bell Choir: Jan Dahlstrom, Director

Altar Guild: Jan Dahlstrom, Brenda Noe, Peggy Dlusky, Pam Kratzer

Ushers: Alan Dahlstrom, Mike Fitak

Tech Crew: Oscar Kamazima, Joel Kratzer, Dave Holtzapple

Librarian: Martha Gostely

Hospitality: Allan and Cindy Hiscox, Robin Kern, Joyce Heft, Karen Lashley, Sandra Stohr, Sandy Baker, Sara Smith, and Myron Miller.

+++

Upcoming Commemorations

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109

Sunday, April 21, 2024

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.

Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)

Monday, April 22, 2024

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, died 1960

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

Mark, Evangelist

Thursday, April 25, 2024

He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written.

From sundaysandseasons.com.



Easter | This Changes Everything

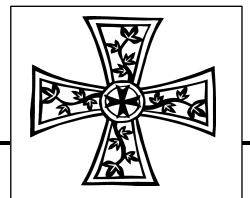
Easter Sunday is always a wonderful celebration – and it is just the beginning!

The season of Easter continues for the next six weeks as we experience the power of the resurrection in our lives. Through this season, we are looking at how ***Easter changes everything.***

From our personal lives to our relationships, from our faith to our community – nothing can ever be the same after we experience God’s power and love.

Since the empty tomb changes everything, how will Easter change your life this year?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| * Easter Changes Everything | (An Ending without End) | Mark 16:1-8 |
| * Peace Changes Everything | (“Doubting” Thomas) | John 20:19-31 |
| * Presence Changes Everything | (Road to Emmaus) | Luke 24:13-35 |
| * Community Changes Everything | (Good Shepherd Sunday) | John 10 |
| * Connection Changes Everything | (Christ the Vine) | John 15:1-8 |
| * Purpose Changes Everything | (Agents of Grace) | John 14:15-27 |
| * Waiting Changes Everything | (Ascension) | Acts 1:6-14 |
| * Listening Changes Everything | (Pentecost) | Acts 2:1-21 |



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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"I Love to Tell the Story". PUBLIC DOMAIN.