

# ***Fourth Sunday of Easter***

***Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026***  
***Divine Service 1, Page 151***



***Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church & School***  
***7308 Wedgewood Drive***  
***Black Hawk, SD 57718***

*"We are baptized children of God, forgiven and redeemed by Jesus. We are His family, called together to receive His gifts and serve others."*

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## **Greetings to all in the Name of the Risen Lord!**

May our worship this glorious morning celebrate the joy and hope, peace and presence, of our Lord Jesus Christ, raised to life for us. We welcome all, especially our guests. If you do not have a church home, please consider Divine Shepherd. We would love to have you as part of our family. Please take a minute and sign our guest book.

### **A prayer before Worship**

This is the day you have made, O Lord Jesus, a day of new life and eternal celebration! The stone is moved; death is defeated; heaven is open. As Your disciples first saw and believed Your victory over the tomb, so give us joy in the promise You made and keep for us: because You live, we live also! Amen.

**\*PLEASE NOTE\* We ask that when the Prelude is begun, conversation will cease in order that all have an opportunity to prepare for worship. Please turn off all cell phones.**

### **The Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated by us this morning in the confession and gladness that, as our Lord says, He gives into our mouth not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord Jesus invites to His table those who trust His Words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.



Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the blood of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.

(1 Cor 11:28 ESV) Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Any who holds a confession differing from that of the Holy Scriptures or are not a member in good standing with the LC-MS, are asked to speak with Pastor Mercer.

# 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



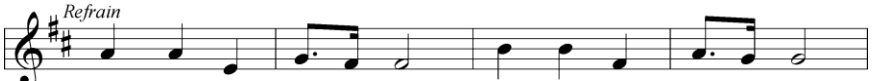
There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

## Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## **Confession & Absolution**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

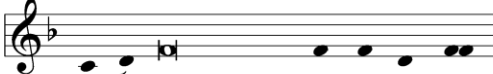
**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**



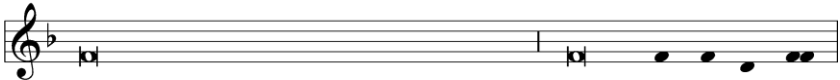
## Kyrie *LSB 152*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.




**C** Lord, have mer - cy.




**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



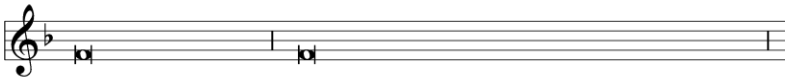
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,




and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



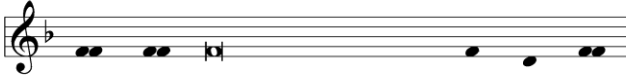
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Gloria in Excelsis



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,  
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You show those in error the light of Your truth so that they may return to the way of righteousness. Grant faithfulness to all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Church that they may avoid whatever is contrary to their confession and follow all such things as are pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** *Lamentations 3:22–33*

<sup>22</sup>The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup>they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup>“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” <sup>25</sup>The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. <sup>26</sup>It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. <sup>27</sup>It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. <sup>28</sup>Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him; <sup>29</sup>let him put his mouth in the dust— there may yet be hope; <sup>30</sup>let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults. <sup>31</sup>For the Lord will not cast off forever, <sup>32</sup>but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; <sup>33</sup>for he does not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men.

**Psalm**      **147:1–11; antiphon: v. 5**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
    **his understanding is beyond measure.**

<sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;

**for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

<sup>2</sup>The Lord builds up Jerusalem;

**he gathers the outcasts of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>He heals the brokenhearted

**and binds up their wounds.**

<sup>4</sup>He determines the number of the stars;

**he gives to all of them their names.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

**his understanding is beyond measure.**

<sup>6</sup>The Lord lifts up the humble;

**he casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;

**make melody to our God on the lyre!**

<sup>8</sup>He covers the heavens with clouds;

he prepares rain for the earth;

**he makes grass grow on the hills.**

<sup>9</sup>He gives to the beasts their food,

**and to the young ravens that cry.**

<sup>10</sup>His delight is not in the strength of the horse,

**nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,**

<sup>11</sup>but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,

**in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

**his understanding is beyond measure.**

**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.**

## **Epistle**      *1 Peter 2:11–20*

<sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. <sup>13</sup>Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, <sup>14</sup>or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. <sup>15</sup>For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. <sup>16</sup>Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. <sup>17</sup>Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. <sup>18</sup>Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

<sup>19</sup>For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

### **Alleluia and Verse**

**Alleluia. He sent redemption to his people. Alleluia. Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory? Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel**      *John 16:16–22*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>16</sup>[Jesus said:] “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.”

<sup>17</sup>So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father?’” <sup>18</sup>So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” <sup>19</sup>Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? <sup>20</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.

<sup>21</sup>When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup>So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

# 483 With High Delight Let Us Unite



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great  
 2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,  
 3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,  
 all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van-quished lie;  
 ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us  
 His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall  
 To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's  
 be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Saith He, who  
 love Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.  
 gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.  
 free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

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## Sermon "The Lord is My Portion"

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C 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.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Offering, Special Music**

*"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"*

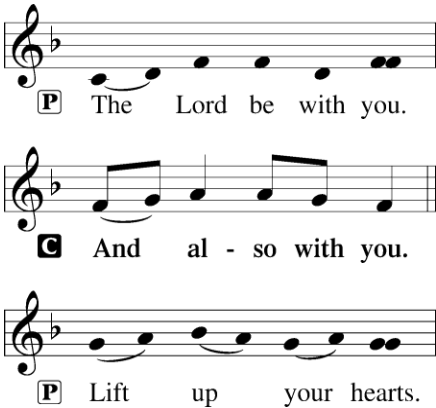
*Joni Mercer, vibraphone*

## Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

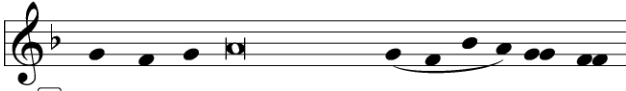
## Preface



The Lord be with you.  
And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

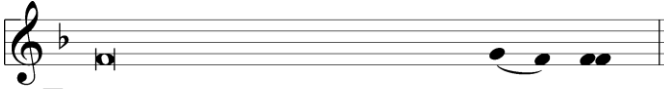
## Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Lord's Prayer

**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.

### The Words of Our Lord

## Pax Domini



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

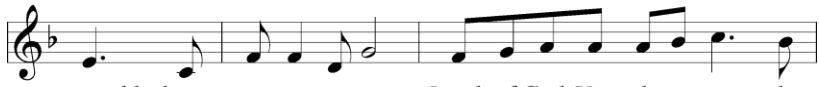
## Agnus Dei



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

# Distribution Hymns

## 795 Voices Raised to You We Offer



1 Voic - es raised to You we of - fer; Tune them, God, for  
2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise You; Earth and sky Your  
3 Christ, the song of Love in - car - nate, Touch - ing earth with  
4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, Kin - dle faith with -  
5 How can an - y praise we of - fer Mea - sure all the



songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute  
works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts You lend us,  
heav - en's grace, For Your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,  
in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;  
thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—



For Your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!  
We re - turn to You to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!  
For Your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Through our hands Your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!  
Al - le - lu - ia! God, Cre - a - tor, source of life!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, Re - deem - er, Lord of life!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, Help - er, breath of life!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!

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# 646 Church of God, Elect and Glorious



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly  
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to  
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers  
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own  
 His most mar - v'ous light; Brought His truth to  
 peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of  
 life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to  
 home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -  
 swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,  
 sight. Let your light so shine a - round you  
 above. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,  
 sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that  
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh  
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may  
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.  
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.  
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.  
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

Text: James Edward Seaborn, 1915-83

Tune: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-92

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# 597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying



1 Wa - ter, blood, and Spir - it cry - ing, By their wit - ness  
 2 In a wa - t'ry grave are bur - ied All our sins that  
 3 Dark the way, yet Christ pre - cedes us, Past the scowl of  
 4 Though a - round us death is seeth - ing, God, His two - edged  
 5 Spir - it, wa - ter, blood en - treat - ing, Work - ing faith and



tes - ti - fy - ing To the One whose death - de - fy - ing  
 Je - sus car - ried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has fer - ried  
 death He leads us; Spreads a ta - ble where He feeds us  
 sword un - sheath - ing, By His Spir - it life is breath - ing  
 its com - plet - ing In the One whose death - de - feat - ing



Life has come, with life for all.  
 Us a - cross death's rag - ing flood.  
 With His bod - y and His blood.  
 Through the liv - ing, ac - tive Word.  
 Life has come, with life for all.

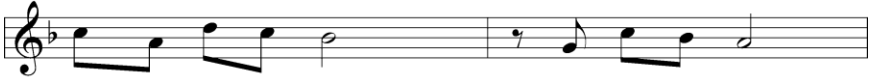
Tune: Stephen F. Stebbins, 1955  
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## 629 What Is This Bread



1 What is this bread?  
 2 What is this wine?  
 3 So who am I,  
 4 Yet is God here?  
 5 Is this for me?

Christ's bod - y  
 The blood of  
 That I should  
 Oh, yes! By  
 I am for -



ris - en from the dead;  
 Je - sus shed for mine;  
 live and He should die  
 Word and prom - ise clear,  
 giv - en and set free!

This bread we break,  
 The cup of grace  
 Un - der the rod?  
 In mouth and soul  
 I do be - lieve



This life we take,  
 Brings His em - brace  
 My God, my God,  
 He makes us whole—  
 That I re - ceive

Was crushed to pay for our re -  
 Of life and love un - til I  
 Why have You not for - sak - en  
 Christ, tru - ly pres - ent in this  
 His ver - y bod - y and His



lease. O taste and see—  
 sing! O taste and see—  
 me? O taste and see—  
 meal. O taste and see—  
 blood. O taste and see—

the Lord is peace.  
 the Lord is King.  
 the Lord is free.  
 the Lord is real.  
 the Lord is good.

Text: Frederic W. Baker, 1946.  
 Tune: John Willingham Bates, 1951.  
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## Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

## Post-Communion Collect

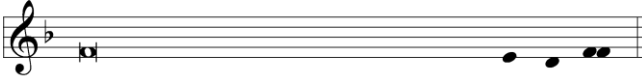
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

## Benediction



- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{†}$  give you peace.



- C** A - men.

## 818 In Thee Is Gladness



- 1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,  
2 Since He is ours, \_\_\_\_\_ We fear no pow - ers, Not of



- sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of  
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



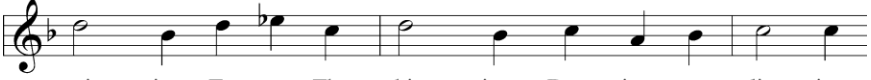
- heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou  
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the



- wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -  
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



- cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



- pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing  
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



- To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!  
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!