

April 21, 2024

*Fourth Sunday
Of Easter*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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Divine Service:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Sundays

Adult Bible Study &

Sunday School:

9:30 am

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

Organist:

Patty Barnes

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 2024

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper... *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord 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. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

PRELUDE

"When in Our Music God is Glorified"
"Come thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Arr. A.L. Page
Arr. D. Lasky

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LSB 686

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

G Amen.

P Jesus said: "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him."

G **Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ.**

P To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.

C Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.

P Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.

C All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

P Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

C And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not followed in the ways You have set forth for us. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have not honored those in authority and have not without reservation encouraged them. We have not completely put the best construction on all things and on all people. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace, bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

☩ SERVICE OF THE WORD ☩

HYMN

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"

LSB 601



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the Lord's sal - va - tion;
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho - ly Spir - it.



Bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.
 Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand A - mong the glo-rious,
 Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
 ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 4:1-12

The Word is Read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

LSB 710



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

THE EPISTLE READING

1 John 3:16-24

The Word is Read...

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE

Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32

- P** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.
- C** **Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

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

The Word is Read...

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

HYMN

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

LSB 709



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

SERMON

Stand

CREED, The First Article

A As our Good Shepherd leads us, even so our heavenly Father hears the prayers of His people. Assured of His fatherly care, let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the First Person of the Holy Trinity.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

A What does this mean?

C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord, beseeching Him for the needs of ourselves and others.

Trusting in God's loving response, we pray for the church and all who are called to lives of service to God's people, asking that the Lord will bless His undershepherds and all who care for His flock.

C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

A We pray for ourselves, that the Holy Spirit guide us into gracious ways and instill in us a holy confidence in the goodness of our God, aiding us in our prayers. With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthly journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ yet inspires us, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P We pray for the blessing of God upon our nation and its leaders that we may lead peaceable lives, and we pray for the needs of ourselves and others for healing and restoration, for solace and comfort, [especially . . .].

C **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

A These things and all else that we should have asked grant us according to Your gracious will, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

HYMN SEQUENCE

A The image of the loving Shepherd featured in Psalm 23 reminds us that our Lord is always with us, ready to guide us and to support us. The image is one that resonates with young children and has been featured in hymns texts used in Sunday School hymnals. The hymn "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" first appeared in a volume *Hymns for the Young, selected for the purpose of being committed to memory* in England in 1832. We might well follow the directive of the hymnbook's title and commit this special hymn to memory. We sing the first two stanzas of "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us."

HYMN

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

LSB 711 sts. 1–2

1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us

bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,

bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.

A Originally framed as a hymn for children, “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” contains solid biblical truths. We rejoice that our Lord has bought us and that He defends us in many ways, even though we are sinful. His caring mercy is experienced in all our days. As faithful followers of the Good Shepherd, we seek to do His will in our lives as we experience His divine love. We sing stanzas three and four of the hymn.

HYMN

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

LSB 711 sts. 3-4

3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly

sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly

lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have

let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,

bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Sit
OFFERING

VOLUNTARY "Shepherd of Love" arr. M. Arison, J. Peterson

Stand
OFFERTORY

LSB 159

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.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord our God. You call us to be Your people and invite us to bring our cares to You in prayer. You did so love the world that You sent Your only Son to be our Redeemer. By His sacrificial life and death and glorious resurrection He has brought us salvation and has shown us the path to life eternal. Pour upon us now the gift of the Holy Spirit that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord with true devotion in this sacred fellowship of Your pilgrim people. Grant us a foretaste of the feast to come, heavenly Father, that we may with increased faith joyfully await a blessed eternity in Your glorious presence.

G **Amen.**

SANCTUS

LSB 161



G 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

P Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We give thanks to You for the gifts of bread and wine here before us and for Your gracious provision for all Your creatures. Invited by Your grace and supported by Your love, we come to Your Table with thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we receive, with true faith and trust in Your words of promise, the bread and wine, that is, the very body and blood of Christ, as a guarantee of the salvation that He purchased for us through His innocent suffering and death on the cross. Receive our prayers and praises and grant that we may follow You as Your people, in this season of Easter and always. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

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.

*Sit***DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809

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!

Refrain
 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!

VOLUNTARY

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"
 "The Lord is My Shepherd"

arr. W. Flynn
 G. Peterson

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 165

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 pre -
 pared 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

P Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the church. And we ask You to help us by Your Holy Spirit that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works which You desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

G Amen.

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 ✠ give you peace.

G Amen.

HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

LSB 537



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "I Will Bless Thee, O Lord" with "Great is the Lord" arr. C. Tournquist

Acknowledgements

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

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