

# The Divine Service

## The Fourth Sunday of Easter

### April 25, 2021

#### AS WE GATHER

*Of all the animals that could have been used to portray humanity, does it feel strange to be called a sheep? After all, it is not the most honorable creature. There are no defense mechanisms to escape a predator, no intimidating roar, and limited ability to fend for one's self when it comes to seeking nourishment, water, and safety. Yet these things reveal the point we are called to understand. It may not be good to be a sheep on our own, but it is great to be a sheep with a Good Shepherd to care for the flock. Jesus is our perfect shepherd who protects and defends, feeds and nourishes, leads and provides all we need in this body and life. Together as His flock, we are blessed to follow Him as by His Word and Means of Grace He leads us to streams of living water and paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP/CHECK IN

*Bell Choir, 11:00 AM Only*

#### WORDS OF WELCOME/THEME OF THE DAY

##### Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
People: **Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Psalm 23; John 10:11*

Pastor: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.

People: **Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we confess to You that we have been ungrateful for all You give us to sustain our bodies and lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

People: **Like sheep, we are distracted and tend to wander and scatter. We forget who we are as baptized children of God and fail to respond to Your shepherding in our lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

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

People: **We confess that in difficult times of life, we sometimes struggle to be confident in Your presence and protection, seeking to find our own comfort. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**People:** **As we journey through this sinful world, we overlook the goodness and mercy that flow into our lives from You. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: Jesus, our Good Shepherd, hears our cries and says to us, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." Receive the forgiveness won for You through Christ's laying down His life and rising from death in victory. 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.

**People:** **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"** *LSB 709, vs 1,2,3,6*



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  
6 And so through all the length of days Thy good - ness



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  
fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I



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.  
sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - ev - er!

**GREETING**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Risen Lord, You are the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep. They are Yours, and nothing will snatch them from Your hand. In the love You've shown and the perfect love we know through Your Spirit, empower Your flock to reach others, that all may be guided by Your shepherding grace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

## HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" *LSB 700, verses 1 & 2*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of  
2 Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy  
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; Let us all in



hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
Thee in - her - it; Let us find Thy prom - ised rest.



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -  
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha



bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with  
and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as



Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.

## THE FIRST READING

Acts 4:1-12

Reader: 4 And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup> greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup> And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. <sup>5</sup> On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup> with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup> And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup> if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup> This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

1 John 3:16-24

Reader: <sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup> But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? <sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. <sup>19</sup> By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup> for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup> and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup> Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

4

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 10:11-18*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the tenth chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**



## HYMN OF THE DAY "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

LSB 710, VS 1,2,5



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  
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  
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.  
ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

## SERMON

"I Hear You!"

*Pastor Scott Henze*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**People:** 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

*Petitions end, "Lord in your mercy" Congregation responds, "Hear Our Prayer"*

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: 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 offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

*A word about Holy Communion: We welcome to the Lord's Table all baptized Christians who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in this sacrament and believe that in this eating and drinking, we receive the forgiveness of sins and the power to amend our sinful lives. Children who have not yet been instructed may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over the chest thus indicating they will not receive the elements.*

### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*Stand as you are able.*

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

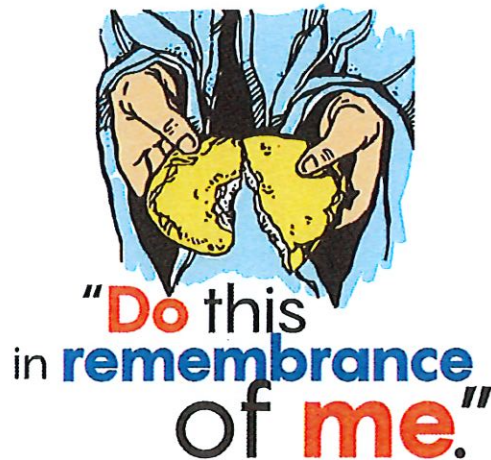
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE



## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**



## AGNUS DEI



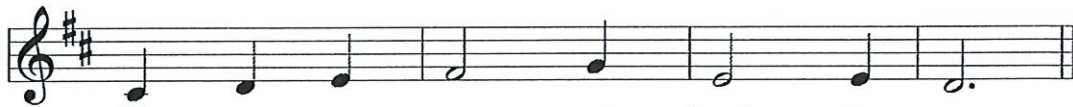
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

*"The Lord is My Shepherd"*

*Bob & Jean Gillis  
Bell choir, 8:30 AM Only*

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION

## RECESSIONAL HYMN "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

LSB 740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

## EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Christ indeed has been raised from the dead.

**People: Christ is risen!**

Pastor: He is risen indeed!

**People: Alleluia!**

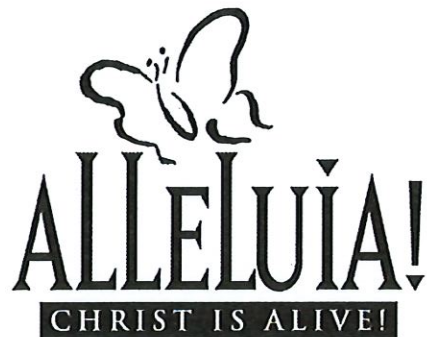
## DISMISSAL

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

**People: Disciples making disciples.**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**



### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Study at 10:00 AM in rooms 201/202

Sunday School for children and Youth via Zoom at 9:45 AM