

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**Saturday, April 20, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Sunday, April 21, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.**



**Welcome!**

**To our guests and visitors:**

We are glad that you are here with us today!  
If you are looking for a church home, consider joining us?  
Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service!

## Opening Hymn    Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing    LSB 475

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord of life is ris'n this day;  
Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;  
Let all the world rejoice and say:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory  
That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Pastor            In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People**            **Amen.**

Pastor:            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."

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

Pastor:            To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.  
**People:**            **Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.**

Pastor:            Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.  
**People:**            **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those  
                         who keep His covenant and His testimonies.**

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!  
People: **And let all the people say, “Amen!” Praise the LORD!**

Pastor: Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and pray for His gracious forgiveness. We begin our time of Confession and Absolution as we sing the hymn “Out of the Deep I Call.”

**HYMN**                                    “Out of the Deep I Call”                                    *TLH 327*

Out of the deep I call  
To Thee, O Lord, to Thee.  
Before Thy throne of grace I fall;  
Be merciful to me.

Out of the deep I cry,  
The woeful deep of sin,  
Of evil done in days gone by,  
Of evil now within;

Out of the deep of fear  
And dread of coming shame;  
All night till morning watch is near  
I plead the precious name.

Lord, there is mercy now,  
As ever was, with Thee.  
Before Thy throne of grace I bow;  
Be merciful to me.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77. Public domain

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.  
People: **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.**

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** Amen.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P** Risen and ascended Lord, You are the Good Shepherd. You lay down Your life for the sheep; they are Yours. Empower Your church to reach every sheep that belongs to You and to give witness until You have brought all Your sheep into one fold; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### **Hymn of Praise Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing LSB 686**

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
Fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore Thee;  
May I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by Thy help I've come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wand'ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be;  
Let that grace now like a fetter  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
Prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Oh, that day when freed from sinning,  
I shall see Thy lovely face;  
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,  
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!  
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;  
Take my ransom'd soul away;  
Send Thine angels soon to carry  
Me to realms of endless day.

## **The First Reading**

## **Acts 4:1-12**

The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup>They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. <sup>3</sup>They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. <sup>4</sup>But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup>They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup>If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup>then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

<sup>11</sup>Jesus is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone."

<sup>12</sup>Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Epistle Reading**

## **1 John 3:16-24**

<sup>16</sup>This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup>If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? <sup>18</sup>Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup>If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup>and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup>The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **Holy Gospel**

## **John 10:11-18**

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup>The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup>“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep 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>I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to 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 authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Pastor: 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.

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People: 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.**

**Sermon Hymn**

**Baptismal Waters Cover Me**

**LSB 616**

Baptismal waters cover me  
As I approach on bended knee;  
My Father's mercy here I plead,  
For grievous sins of thought and deed.

I look to Christ upon the tree,  
His body broken there for me;  
I lay before Him all my sin,  
My darkest secrets from within.

Lord, may Your wounded hand impart  
Your healing to my broken heart;  
Your love alone can form in me  
A heart that serves You joyfully.

From Your own mouth comes forth a word;  
Your shepherd speaks, but You are heard;  
Through him Your hand now stretches out,  
Forgiving sin, destroying doubt.

Baptismal waters cover me;  
Christ's wounded hand has set me free.  
Held in my Father's strong embrace,  
With joy I praise Him for His grace.



## The Offering

### Prayer of the Church

Pastor: 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.

**People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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:

**People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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 . . .*].

**People: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

**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

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.”

## Pax Domini

pg 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C Amen.

## Agnus Dei

pg 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

## Distribution Hymn How Sweet The Name of Jesus Sounds LSB 524

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
And drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole  
And calms the heart's unrest;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul  
And to the weary, rest.

Dear name! The rock on which I build,  
My shield and hiding place;  
My never-failing treasury filled  
With boundless stores of grace.

O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,  
My Prophet, Priest, and King,  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
Accept the praise I bring.

How weak the effort of my heart,  
How cold my warmest thought!  
But when I see Thee as Thou art,  
I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim  
With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
And may the music of Thy name  
Refresh my soul in death!

## **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

- P** Let us pray.  
Gracious and eternal God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus. Grant that the bread of life and blood of Christ that has been shared and received in this blessed Meal be for us that life-giving food that sustains us on our earthly journeys as we serve You all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
- C** **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.
- C** **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn    The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want    LSB 710**

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.