

## This Week's Words for Meditation

### Behaving in Love

*"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 this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us."*

1 John 3:16-23

There is a fictional story told of the pope standing on the balcony in St. Peter's Square. Thousands of people stood below awaiting his blessing of peace. Instead, the pope came out and said, "I have some bad news for you, my children. The doctors tell me I need a heart transplant. Which of you would be willing to give me your heart so that I can continue to serve God and my people?"

Thousands waved their arms in the air, shouting, "Me, Papa; Me, Papa."

The pope found it almost unbelievable that so many people would be willing to give up their lives to save his. There were so many people that he had to choose which one would have the privilege, and so he said, "Dearly beloved, I will throw out a feather and the person it lands on, that person will have the great privilege of giving me his or her heart."

The pope threw the feather from the balcony. The feather floated downward; however, it seemed to hover in the air forever. It never seemed to land.

The pope went to the ground floor to see what was wrong. He discovered that whenever the feather got too close to a group of people, they all blew with great gusto! It became apparent to the pope that what the people said and what they were willing to do were two different things.

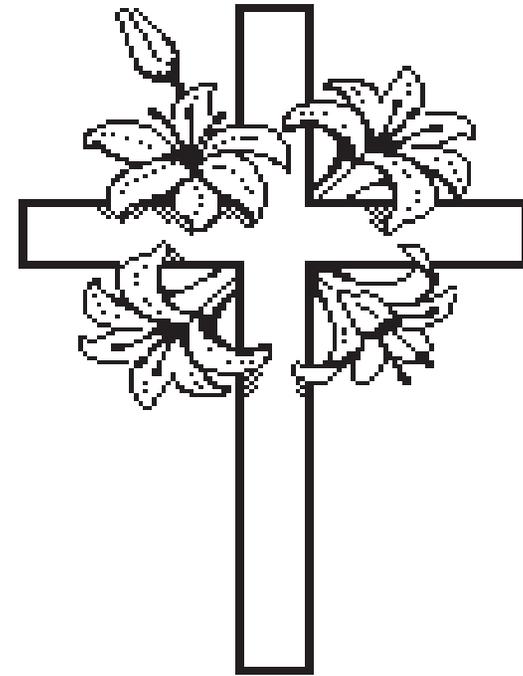
John makes it clear that love isn't some fancy word that you use to describe how you might be feeling about someone, but it is something very concrete. It is active. It is more than "being in love," it is "behaving in love." It is loving another as God in Christ loves us.

St. Paul also describes what love is: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). In this passage Paul points out that love is more than talk. It is walking the talk. It is kindness in more than words—it is kindness in deeds! It is protecting, trusting, hoping, persevering. It never fails!

This is God's love toward us. It never fails, even when we were His "enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son" (Romans 5:10). "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us."

**Heavenly Father, teach us to love even as You love us. Amen.**

*Roger R. Sonnenberg*



## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

MISSOURI SYNOD

BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR

**APRIL 25, 2021**

**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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ROBERT PORTERFIELD, PASTOR EMERITUS

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**Welcome!** The service is designed to honor God and encourage and feed His people. We hope your heart is open to Him today, and that you sense the warm presence of His Spirit.

**All Saints Facebook page to access livestream:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/70694660512>

**+ WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN WORSHIP +**

**Prelude** Organist: Diane Fairbanks and Piano Accompaniment: Barbara Burger



**Altar Flowers** are placed to the glory of God by Marjaana Kuivalainen.

**+ WELCOME AND GREETING +**

**Pastor's Welcome**

**The Invocation for Easter Season**

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

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

P: In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
(Matthew 28:19b)

**C: Amen!**

**Opening Hymn: #710 LSB "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"** (v 1-4)

**Verse 1:** *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.*

**Verse 2:** *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.*

**Verse 3:** *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.*

**Verse 4:** *My table Thou hast fur-nish-ed In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.*

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650

Tune: William Gardiner, 1770-1853; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

**+ TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS +**

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

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

(1 John 1:8-9)

(A time of silent confession before God)

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.** (1 John 1:12; Philippians 1:6)

**Kyrie Lord, Have Mercy** (p. 152) (Spoken by Pastor & Congregation)  
(Mark 10:47)

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

\_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

\_Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

\_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

\_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

\_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

\_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

+ FORGIVEN, WE NOW ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE +

PSALMODY: Psalm 23 antiphon: **John 10:14, 15b** (*Read responsively*)

P: I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own now me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

**C: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.**

P: He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**C: 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 staff,  
they comfort me.**

P: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**C: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.  
Glory be to the Father and to the † Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own now me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Salutation and Collect for this Day

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

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

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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

The First Scripture Reading: Acts 4:1-12 (ESV p. 911)



*Peter and John Before the Council*

4 And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, 2 greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. 4 But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

5 On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, 6 with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10 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. 11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12 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."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Epistle Reading: 1 John 3:16-24 (ESV p. 1022)**

***Love One Another***

16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 17 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? 18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

19 By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; 20 for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; 22 and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. 23 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. 24 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Easter Season Gradual** (adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6)

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,

**C: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.**

**The Holy Gospel: John 10:11-18 (ESV p. 896)**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Tenth Chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

***I Am The Good Shepherd***

11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 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. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 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. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**The Children's Message: "Jesus Is Your Good Shepherd"**

**The Message Hymn: #709 LSB "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (v 1-3, 6)**

**Verse 1:** *The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
And he is mine forever.*

**Verse 2:** *Where streams of living water flow,  
My ransomed soul he leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.*

**Verse 3:** *Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me.*

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

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77

Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.; setting: Service Book and Hymnal, 1958

Text and music: Public domain

**The Message:** (Psalm 23 & John 10:11-18)

“The Lord Is My Shepherd; I Shall Not Want. What Does This Mean?”

**Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed** (p. 158)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

**The Gathering of Offerings for the Lord's Work** (A Friendly Reminder to please continue offerings as you are able.)

**The Sanctus**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You. In Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

**Consecration of Elements for Holy Communion**

*Distribution will take place in the Narthex at the conclusion of this worship service.*

*Please make sure to sign in on the Communion Notebook.*

**The Prayers of the Church** (after each petition, please respond with - “Hear our Prayer”)

○ Lord, **have mercy.**

○ Christ, **have mercy.**

○ Lord, **have mercy.**

○ Christ, **have mercy.**

**The LORD's Prayer** (p.162) (Spoken)

**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.**

## Prepare to Receive Holy Communion

We practice Biblical Communion. It is a testimony to our unity in faith and doctrine. All who have been baptized, examined and absolved are welcome.

***If you are not an active member of this parish or have not previously received communion from Pastor Dolby, please speak with him.***

We invite you to read and understand Matthew 28:16-20, 1 Corinthians 11:17-34, 1 Timothy 4:16, and Mark 14:23-25.

Please Note: Should anyone be unable to partake of the wine, we will have a small amount of cups filled with grape juice available in the center of each communion tray for your use. Also, please note that gluten-free wafers are available in a small bowl on the wafer plate for anyone with a gluten allergy.

We receive Christ's Body and Blood in, with and under the bread and the wine, for the forgiveness of sins, united in the fellowship of faith and faithful in Christ, Christ's presence and peace.

## The Benediction (p.166) (Spoken)

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

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

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

**Amen.**

## The Sending Hymn: #813 LSB "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng" (v 1-3, 5)

**Verse 1:** *Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!*

*Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your king.*

**Refrain:** *Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!*

**Verse 2:** *With voice as full and strong*

*As ocean's surging praise,  
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old,  
The psalms of ancient days.*

**Refrain**

**Verse 3:** *With all the angel choirs,  
With all the saints on earth  
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
True rapture, noblest mirth.*

**Refrain**

**Verse 5:** *Still lift your standard high,  
Still march in firm array,  
As pilgrims through the darkness wend  
Till dawns the golden day.*

**Refrain**

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-91, alt.

Tune: Aruthur H. Messiter, 1834-1916; setting: Service Book and Hymnal, 1958

Text and music: Public domain

## The Sending

P: Christ has risen from the dead! (Matthew 28:7)

**C: Alleluia! Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life  
and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia!**

(2 Timothy 1:10b)

## Postlude

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Masks are required** while in the buildings for all participants 5 years or older.

**Preschool Phone Number Changed!** The new number for Rise and Shine Preschool effective immediately is 425-869-6487.

**Worship service recordings** will continue to be provided on the church website in the days following each Sunday.

**Worship services** are currently, on a week-by-week basis, either being held at 9:30 AM in our Sanctuary or being live streamed in our Facebook account. Members can also view the recorded video later, on our website at: <http://www.allsaints-lcms.com>, when posted. Updates will also be posted on the website as things are subject to change due to COVID-19.

**Sunday School** classes currently remain virtual.



Scan using camera or vision on your smartphone. Its a quick way to get to our website.

## PLEASE TAKE HOME THIS PRAYER LIST OF PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR

**Below are names that Pastor has received over several weeks. Should you wish any names to be added or updated, please contact Pastor or Barbi in the office. If we do not receive updates, names will be removed from this list after 30 days and placed into the Lord's hands.**

From Pastor Bob & Marie - Our Daughter, Heather-Marie Porterfield Wilson has now been scheduled for brain surgery on Monday, April 26 at Harborview. Continued prayers appreciated. Because of Covid none of the family can be with her. (4-11)

Congratulations to Elizabeth Priya Jerrypothula and Ashish Surendranath. The wedding will take place on April 24th, 2021 in Missouri City, Texas. God's Blessings to our dear sister in Christ and to her beloved fiance. (4-11)

Emily Andrews - My uncle with the brain tumor just finished his first course of treatment and got the results back from the MRI. More tumors grew in his brain. They aren't able to do any more surgeries after chemotherapy has started. Please pray for the family to find their peace with the situation. I would love for people to pray for them to be able to enjoy the last few months with my uncle. I would also love for prayers that this wouldn't affect his daughters' ability to get their school work done and continue going after their goals in life. Finally, I hope this experience can help lead my aunt and uncle back to God and that He would reveal himself to the daughters. (4-18)

Friend of Marjaana, Continued prayers for Mervi and her family for strength, health, and the light of Christ. Last week they found out that the cancer has spread in her little son Titus' body, but is not in his bones. (4-11)

Dewey's brother, will be undergoing surgery, heart ablation.

Uncle Lance, Continued healing for him as he recently was moved out of the ICU at hospital he's being cared for. (From Cherish, family friend of Shawna.)

Tara Caulfield, various health problems. We pray for healing and for the doctors to resolve the problems. (4-11)

