

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

- The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod -

Dual Parish Office: 715-352-2888

www.stjbeth.org

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
233500 County Rd E
Milan, WI 54411

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
119415 Huckleberry Rd
Edgar, WI 54426



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Reverend Chad Schopp, Pastor

Divine Service III

Hymn: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

LSB 469

Confession and Absolution

Exhortation (p.184)

Kneel or stand as you are able.

Corporate Confession (p.184)

Stand

Service of the Word

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Collect of the Day.

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.

First Reading: Acts 4:1-12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-

priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?”
⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 (LSB 23) (responsively by whole verse)

Epistle: 1 John 3:16-24

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

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before Him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and He knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him. ²³And 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. ²⁴Whoever keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in them. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia (p.190)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 10:11-18

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He 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. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed (p.191)

Sit

Office hymn: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

LSB 709

Sermon

Offertory (p.192)

Announcements

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.194)

Sanctus (p.195)

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

The Words of Institution (p.197)

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei (p.198)

Sit

Distribution of the Sacrament

Hymns:

Jesus Comes Today with Healing *LSB 620*

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds *LSB 524*

With High Delight Let Us Unite *LSB 483*

Stand

Nunc Dimittus (p.199)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Benedicamus & Benediction (p.201)

Hymn: *Crown Him with Many Crowns* *LSB 525*

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

- Debbie Orth
- Mel Neimann -Knee surgery
- Leta Ebben
- Phyllis Diedrich recuperating from hip surgery.

Pastor Schopp on Vacation:

Pastor Schopp and family will be on vacation from May 6th to May 12th. Pastor Moldenhauer will be guest Pastor on Sunday, May 9th.

Edgar Steam Show: St. John Voters have decided to work at the Edgar Steam Show, August 27th thru the 29th this year, providing we have enough volunteers. In order to do this, we need 40 plus volunteers between Bethlehem and St. John members. If you wish to volunteer there will be a sign up in the narthex or you can call the church office at 715-352-2888.

St. John will also be putting a float in the Edgar Parade Sunday, June 20th, we will be needing volunteers to help pass out water. If you are able to help, there is a sign- up sheet in the narthex, or you can call the office 715-352-2888

Thank you for your prayers for my healing and also all you've done for me over the past 50 years at St John congregation. You have given me and my family so much with not just words but actions. You took time to pick up my children for Sunday School you took time to help me take care of the children when Susie died. You took care of my harvest when I fell out of the silo. Thank you many times over." Mel Niemann

Blood Drive at Bethlehem Saturday, May 1 from 9am to 1pm.

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod's Statement on Close Communion:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation 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 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 in 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 to first speak with the Pastor.

(CTCR, *Admission to the Lord's Supper*, Nov 1999)

Teaching Points

Good Shepherd Sunday: The Fourth Sunday of Easter, this day is marked by the reading of John 10:11-18, in which Jesus describes the role of the Christ as the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep. Psalm 23 is traditionally read on this day and the Propers of the day also carry this theme.

From the Small Catechism

The Lord's Prayer: The First Petition

Hallowed be Thy _____.

What does this mean?

God's name is certainly _____ in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy?

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its _____ and _____ and we, as the children of God, also lead holy _____ according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. _____ us from this, heavenly Father!