



# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK  
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*Assistant Minister = Blue*

*Welcome!* Words in **bold** are said together.

## *Call to Worship*

*Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Congregation: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

*L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, **C: and also with you.***

## *Thanksgiving for Baptism*

*L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.  
**C: Amen.***

*L: Look, here is water! **C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!***

*L: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. Look, here is water!*

***C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!***

*L: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **C: Amen.***

*L: Look, here is water! **C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!***

## *Gathering Hymn [intro] – Beautiful Savior #838*

1. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

## *Prayer of the Day*

**O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us and we shall be whole. Make us one with you,**

**for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Scripture Readings*

Acts 4:5-12 p. 887

<sup>5</sup>The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their 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 questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' <sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 23 p. 435

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

1 John 3:16-24 p. 990

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 10:11-18 p. 872

<sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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>I have other sheep that do not belong to 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 in order 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 power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### *Children's Message*

#### *Sermon*

David Ingram

#### *Hymn of the Day – Just a Closer Walk with Thee #697*

*Refrain:* Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

1. I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain.*
2. Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares? None, but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain.*
3. When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain.*

#### *Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### *Prayers of God's People*

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

*Sharing the Peace – L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.*

#### *Offering*

#### *Offering Hymn – Now Thank We All Our God #839*

1. Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
And keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

### *Offering Prayer*

**Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 152*

*Holy, Holy, Holy ELW p. 108*

*Christ's Words of Institution and Communion*

*L: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.*

*Post Communion Prayer*

*L: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. C: Amen.*

*The Lord's Prayer*

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray,

**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.**

*Announcements*

- Apr-May-Jun devotional books now available – take one!
- Red Cross is doing FREE smoke alarm inspections/installations –flyers near the church offices
- Coming up: April 25 NOLO Mission Fundraiser Dinner (silent auction items welcome!); April 26-28 Synod Assembly; May 10 Agape Dinner

*Closing Hymn – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #836*

1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

### *Blessing*

*L: Alleluia! Christ is risen! C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

*L: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. C: Amen.*

### *Dismissal*

*L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!*

***Special Thanks to...*** all who offer their precious gift of time

### ***Birthdays & Anniversaries...***

- 4-22 Sam Aleshire
- 4-23 Caden Lindhag
- 4-26 Kaylee Aleshire