



SERVICE OF THE WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

☒ Bishop ☒ Assisting Minister ☒ All

GATHERING

Easter Acclamation

☒ Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

☒ **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

☒ Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the
Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☒ **Amen.**



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
 2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
 3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.
 you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.
 cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

Text: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970

Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB, Kirk Franklin

Text and music © 1996 Lilly Mack Music. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

☒ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☑ **And also with you.**

☒ O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD

Psalm

Psalm 23

☒ The Lord is my shepherd;
 I shall not be in want.

☑ **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
 and leads me beside still waters.**

☒ You restore my soul, O Lord,
 and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

- ☞ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- ☞ **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**
- ☞ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Gospel Acclamation Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia (v. 1, 2, & refrain) ELW #364

*Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.*

*Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*

*For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show.*

*Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
Swahili text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg
Fortress. English text © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

A The Holy Gospel according to John.

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

A The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**



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
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



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
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



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.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

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, 1821–1877

Music: St. COLUMBA, Irish tune

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Apostles' Creed

A We confess together the faith we share in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

B 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 the People

- A** Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- A** Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational ministries of your church, especially as they adjust during this time of distancing. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning sites. Lord, in your mercy,
G **hear our prayer.**
- A** Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. Lord, in your mercy,
G **hear our prayer.**
- A** Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,
G **hear our prayer.**

A Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering, especially those we lift up using the hashtag #demdprays. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations and communities. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

A Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C **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.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

ⓑ Your word is a lamp to our feet

Ⓒ **and a light on our path.**

ⓑ Blessed are you, Lord our God.

How sweet are your words to the taste,
sweeter than honey to the mouth.

How precious are your commands for our life,
more than the finest gold in our hands.

How marvellous is your will for the world,
unending is your love for the nations.

Our voices shall sing of your promises
and our lips declare your praise
for ever and ever.

Ⓒ **Amen.**

ⓑ The Word of life which was from the beginning

Ⓒ **we proclaim to you.**

ⓑ The dusk gives way to the dawn;

Ⓒ **the Word of life which was from the beginning.**

ⓑ That which we heard, which we saw with our eyes,
and touched with our hands,

Ⓒ **we proclaim to you.**

ⓑ For our fellowship is with the Creator,
and with the Christ.

Ⓒ **The Word of life, which was from the beginning,
we proclaim to you.**

ⓑ Let us bless the Lord.

Ⓒ **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING

Blessing

- ☒ Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
- ☑ **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

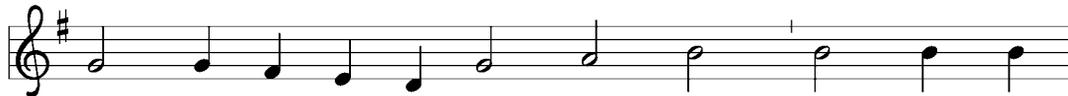
☒ Beloved: Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can. And may the blessing of Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit be with you and abide in you, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

Hymn

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

ELW #883



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy
5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
aid he did us make. We are his folk, he
joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times
heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the



praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Dismissal

- ☒ Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

