

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sat. April 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m. & Sun. April 21, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Order of Worship

* indicates congregation stands

We welcome all people in the Name of Jesus Christ!

John 3:16-17

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word *LSB 904*



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from
△ 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and



all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,



Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.
low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

* Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

* Opening Sentences

John 12:26; Ephesians 4:15; Psalm 25:1-3, 5, 10; 106:48

Leader: 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."

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

Leader: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.

All: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.

Leader: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.

All: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

Leader: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

All: And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!

* Confession and Absolution

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

All: 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.

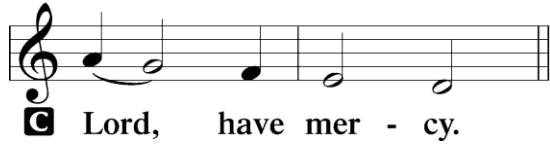
Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

*** Kyrie**

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



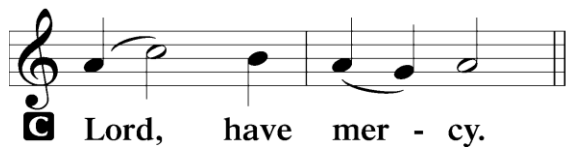
Leader: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



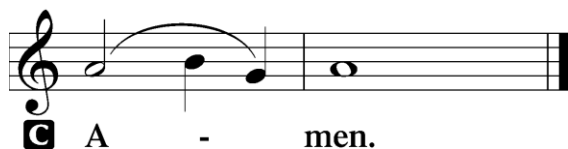
Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



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



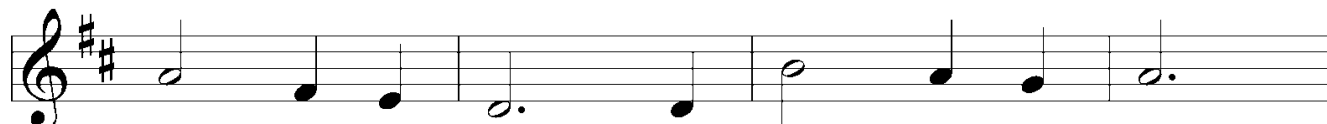
Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



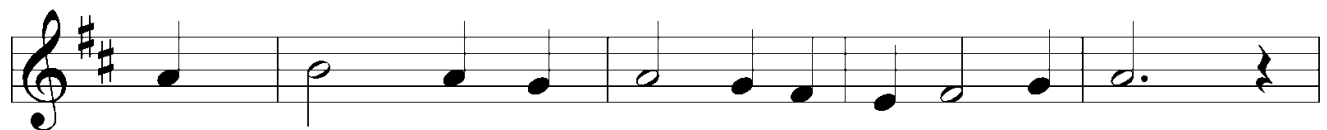
*** Hymn of Praise**

This is the Feast

Leader: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



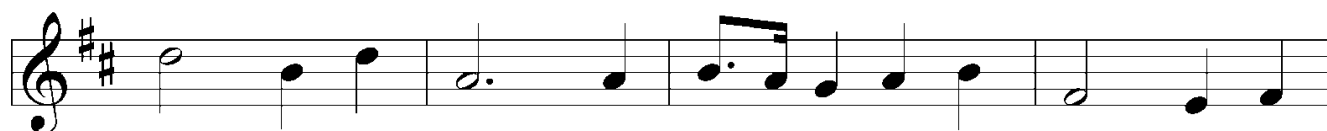
whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*** Prayer of the Day**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

First Reading

Acts 4:1–12 NIV

Peter and John are brought before the Jerusalem Council.

Lector: The First Reading is from the 4th chapter of Acts.

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. They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

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

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! 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, 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. Jesus is

“‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

I John 3:16–24 NIV

Followers of Christ are called to love in deed and in truth.

Lector: The Epistle is from the 3rd Chapter of 1 John.

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. 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? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

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

And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the Alleluia and Verse.

*** Alleluia and Verse**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*** Holy Gospel**

John 10:11–18 NIV

Jesus prays for and about His disciples.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th Chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. 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."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us *LSB 711*



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bles - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
bles - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
bles - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
bles - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Mark Rossington

* Nicene Creed

**All: 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 worshiped 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.**

*Offerings will be received at the end of the service
as you exit the Sanctuary.*

*** Prayer of the Church**

Leader: 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.

All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: 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:

All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: 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.

All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

*** Lord's Prayer**

**All: 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.

* Words of Institution

* Peace of the Lord

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

* Agnus Dei



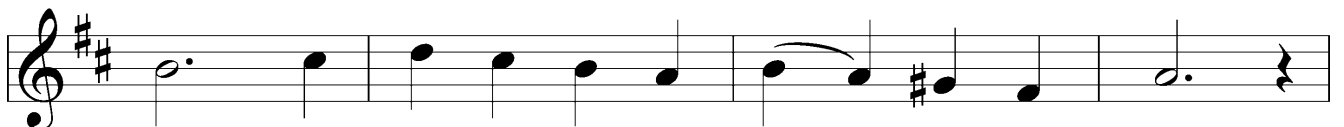
☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;



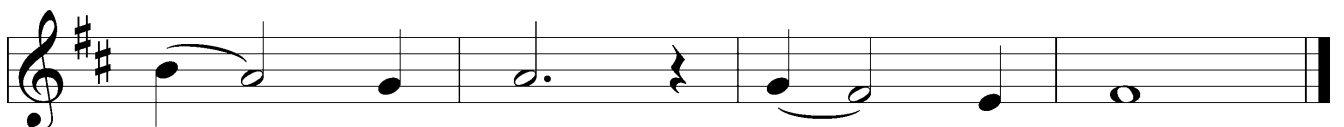
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a-way the sin of the world;




grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion


Holy Communion will be offered continuously. You may follow the direction of the usher. We invite those who are not communing to receive a blessing by crossing their arms when standing before the bread host. The wine will be offered by individual cups. Please place empty individual cups in the glass bowls in front of the aisles. Those preferring non-alcoholic wine may take the individual cups from the center of each tray. Those needing a gluten free wafer may request one from the bread host.

Music during Distribution

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table *LSB 618*



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's




wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

Refrain

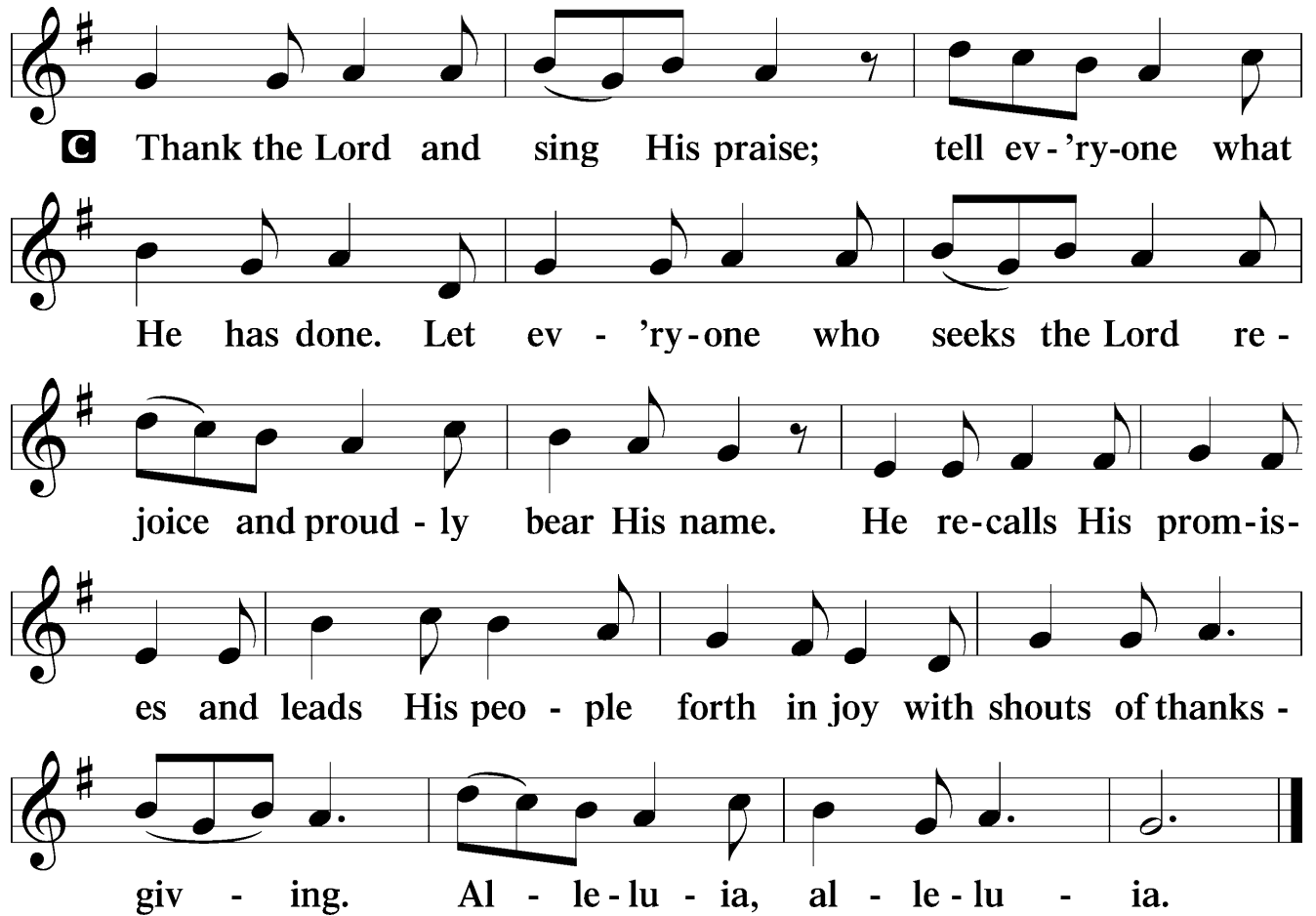


Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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* Post-Communion Dismissal

* Post-Communion Canticle



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-
giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

* Post-Communion Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together,

All: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

* Benediction

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Beautiful Savior *LSB 537*



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor: Rev. Mark Rossington
Liturgy: Deacon Bob Anderson
Guest Pianist: Ruth Ann Meyer
Audio Engineer: Aaron Bland

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