

## *The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

### **WELCOME TO BETHANY**

We gather this day to receive God's gifts and to praise His holy name. If you are visiting us today, we encourage you to fill out a yellow card in the pew rack to inform us of your visit and to introduce yourself to one of the pastors. Please stop by our Welcome Center in the narthex for more information about Bethany, and to receive a gift for you from our church family. Also, be sure to pick up our weekly *News & Notes*, located on the table in the back of the church.

Bethany is a singing parish and we hope that you will join us. A fine voice is not required – just a heart for worship. As you follow the order of service in this bulletin, please note:

- LSB refers to the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*
- Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.
- Front pew - hymnals are in a rack underneath your seat.
- Regarding communion. Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper where we receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Those communing are giving public witness that they are one in doctrine. In loving obedience to this Scriptural teaching, we therefore invite communicant members of all congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to commune with us.

For your reference, worship participants are indicated as follows in the bulletin:

**P:** Presiding Minister (pastor's parts)

**A:** *Assisting Liturgist (pastor, choir or cantor)*

**C: Congregation (or all)**

### **AS WE GATHER**

Quite often Christians will be accused of not living in the "real world." The inference is that our religion is escapist and out of touch. But the blood that flowed from Jesus hands, feet, head, and side was pretty real. The Jesus that rose from the dead is also pretty real. We have a real Jesus who died and rose from the dead for us real people. And since we are real people with a real Christ as the Head of the Church, we love our real brothers and sisters in Christ. Our Lord calls us Christians to love one another. This is natural as real sinners realize real forgiveness and realize that they are part of a big family of forgiven sinners. So we love them as Christ has loved us.

### **LITURGY SPOTLIGHT**

*Psalm 23 has been a favorite of Christians throughout history, and it is the appointed Psalm for today, Good Shepherd Sunday. God's people have sung psalms since Old Testament times in the temple. Paul encouraged the early Church to continue singing them (Col. 3; Eph 5), and history records psalm-singing as a tradition that has continued unbroken throughout the Church's history. Around the time of the Reformation, psalms were being paraphrased and put into the rhyme and rhythm of Western poetry. Martin Luther himself wrote several psalm paraphrases, the most familiar of which is the beloved "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," a paraphrase of Psalm 46.*

*Two hymns we sing today, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" and "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want" are paraphrases of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. "The Lord's My Shepherd" stays very close to the original text. Many psalm paraphrases, however, go beyond the psalm texts and draw from other parts of scripture, particularly the Gospel, and "The King of Love" is one of these. This hymn clearly illustrates the idea that all scripture is about Christ and mentions "streams of living water," suggesting Holy Baptism; a chalice, hinting at the Lord's supper; and the cross, an obvious reference to Christ. Even though this psalm was written before Christ's life and ministry on earth, Christ declares himself to be the Good Shepherd in today's Gospel reading, and today's hymnody explicitly and properly places Christ in Psalm 23.*

**PRELUDE**

*Karen Perry, harpist*

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

arr. Barbara Ann Fackler

+We Stand in Our Baptismal Grace+

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

(LSB #151)

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

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

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

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

**P:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**CLOSING HYMN** “Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings”

LSB #782

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY**

5PM

PRESIDING MINISTER:  
ORGANIST:  
ACOLYTES:  
WELCOME CENTER:  
USHERS:

Pastor Stephen Schumacher  
Cantor Phillip Magness  
Jonathan Syers & Victoria Sodemann  
Marjorie Staffeldt  
James Blasius, Robert Knox, Chuck Guebert, Rich Tatara

7:45AM

PREACHING:  
LITURGIST:  
ORGANIST:  
ACOLYTES:  
GREETERS:  
SACRISTANS:  
COMMUNION CARE:  
WELCOME CENTER:  
USHERS:

Pastor Stephen Schumacher  
Pastor Timothy Rossow  
Cantor Phillip Magness  
Caitlin Magness & Ryan Krachenfels  
Jan Lechowicz  
Brad Perry  
Marge Harris & Julie Killacky  
Karen Dierking  
Scott Freitag, Doug Splitt

9:00AM

PREACHING:  
LITURGIST:  
ORGANIST:  
ACOLYTES:  
CHOIR:  
GREETERS:  
WELCOME CENTER:  
USHERS:

Pastor Stephen Schumacher  
Pastor Timothy Rossow  
Cantor Phillip Magness  
Andrea Perry & Amy Berger  
*Christus Choir*; Mike Vasilie, director  
Ken & Jill Kolany  
Bill Schoen  
Mick Herrick, Rick Grimes, Steve Schiewe, Kevin Mooney, Dennis Webb

ALTAR GUILD:  
BUILDING OPENER:

Jennifer Kronemann  
Bill Kokaska

**COMMUNION STATEMENT**

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which we joyfully receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. As these gifts are personally received, those communing together also give public witness that they are one in doctrine. In loving obedience to this teaching of Scripture, we therefore invite communicant members of all congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to commune with us.

## 5PM & 9AM SERVICE CONCLUSION

*(At 5PM, please stand to confess our holy faith. At 9AM, remain seated for the baptismal hymn.)*

### THE APOSTLES' CREED (5PM)

*(see inside back cover of hymnal)*

**BAPTISMAL HYMN (9AM)** “This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now” LSB # 591

**P:** During the Rite of Holy Baptism, because this child cannot yet answer for himself, the sponsors and parents will faithfully speak on his behalf in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through Baptism.

**THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM (9AM)** Chase Steven Greer LSB #268

*To preserve reverence in the service, flash photography is not allowed. To avoid distracting worshippers from the liturgy, those taking non-flash photos and video should also remain in their pews.*

*+The Tithes and Offerings Are Received+*

### THE OFFERING AND VOLUNTARY

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

*Karen Perry, harpist*

*arr. M. Radspinner*

*(All guests and members are requested to complete an attendance card.)*

*+We Stand for Prayer+*

**OFFERTORY HYMN** “Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me” LSB #683 st. 1,2,4

### THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### THE LORD’S PRAYER (5PM)

### BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**P:** Now may the God of peace who brought again form the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through ✠ Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom be glory forever and ever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**C:** **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.**

**P:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

### GREETING

*(Please remain standing and turn to face the processional cross as it enters the church.)*

**ENTRANCE HYMN** “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” LSB #710

**CANTICLE** “This is the Feast” LSB #155

### THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Let us pray. *(silence is kept)* 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.**

*+We Sit to Meditate On God’s Word+*

**THE FIRST READING** Acts 4:1-12 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in

custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they had set them in the 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 being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>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."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

#### THE PSALM OF THE DAY (9AM)

*Christus Choir; Danny Groth, Katelyn Kline, duet*

Psalm 23

setting by Michael Burkhardt

*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.*

*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.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear not ill;  
For thou art with me and thy rod And staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;  
My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forever more My dwelling place shall be.*

#### THE PSALM OF THE DAY (5PM & 7:45AM)

Psalm 23

#### BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: **Let us bless the Lord.**

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Now may the God of peace who brought again form the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through  
✠ Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom be glory forever and ever.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"

LSB #782 st. 1,4

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

+We Stand to Confess Our Holy Faith and for Prayer+

**NICENE CREED**

*(see inside back cover of hymnal)*

**THE PRAYERS**

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

+The Tithes and Offerings are Received+

**VOLUNTARY**

*Karen Perry, harpist*

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

arr. M. Radspinner

*(All guests and members are requested to complete an attendance card.)*

+We Stand for the Liturgy of the Lord’s Supper+

**OFFERTORY** “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

LSB #955

**THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

LSB #160

**DISTRIBUTION**

We commune *pilgrim style* this morning. As space becomes available, approach the communion rail and kneel individually. After communing, you may depart whenever you wish. The blessing will be given to the whole congregation after all have communed.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

LSB #683

“Jesus Loves Me, This I Know”

LSB #588

**DISMISSAL OF COMMUNICANTS**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**P:** Let us pray. 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.

**C: Amen.**

“Shepherd Me, O God”

Marty Haugen

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -  
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

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**A:** *antiphon*

**A:** *God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.*

**C: antiphon**

**A:** *Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your Name.*

**C: antiphon**

**A:** *Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff - my comfort and my hope.*

**C: antiphon**

**A:** *You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.*

**C: antiphon**

**A:** *Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life. I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.*

**C: antiphon**

**THE EPISTLE**

I John 3:16-24 (ESV)

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

<sup>19</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

<sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>Whoever 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.**

+We Face the Gospel Procession+

**VERSE**

Romans 6:9; John 10:14

**REFRAIN**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

C: **refrain (alleluia!)**

We know that Christ \_\_\_\_\_ be - ing raised from the dead will  
ne - ver die a - gain; death no long - er  
has do - min - ion o - ver Him.

C: **refrain**

A: *I am the Good Shepherd, I know My own and My own know Me.*

C: **refrain**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 10:11-18 (ESV)

<sup>11</sup>I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C:

Praise to you, O Christ.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

LSB #709

- Stanza 1 - all
- Stanza 2 - *choir or soloist*
- Stanza 3 - all
- Stanza 4 - *choir or soloist*
- Stanza 5 - all
- Stanza 6 - all

**SERMON**

*(The 5PM & 9AM services continue on page 10.)*