

A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

APRIL 21, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

PRELUDE

“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Raney

JEAN PONTIOUS

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 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 and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

1 He lead - eth me: oh, bless - ed thought! Oh, words with heav' n - ly com - fort fraught!
2 Some - times mid scenes of deep - est gloom, some - times where E - den's bow - ers bloom,

What - e' er I do, wher - e' er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o' er trou - bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.

Refrain

He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me, by his own hand he lead - eth me.

His faith - ful fol - l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

GREETING

P 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.



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



B 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

P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

C **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.**

Sit

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their 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 questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 23

Read Responsively

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

A ¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

C ²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

A ³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C ⁴**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.**

A ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C ⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How 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?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And 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. ²⁴All 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.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

SERMON

PASTOR MONTE STEVENS

SPECIAL MUSIC

"He Leadeth Me" Berry

8:30 Service

JEAN PONTIOUS

"A Song for Communion"

11:00 Service

ADVENT ANGELS

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

A Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith (including Anselm of Canterbury and all who labored to help generations understand the good news of the gospel). Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.



Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.



Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

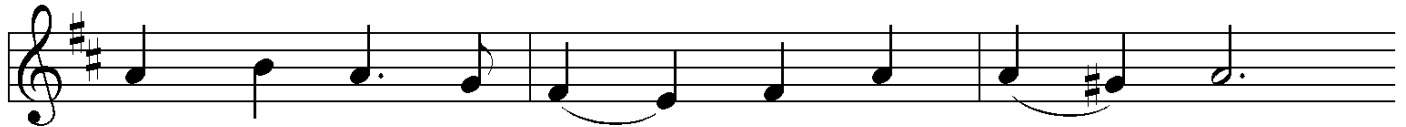


☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, and our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, with the angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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



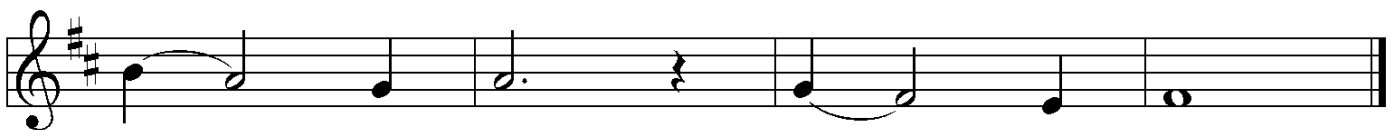
☪ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

P And now may the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and His most holy and precious blood, strengthen you and preserve you and keep you to true faith unto life everlasting. May we depart in peace and may the Lord be with you.

C Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray. 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.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BLESSING

- P May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face smile upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance on you, and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen**

1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;

In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others, and Make Disciples.
 C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR OUR GUESTS – SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

Invitation to the Lord's Table – Believing in the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, this family of faith practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion when they are worshipping with us.

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen**

*If you would like communion brought to you at your seat,
please notify one of the ushers.*

*This communion bread is free from:
Gluten, Dairy, Nuts, Egg and Yeast.*

*After receiving the elements, you may return to your seats.
Please place your empty communion cup in the baskets
provided on the first row of chairs.*

Grape juice is available by request at the chancel rail.

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
ASSISTING MINISTER	ALYSHA CLOUS	CRAIG FORSYTH
SUPPLY PASTOR	THE REVEREND MONTE STEVENS	



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Charles Marks from Jean Pontious.

Please check the 2024 Altar Flower Chart located above the usher stand to order flowers in honor of someone special or celebrating special occasions. Price is \$22.00 per vase.

OUR ACTIVITIES AND HAPPENINGS

Swoop in Service Day – at Advent, May 4



JUNE 24-28 2024

9:00-11:30 AM

Contact Marcy Layne at
Marcyandaaron@yahoo.com

The decorating committee for VBS is looking for your help! We are teaming up with Bethel Presbyterian Church for **2 more work days**. These will be on Saturdays from 9 am to noon. The dates are **April 27, and May 25** at 1735 Bethel Rd. Columbus. If you can come to one or all it will be a great help! Many hands make light work!

We are also asking for bottle cap donations. We are in **need of plastic bottle caps**, of any size, such as those from milk jugs, Gatorade bottles, peanut butter, detergent, etc. They should be plastic, not metal. A container is labeled in the narthex that you can put the bottle caps in.



Please contact/reach out to **Pam Kasai** to let her know you will help, and with any questions you may have. 614-738-2359 or Pamelakasai@gmail.com

Join us at Advent Lutheran Church for a unique and uplifting gathering – our first-ever "**Manicure Mingle**"! This special event, crafted for girls and women of all ages, promises an afternoon of camaraderie, relaxation, and spiritual enrichment. Whether you're a daughter, mother, or friend, this is the perfect opportunity to pause, pamper yourself, and reflect on the true essence of beauty through God's eyes. Contact Marcy Layne at marcyandaaron@yahoo.com with questions. Register online at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qxTpR4AXDHsK-j9H5woCykNbZwkt-PHEr_ZNQP2q6d8/edit?ts=6616f012