



My Sheep Hear My Voice...

Sunday, April 17, 2016
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

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Service of Holy Eucharist

To all who join in worship, we are grateful that you are here today!

- We invite all believers in Christ to receive the Sacrament with us. White grape juice is available in the glass chalice. Gluten-free wafers are also available. If you would like us to bring the bread and wine to you, please notify one of the ushers.
- Nursery attendants are available during worship just off the South Lobby area for children ages 5 years and younger. If you arrive and no one is in the nursery, please notify one of the ushers to get the attendant. A changing table is available in the nursery.
- Pew Pads are located at the end of each pew. Please sign in and pass them down to the end of the row so we can note that you attended worship with us today. If you or someone you know would like a visit from one of our staff, please inform Pastor Rachel or Intern Jennifer.
- Prayer request cards are in the pew racks. Please hand to an usher during the hymn following the sermon.

WELCOME... We pray this worship time is enriching for your spiritual life.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter:

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Let us come into the light,
the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,
**you have brought us through the night of sin
into the light of Jesus' resurrection.**

Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.

Make us alive in Christ, O God.

Make us new as you make all things new.

Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin,

renew us in grace,

and restore us to living in your holiness,

through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.



Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!

The light of the risen Christ

puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin,

restores innocence to the fallen,

casts out hate, brings peace,

and humbles earthly pride.

Jesus Christ loves you

and ✝ frees you from your sins by his blood.

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN: “*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!*”
(ELW 369)**

GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “*Lord, Who Has Formed Me*”

(By Philip Godfrey, Words by George Herbert)

*Lord, who has formed me out of mud, and hast redeemed me through thy blood,
 And sanctified me to do good, purge all my sins done here-to-fore:
 For I confess my heavy score, and I will strive to sin no more.*

*Enrich my heart, mouth, hands in me, with faith, with hope, with charity,
 That I may run, rise, rest with thee,
 That I may run, rise, rest with thee.*

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing was well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

A reading from Acts.

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

The psalm for the day is sung.

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

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

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.**

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

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.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering, in whose blood the saints have washed their robes and made them white.

A reading from Revelation.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



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



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

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

The holy gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

All children are welcome to come forward to hear a special message for them.

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (ELW 502)

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

APOSTLES’ 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 INTERCESSION

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

A brief silence.

Holy and mighty God, fulfill your saving work on behalf of all who give thanks for your great love for this creation. Make our song strong enough to invite all hurting people into your family. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make us ever conscious of how we use and consume the gifts you have given us on the earth and in the oceans. Open our eyes to see creation as good, useful, and worthy of care.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give your wisdom to people who make decisions that affect others. Fill human institutions with your reconciling justice. When we oppress people, disrupt us and heal our hearts.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Respond to the call of people who cry out in grief, in loneliness or despair, or in chronic pain or illness. Embrace them with your compassion. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With your very presence sustain communities that are formed out of common struggle: among those who are widowed, among children without parents, and among people who have no permanent shelter. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You give strength to the saints by fulfilling your promise of eternal life. Shepherd us in paths of righteousness, that we may know life now and in the age to come. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We deliver all this into your care, O God, trusting in the work of your Holy Spirit to bring all things into the risen life of Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY

"We Place upon Your Table, Lord" (ELW 467)

The assembly stands and sings the offertory hymn as the gifts are brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the prayer.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings.

As you have raised us to new life in Christ,

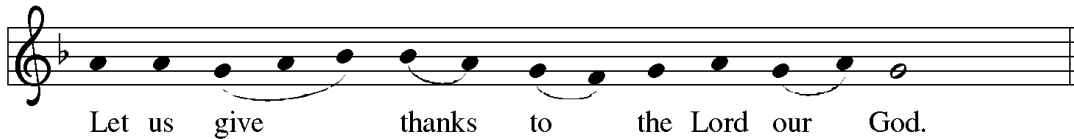
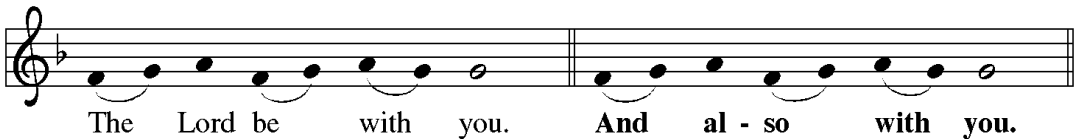
give us glad and generous hearts,

ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The table of life is spread before you.
Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Let Us Break Bread Together” (ELW 471)

“As the Grains of Wheat” (ELW 465)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The assembly stands to receive the blessing.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

We give you thanks, O God,
that you make your home with us,
bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.
Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here,
that we may wipe away tears,
tend to those in mourning and pain,
seek the healing of the nations,
and bring to earth the presence of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



BENEDICTION

The blessing of the Lord God Almighty,
the blessing of ✝ Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

PARISH SHARING TIME

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

SENDING HYMN: "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" (ELW 789)

The assembly stands.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

A WORD ABOUT THE GOSPEL TODAY

That's No Bunk!

Too often the arrival of the gospel's joyful surprise gets redelivered as some kind of grim omen handing out a multiple choice test asking you to choose the right way to belong, to be saved, to be righteous:

- a. Be good enough
- b. Know enough
- c. Believe enough
- d. All of the above and endless other "enoughs"
- e. None of the above

Enough already! A nontechnical, not particularly theological, but remarkably apt reaction is "that's bunk," which is similar to "that's a bunch of hooey," which translates to "that's not right," which leads back to the un-gospel quiz where the correct answer is "e."

On a cold winter day a restless crowd gathered around Jesus at the temple in Jerusalem. The contentious bunch was on pins and needles; hot tensions steamed the chilly holy city air. "We want a simple, unambiguous, no complications answer! Are you the Messiah?" Test time. What right answer could Jesus offer the testy inquisitors?

He replied: Clearly all that I have said about who I am has not convinced you. So listen, yes, listen, but all the more *look* and see the way I am revealed by moments of mercy, spectacles of forgiveness, and choices of compassion. Watch my way with the shamed and my scandalous behavior toward the untouchables. Then hear my voice. Dare to be like sheep who, stumbling and limping and tripping and meandering all the way, do take the risk. Hazard to believe that in me there is life to be had, a life that will not come to an end and that no one can take away.

Discovering the Messiah may not always be plain. It can be ambiguous and hard to understand, but always, always it will be gracious and life-giving. That's the joyful gospel. And that's no bunk!

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552;

Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; Renewers of the Church

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109

Thursday, April 21, 2016

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.

Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)

Friday, April 22, 2016

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

Toyohiko Kagawa, Renewer of Society, died 1960

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

TEXTS FOR NEXT WEEK:

First Reading—Acts 11:1-18

Psalm—Psalm 148

Second Reading—Revelation 21:1-6

Gospel—John 13:31-35

Serving the Church

THIS WEEK—April 17, 2016

NEXT WEEK—April 24, 2016

Preacher: Pastor Rachel Larson
Lector: 8:00AM Intern Jennifer Michael
10:30AM Charles Nye
Acolyte: 8:00AM Madie Jablin
10:30AM Ian Meyer
Ushers: 8:00AM Amy Wright
Eric Wright
10:30AM Jolene Roesler
Jason Roesler
Greeters: 8:00AM Tracy Bennett
Betty Carstens
10:30AM Debbe, Lindsay,
& Lily Conyers
Nursery: 8:00AM Kelsey Anderson
10:30AM Rosalind Kidwell

Preacher: Mr. Adam Huck
Lector: 8:00AM Youth Sunday
10:30AM Youth Sunday
Acolyte: 8:00AM Rylie Heggie
10:30AM Silja Alexander
Ushers: 8:00AM Youth Sunday
Youth Sunday
10:30AM Youth Sunday
Youth Sunday
Greeters: 8:00AM Youth Sunday
Youth Sunday
10:30AM Youth Sunday
Youth Sunday
Nursery: 8:00AM Kate Jablin
10:30AM Tracy Kidwell

Stewards: Judy Moline & Charles Nye

Altar Guild: Judy Moline

Coffee Fellowship: The Oolman Family

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Congregation President.....Stephen Boss
Organist.....Meng Xu
Choir Director.....Larry Hazlett
Financial Secretary.....Bev Gossett
Treasurer.....Susan Manown

This is Christ's church...

There is a place for you here.

