Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 7, 2024 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history.

Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.



♦ GATHERING **♦**

Prelude

Partita in D Frank Rittermann, organ

Bernardo Pasquini

Please rise, as you are able and turn towards the font and Christ Candle at the Sanctuary entrance.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed!!! Alleluia!!!
- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed!!! Alleluia!!!
- **P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed!!! Alleluia!!!
- **P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.
- C Amen.
- **P** 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.

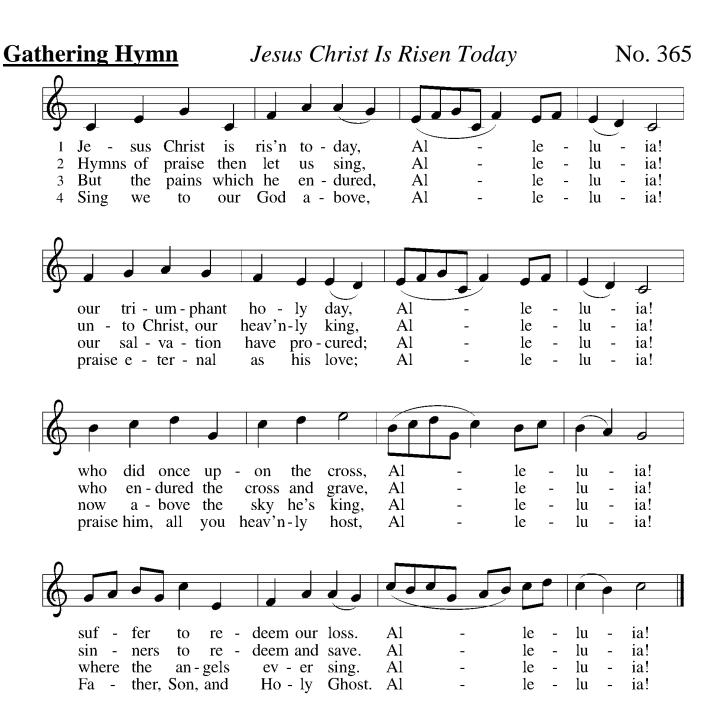
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

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.

C Amen.



- **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.

Canticle of Praise



- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God,

C with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

→ THE WORD **→**

First Reading

Acts 4:32-35

- A reading from Acts. ³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.
- **A** The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 133

- **A** ¹How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!
- C ²It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

A ³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Second Reading 1 John 1:1--2:2

A reading from First Corinthians. ¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

- **A** The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 20:19-31

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to John the twentieth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

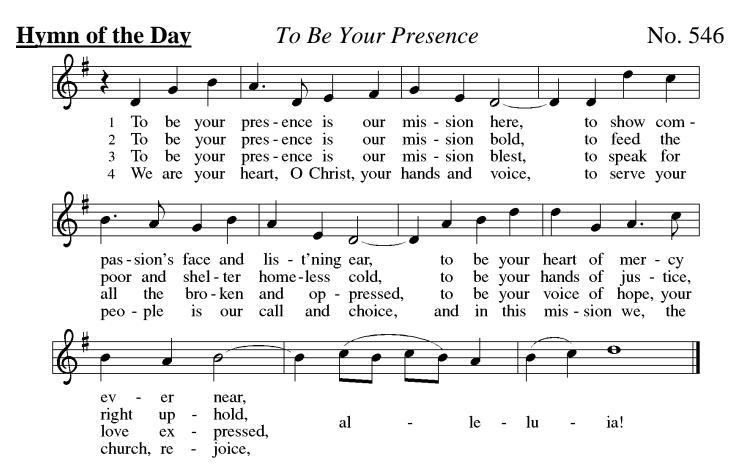
- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

<u>Sermon</u>

The Rev. Alejandro Mejía

Please rise, as you are able.



- **A** Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.
- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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.

After each portion of the prayers:

- **A** God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- P 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.

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

After sharing the peace, please be seated.

Offering and Offertory

Aria

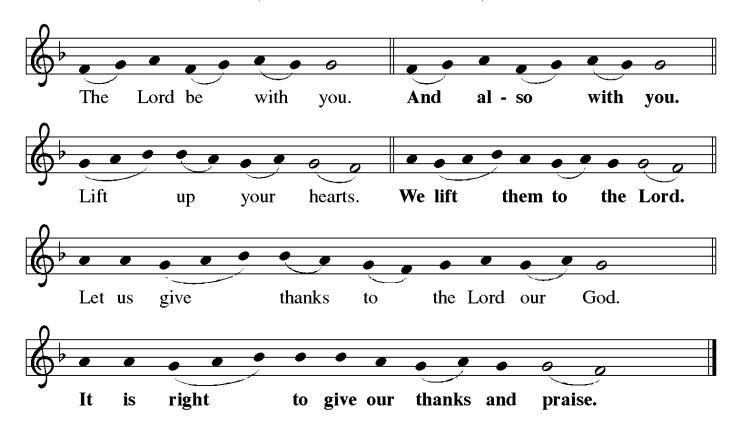
G.F. Handel

As the gifts are presented, please rise as you are able.



- A Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
- C May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

♦THE EUCHARIST



The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season; the congregation responds:



- **P** In the night in which he was betrayed, ...
 - Again, after supper, he took the cup, ...
- **P** For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- **P** 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.

- **P** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.

If you require communion to be brought to you in the pew, please alert an usher.

During the distribution, the following is sung: Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



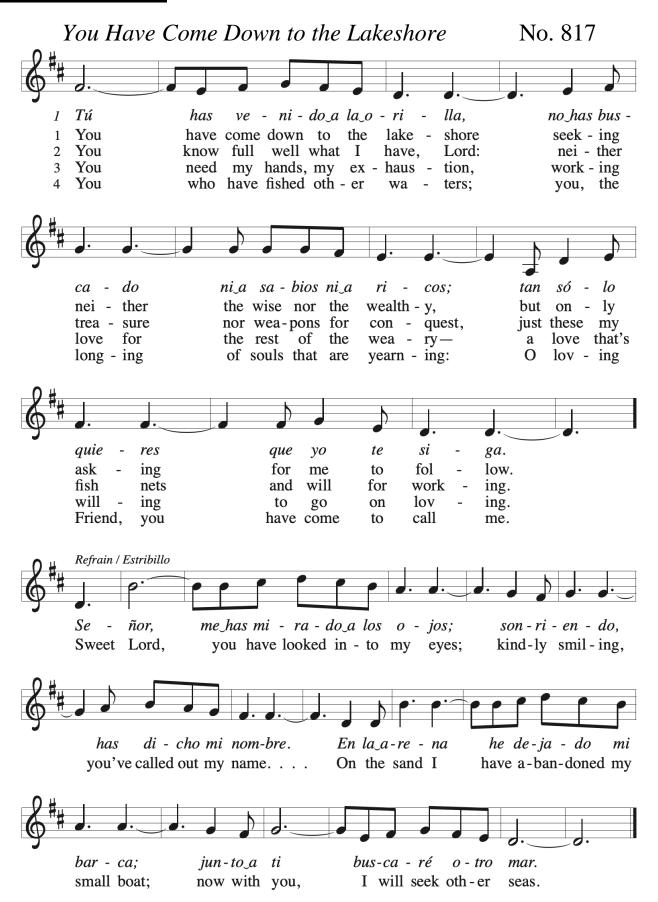
ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



Communion Hymn



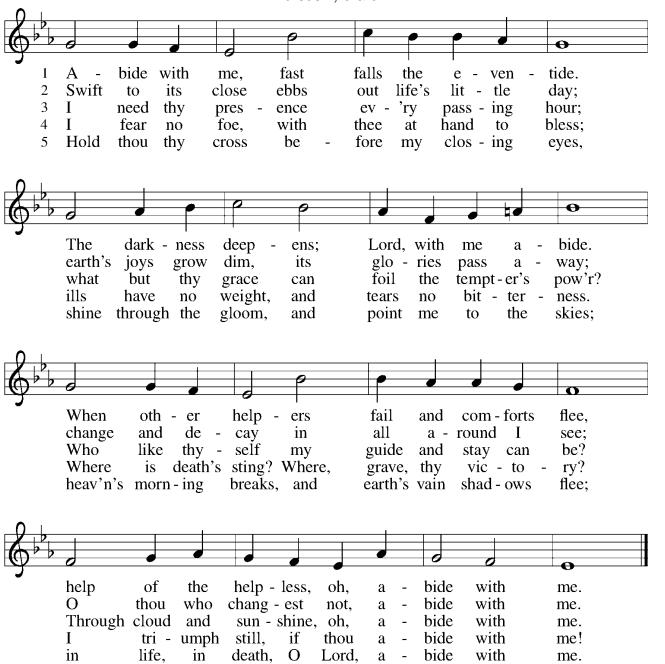
- **P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

We are blessed to have Lay Eucharistic Ministers serving here at LCGS. On the first Sunday of each month, the bread and the wine they carry in their home communion kits are consecrated during our service. Home communion is then offered throughout the month to those who are unable to join us here. If you would like to join this ministry, know of someone who would like to receive home communion, or want more information, please contact the church office.

- P Let us pray. Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.
- A Let us pray. Shepherding God,
- C 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. Amen.

→ SENDING **→**

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- **P** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.
- C Amen.



A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Processional

William Mathias

Welcome and thank you to Frank Rittermann for providing our music today!

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by

Shirley Ernst in loving memory of her dear friend, Juanita Tausendschoen, on the second anniversary of her death.

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

Debbie, Ray, Paul, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty, Theresa, Linda, Nancy, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Lois, Barbara & Bruce

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SERVING TODAY 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. Greeters Teri King Maureen Stark **Assisting Minister** Communion Assistants Lis Miller Laura Runyeon Tina Zimmerman **Ushers** Dovle McCracken **Acolytes** Joel Raedeke Livestream