

## Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025

### PRELUDE

*Sheep May Safely Graze* (Johann Sebastian Bach)

Anna Kruse, viola

### WELCOME

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Stand*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

P In the name of ☩ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**C Amen.**

P Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C make us one as you are one.**

P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C make us one as you are one.**

P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C    make us one as you are one.**

**P    Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.**

**C    Amen.**

*Please stand and turn to face the processional cross.*

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen (ELW 377)*

- 1    Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
     Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
     Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
     Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

***Refrain***

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

- 2    Walking the way, Christ in the center  
     telling the story to open our eyes;  
     breaking our bread, giving us glory:  
     Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain***

- 3    Jesus the vine, we are the branches;  
     life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
     heaven to earth, Christ to the people,  
     gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain***

- 4    Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:  
     death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
     Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!  
     Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain***

- 5    City of God, Easter forever,  
     golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
     river of life, saints and archangels,  
     sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain***

## GREETING

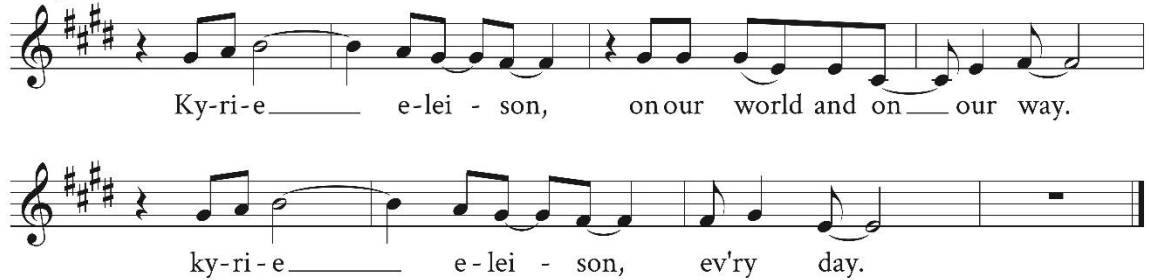
*With Saint Paul and generations of Christians, we greet one another in the name of God (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

**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.**

## KYRIE

*Refrain - All*



**Cantor:**

For the peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

**This is the feast of victory for our God,  
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,**

**Whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,  
Blessing, and glory are his.   *Refrain***

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.   *Refrain***

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P**   Let us pray.

**C**   **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.**

*Sit*

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

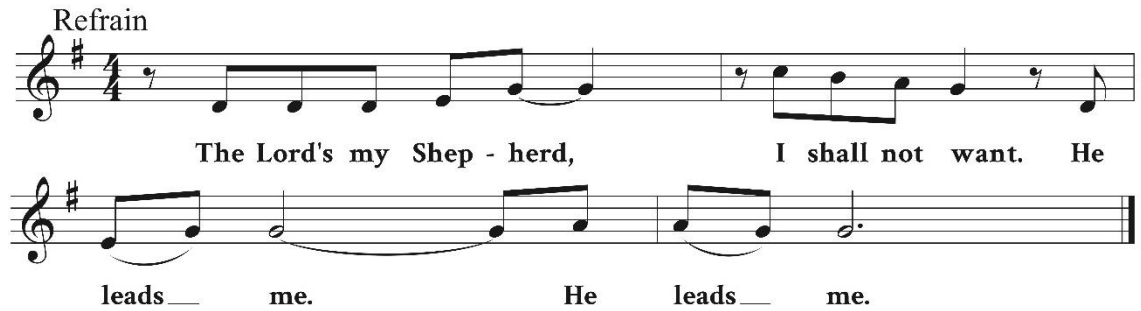
### **FIRST READING**

Acts 9:36-43

<sup>36</sup> Now 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. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since 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." <sup>39</sup> So 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. <sup>40</sup> Peter 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. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

**R**   Word of God, Word of life.

**C**   **Thanks be to God.**



Leaders/Faith Trek: Refrain

**All: Refrain**

*Choir/Ensemble: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me by still waters.*

Leaders/Faith Trek: Refrain

**All: Refrain**

*Choir/Ensemble: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

Leaders/Faith Trek: Refrain

**All: Refrain**

*Choir/Ensemble: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.*

Leaders/Faith Trek: Refrain

**All: Refrain**

*Choir/Ensemble: You prepare a table in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil,  
my cup overflows.*

Leaders/Faith Trek: Refrain

**All: Refrain**

*Choir/Ensemble: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell  
in the house of the Lord forever and ever.*

Leaders/Faith Trek: Refrain

**All: Refrain**

*Choir/Ensemble: He leads me, he leads me.*

## SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup> After 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. <sup>10</sup> They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup> And 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, <sup>12</sup> singing, "Amen!

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” <sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup> I 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. <sup>15</sup> For 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. <sup>16</sup> They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup> for 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.”

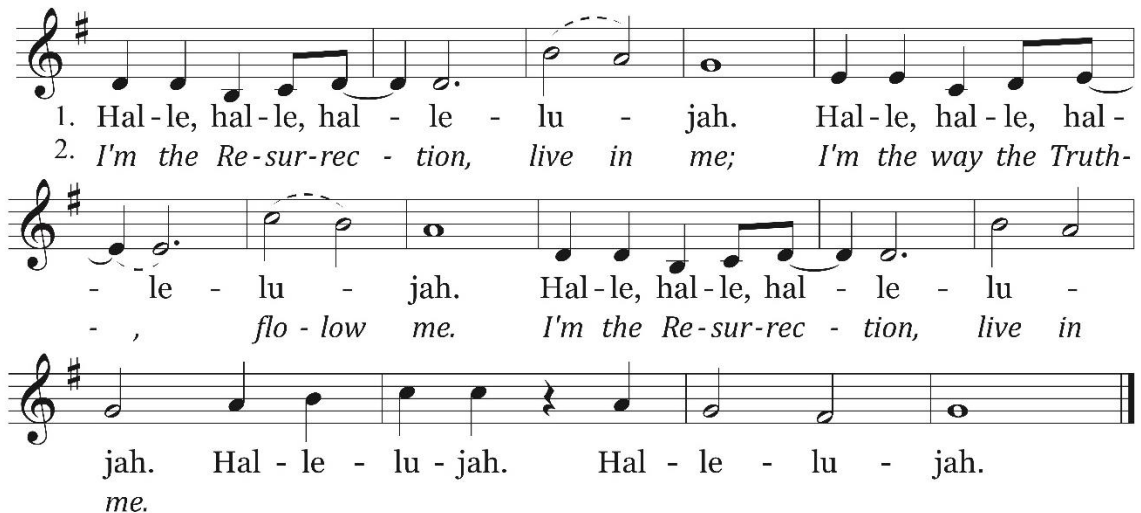
R Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## KIDS' MESSAGE

*Stand (In preparation for the Gospel reading, we stand to honor and receive the story and the words of Jesus Christ.)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



1. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
 2. I'm the Re-sur-rec - tion, live in me; I'm the way the Truth-  
 - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu -  
 - , flo - low me. I'm the Re-sur-rec - tion, live in  
 jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

## GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

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

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

**SERMON**

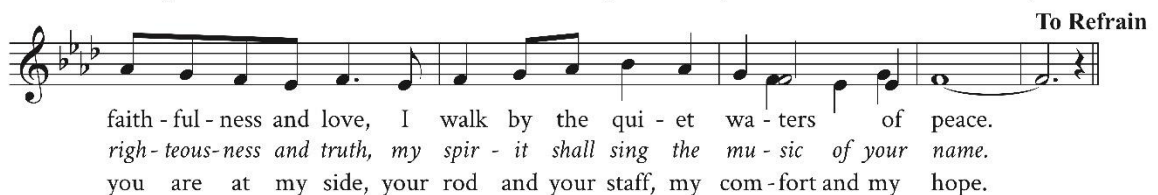
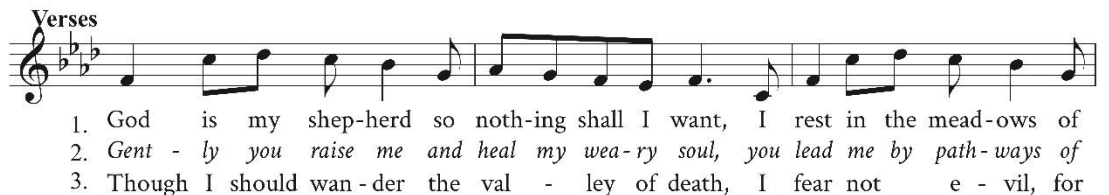
Pastor Andrew Kitzing

*Stand*

*The Word of God and the theme of the day are repeated in song.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Shepherd Me, O God* (ELW 780, Leaders - stanzas 4 & 5)



Leaders:

4) You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. **R**

5) Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life, I will dwell in the house of my God forever more. **R**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** **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**

**P** God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*After each petition, respond with, "Your mercy is great."*

*(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their news)*

*In our prayers with recent concerns:* Shari Peters, Jen Wemhoff, Daniel Robles, Harold Sutter, Bill Shaner and Kent Hardel. *Those with ongoing concerns:* Elaine Kruse, Pastor Bill Peterson, Mary Brass, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Gloria Van Ackeren, Tracy Troutman, Doris Bushard, Fred Ohles, and Michael Dalton. *Those who are part of our homebound community:* Sylvia Kempf, M. Joyce Hansen, Donna Nelson, Cindy Schuster, Betty Miller, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Ralph Hayden, Rod Price, Millie Howe and Margrett Wehland.



P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Amen.**

### THE PEACE OF CHRIST IS SHARED

*In an act of unity; blessing, and reconciliation, we greet one another with the Peace of Christ (Matthew 5:23-24)*

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*Sit*

### MUSICAL OFFERING

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (Victor Johnson)*

Adult Choir

P To God be the glory.

C **Amen.**

*Stand*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
2. Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sa - vior,  
our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
by whose death we live. Spir - it, guide through all our days:  
flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
three in One, your name we praise, Al - le - lu - ia!

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C **Risen one, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*In our table prayer we offer thanks and praise for God's act of salvation and for the meal we are about to share.*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

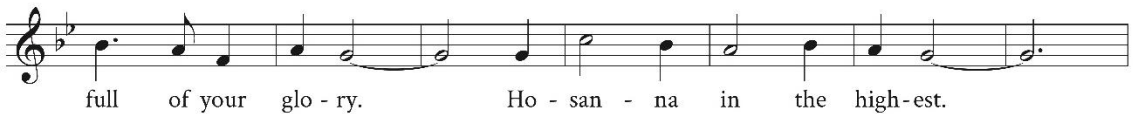
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed... *(here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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 THE TABLE

**P** Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

**C** **This is the feast of victory for our God! Alleluia!**

*Sit*

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy on us.

world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*He Leadeth Me* (arr. Lorie Line)

Anna Kruse, viola

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*The King of Love, My Shepherd Is* (ELW 502)

- 1** **The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever.**
- 2** **Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.**
- 3** **Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,**

and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still;  
thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

*This Joyful Eastertide (ELW 391)*

- 1 This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and sorrow!  
My love, the Crucified,  
has sprung to life this morrow.

*Refrain*

Had Christ, who once was slain,  
not burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain.  
But now has Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen, arisen.

- 2 My flesh in hope shall rest  
and for a season slumber  
till trump from east to west  
shall wake the dead in number. *Refrain*
- 3 Death's flood has lost its chill  
since Jesus crossed the river.  
Lover of souls, from ill  
my passing soul deliver. *Refrain*

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

C **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray.

C **Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **BLESSING**

P The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C **Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

*Thine the Amen (ELW 826)*

1 **Thine the amen thine the praise  
alleluias angels raise  
thine the everlasting head  
thine the breaking of the bread  
thine the glory thine the story  
thine the harvest then the cup  
thine the vineyard then the cup  
is lifted up lifted up.**

2 **Thine the life eternally  
thine the promise let there be  
thine the vision thine the tree  
all the earth on bended knee  
gone the nailing gone the railing  
gone the pleading gone the cry  
gone the sighing gone the dying  
what was loss lifted high.**

3 **Thine the truly thine the yes**

thine the table we the guest  
thine the mercy all from thee  
thine the glory yet to be  
then the ringing and the singing  
then the end of all the war  
thine the living thine the loving  
evermore evermore.

- 4 Thine the kingdom thine the prize  
thine the wonder full surprise  
thine the banquet then the praise  
then the justice of thy ways  
thine the glory thine the story  
then the welcome to the least  
then the wonder all increasing  
at thy feast at thy feast.
- 5 Thine the glory in the night  
no more dying only light  
thine the river thine the tree  
then the Lamb eternally  
then the holy holy holy  
celebration jubilee  
thine the splendor thine the brightness  
only thee only thee.

#### **DISMISSAL**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Go in peace, In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### **POSTLUDE**

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* (arr. John Behnke)

Lead Pastor: Erin Heidelberger  
Associate Pastor: Andrew Kitzing  
Song Leaders: Cora Hoeft, Kayla Peters  
Live Streaming: Brian Niebuhr

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