

ST. JOHN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

7:45AM &  
10:45AM

APRIL 25,  
2021



Making the  
Love of  
Christ  
Known

Jeffery Gramza  
*Senior Pastor*

Doug Meyer  
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*Vicar*

# Prelude

## Welcome /Announcements

### Baptism (10:45 Service)

#### Gathering Hymn

ELW 789

#### Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.

3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;

4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.

you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.

bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



## Dialog of the Shepherd:

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh,  
Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Shepherd your people with your staff, O Lord;  
The flock that belongs to you.

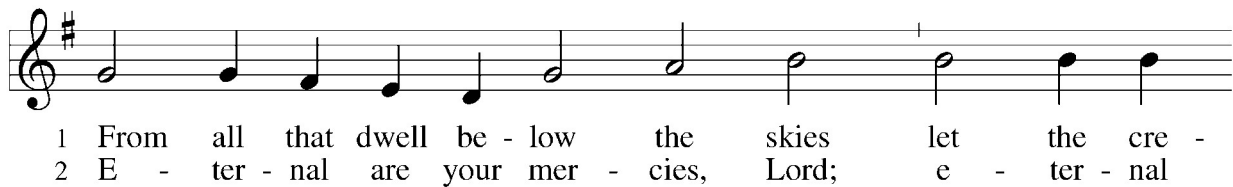
For thus says the Lord God:  
I myself will search for my sheep.

I will seek the lost and bring back the strayed.  
I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.

I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them.  
They shall not fear any longer or be dismayed.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

## From All That Dwell Below the Skies



## Prayer of the Day

Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation –  
We know your voice, the sounds of your steps.  
Your love gathers us, urges us, encourages us.  
Shepherd us, us, engage with us, as we seek you –  
so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ.  
Be with us now, we pray. **Amen.**

## Children's Sermon

**Kids' Praise** (10:45) *At this time children age 3 – grade 4 are now dismissed, at the parent's discretion, to the Octagon.*

## 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 is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.*

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

<sup>11</sup>This Jesus is

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

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

*The reading is concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup>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.

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

<sup>6</sup>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: 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.*

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

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

<sup>23</sup>And 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. <sup>24</sup>All 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.

*The reading is concluded:*  
Word of God, word of life.  
Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Congregation:*

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

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th Chapter.  
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:] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The 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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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>I 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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No 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.”



*The gospel is concluded:*  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

ELW 611

### I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889  
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune



## Response to the Word

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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.

## Confession and Forgiveness

If we are honest with ourselves, our hearts condemn us. But God, who knows everything, is greater than our hearts; and God's deep desire for us is mercy, love, and peace. Therefore let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*



Lord have mercy on us,  
We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. This is the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ + we are forgiven. Thanks be to God

### Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence. Each portion of the prayers concludes with these words:*

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Kids' Praise**– *Children return to families during the offering.*



## Offering Prayer

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. **Amen**

## Lord's Prayer

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

## Benediction

May the goodness and mercy of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, follow you all the days of your life, and, at your life's end, may you dwell in the house of the Lord forever. **Amen**

## Sending Hymn

*Next Page*

## Dismissal

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God. **Alleluia!**

## Postlude



# In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, — my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -  
 world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
 pow'r of Christ — in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal



Ground, firm through the fier - est drought — and storm. What heights of  
 -ness, scorned by the ones He came — to save. Till on that  
 Day, up from the grave He rose — a - gain! And as He  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of



love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort -  
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry  
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am  
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re -



-er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ — I  
 sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ — I  
 His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood — of  
 -turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ — I'll

## INSTRUMENTAL



stand.  
 live.  
 Christ.  
 stand!

Words and Music by  
 Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

