

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:15 a.m. Worship Service

April 21, 2024

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
2601 23rd Ave South — Fargo, ND 58103  
Phone: (701) 293-1047  
Pastor Chris Waldvogel

**Welcome!** The Lord Jesus is the good shepherd who “lays down his life for the sheep,” (John 10:11). His life is not taken from Him, but He lays it down willingly because He knows and loves the sheep. As the One sent by the Father, He has the “authority to lay it down” and the “authority to take it up again,” (John 10:18). He continues to love and serve the sheep by the voice of His Gospel, calling all people into the fold of His Church, so that there may be one flock, one shepherd, (John 10:16). His voice rings out to this day through the preaching of His name, “for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved,” (Acts 4:12).

Today we celebrate the Lord’s Supper. We teach that we receive the true body and blood of Jesus in, with and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. Those communing with us make a public confession of the Christian faith as taught by our congregation and church body. If you are visiting, please speak with a pastor before coming to the Lord’s Table.

### + Order of Worship +

**Song** “Your Love Never Fails (One Thing Remains)”

### **Invocation and Easter Greeting**

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### **Confession and Absolution**

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

C: **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 on God’s Word and self-examination.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are, by nature, sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.**

**C: 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 you, and for His sake, forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Introit** *(Psalm 23; antiphon, v. 6)*

P: Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**C: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

P: He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.

**C: He restores my soul.**

**He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

P: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

**C: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**Kyrie**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Salutation and Collect**

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, merciful Father, because You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd, we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Song**

“House of the Lord”

**First Reading**

Acts 4:1-12

And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

On the next day, their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual**

**C: Christ is risen from the dead,**

**(God the Father) has crowned Him with glory and honor,  
He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;  
He has put all things under His feet.**

### **Epistle Reading**

1 John 3:16-24

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Anthem**

“Seek Ye First”

### **The Holy Gospel**

John 10:11-18

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

(Jesus said,) I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold.

I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Song**

“Your Great Name”

### **Sermon**

#### **Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **Prayer of the Church**

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

P: Shepherd of Israel, in Your Son, You have sought out Your sheep and gathered us into Your flock. Keep us always in Your fold, and guard us from every wolf and snare. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, You alone gather us as Your sheep and send faithful shepherds to us. Call all who have wandered from Your flock, and bless the faithful shepherds who gather them through the voice of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, Your Son has called us to love our brothers. Turn us in love toward the neighbors closest to us, especially within our own homes, that we may daily show our confidence in God by deed and truth, laying down our lives as Christ first did for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Eternal Lord, through the Paschal Lamb You have wrought peace between man and God. By Your gift of good government, grant peace and good days also to our citizens and between the nations of the world, that we and all our neighbors may lead quiet lives in godly contentment. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, by the firstfruits of Christ's life from the dead, You secured forgiveness for our troubled consciences. Bless also who suffer among us, especially \_\_\_\_\_. Grant them aid in this moment and, even more so, true, immortal health in the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: *(Other specific petitions)* Lord in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Lord God, out of Your fatherly goodness You have remembered us poor, miserable sinners and given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that even as this Shepherd knows us and helps in every affliction and need, we also may know Him, trust Him, seek help and comfort in Him, heartily obey His voice and obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Offering

## Offertory

“Sanctuary”

## Preface to the Lord's Supper

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 Him thanks and praise.**

## Proper Preface

P: It is truly, good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, everlasting God. Most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again, He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of Christ's body and blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor and worship; with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

P: 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.**

## Words of Institution

*(Spoken by the pastor)*

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

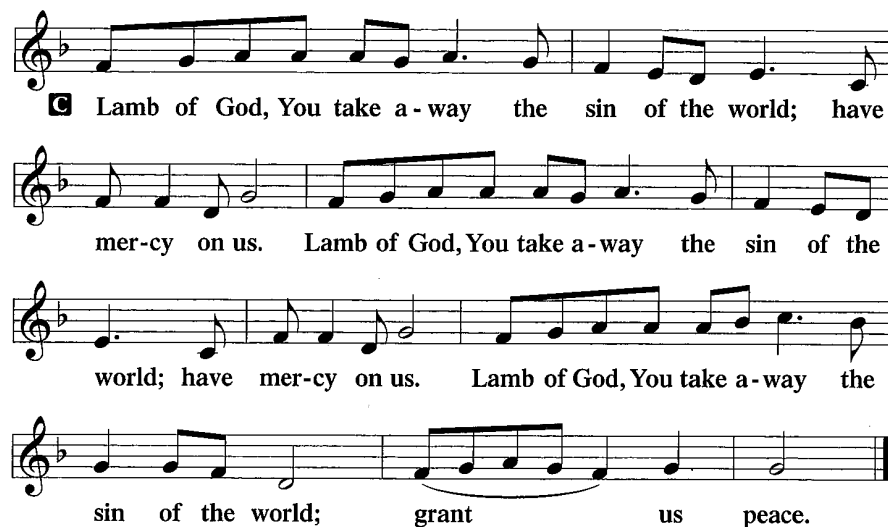
In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## Agnus Dei



☐ 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 Songs

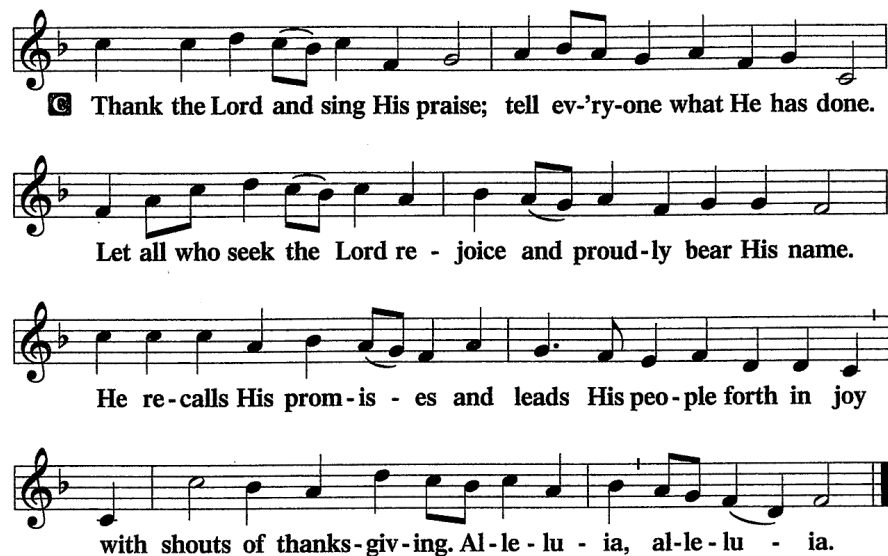
"Song of Hope"

"Jesus Does"

"I am Jesus' Little Lamb"

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## Post-Communion Canticle



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

### **Post-Communion Collect**

P: Let us pray: Gracious God, our Heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

CHRIST  
IS RISEN  
INDEED *Alleluia*