



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Gathering

PRELUDE *I Know That My Redeemer Lives!* – Thomas Keesecker

GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The presiding minister shares announcements from the Trinity community.

GATHERING SONG *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! (ELW 385)*

At-home worshippers are invited to sing.



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
3 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



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.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

READING: Acts 4:5-12

The assisting minister reads the lesson.

A reading from Acts.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled

with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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.

¹¹This Jesus is

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

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

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

READING: 1 John 3:16-24

The assisting minister reads the lesson.

A reading from First John.

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

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And 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. ²⁴All 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

At-home worshippers are invited to sing.



GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

The presiding minister reads the gospel.

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

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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.”

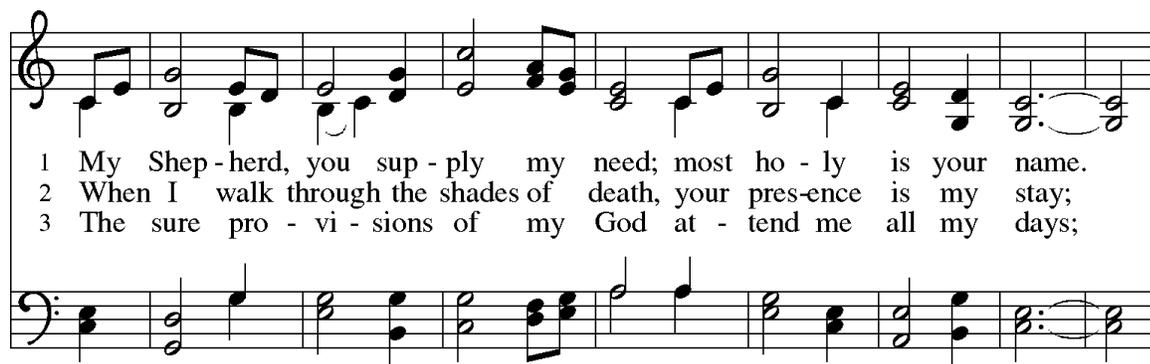
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

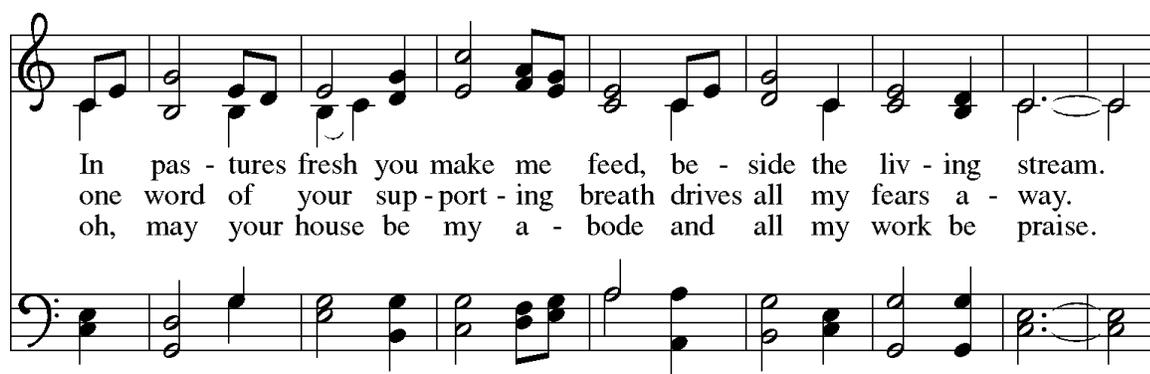
The presiding minister delivers the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need (ELW 782)*

At-home worshippers are invited to sing.



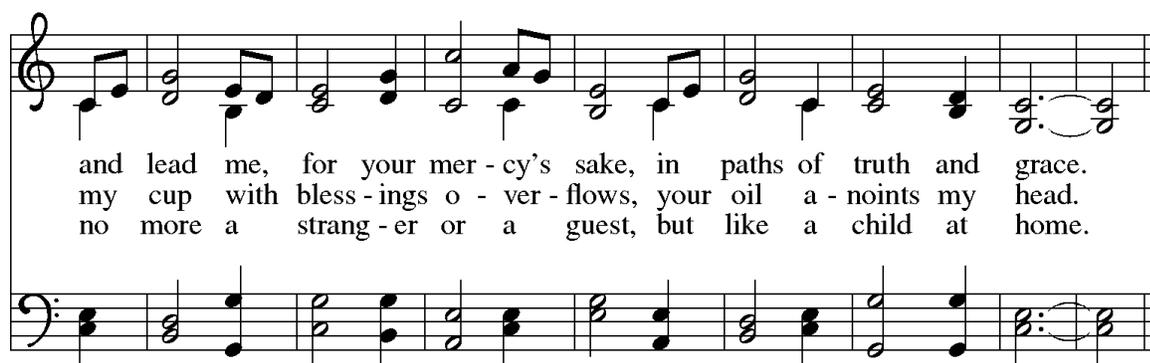
1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.
one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.
oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;
Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.
no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers.

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.

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. With the worldwide ecumenical community, today we pray for the churches of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that come to the aid of those in need. We pray especially for, Rick, Pat, Josiah, Paul, Kim, Art, Fred, Keith, Carl, Greta, Marg, Janice, Paul, and those we name in the silence of our hearts. [a pause] Help us love one another in truth and action.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with you Holy Spirit.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

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.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

The presiding minister continues.

In every time and every age, O God,
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks,
for your mercy is sure
and your steadfast love endures forever.
In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus,
who frees us from darkness
and lights our path to endless renewal and life eternal.
And so, with all of creation,

with all the needy and hungry ones,
with all those who have enough and plenty,
with creatures large and small,
with sun and moon and stars,
and with the saints of every age,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

At-home worshippers are invited to sing.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues.

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.
By your power and love you continue
to deliver your people from bondage,
thwart the designs of evil,
show the way through the wilderness,
turn hardship into righteousness,
and reveal your hand upholding the just.

Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe.
You came among us to feed and heal and teach,
to confound the haughty,
to confuse the tricksters,
to challenge the wrong-hearted,
and, in all these things,
to give hope to those who long for peace.

We remember that on the night before his death,
having gathered his friends at the table,
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

And again, after supper, he took the cup
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering our Lord's self-giving love,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.
You give us words when we have none;
you fill us with vision when we have the most need;
you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour.
Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace,
Spirit of Love,
Breath of Life.
Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew,
and teach us to proclaim with her,
“I have seen the Lord!”
In the unity of the Holy Trinity,
in gratitude for this great day of resurrection,
we praise you, God of all that is,
now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

The presiding minister introduces the 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 presiding minister addresses the assembly.

The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat, and be satisfied.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

At-home worshippers are invited to consume their bread and wine.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!* – John Leavitt

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Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

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