



# Christ Lutheran Church

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter

## GATHERING

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Psalm 23, The Lord is My Shepherd- music by Stuart Townend (3:02)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-qLa\\_2GPcM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-qLa_2GPcM)

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### GREETING

**PM** 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.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

# WORD

## 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.

## 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 of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor June Wilkins

**Shepherd Me, O God**

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church (4:28)

<https://youtu.be/hQid6VgHNec>

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**AM** With the whole church, let us 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

# MEAL

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Faith of Our Fathers

Dolce Jubilo (Christ Lutheran's Bell Choir) (1:36)

<https://youtu.be/QdEkRwRFI78>

## OFFERING PRAYER

**AM** God of love,  
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.  
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.  
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;  
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**PM** The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

*As we join with the family of all believers in celebrating Holy Communion, we believe that Christ is present in this meal, and when we receive it, we receive God's grace, abundant love, and forgiveness.*

## TABLE BLESSING

**PM** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and reveal to you God's grace.  
**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**AM** 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

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### BLESSING

**PM** May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.  
May the God of life  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Your Grace Finds Me**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmFJkGEv3Lw>

Myrin & Redman (4:32)

### DISMISSAL

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

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**