



**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter - April 30, 2023
9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship

A: Though the way seems long and the road rough

C: Yet will we trust the One who leads us.

A: Though the direction is unknown and we don't know the outcome

C: Yet will we place our lives in Christ's loving care.

A: It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls.

C: It is Christ who gives us hope and peace. Praise be to Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gathering Hymn
I Know That My Redeemer Lives! - ELW #619 vs-5-8
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3lkw_k_6Fc

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C: Amen.

L: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Silence for reflection and thanksgiving.

L: Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

C: In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water is poured into the font.

L: Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

L: Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C: Amen.

Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also, with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer - ELW #618 Vs 1 & 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWYduMfGia4>

Prayer of the Day

A: O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death.

C: Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house,

A: through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Word

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10

*The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate.

Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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

Message – Tim Leitner, SAM

<https://youtu.be/UgL8Yuft6eg>

Hymn of the Day

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds – ELW #620 vs 1-2 & 5-7

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXyHMMY4YyY>

The Apostles' Creed

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

L: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: You are the shepherd who gathers us in mighty and loving arms. Help your church to listen for your voice, especially when the voices of sin, idolatry, and oppression threaten to overpower us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: The green pastures, still water and dark valleys of this earth all belong to you, O Lord. Sustain your creation with a love that is both mighty and just. Where there is destruction, bring healing. Where there is desolation, bring abundance. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You proclaim shepherding love, comfort, and protection for all people and all of creation. Direct leaders in our own time to learn from your example and instruction. Give them servant hearts, that they generously seek the good for all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You journey with us wherever our paths may lead. We pray for those feeling overwhelmed by anxiety, depression or suffering in any way. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You are the sheepgate that gives safety to your beloved flocks. Provide protection for refugees, victims of domestic abuse, those who are imprisoned and all people who are vulnerable to violence and mistreatment. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You call your sheep by name and lead them through the valley of death. We give you thanks for those who have died and now dwell in your house forever. Be with those who mourn, and give them hope in the promise of resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

Offering

Offertory Hymn - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful– ELW #182

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gej7OvEtsA>

Offertory Prayer

A: Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self.

C: We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.

A: In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen Lord.

C: In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world;

A: through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

Post Communion Blessing

L: Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being.

C: With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

Benediction

L: The God of all, who raised +Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

We Come to You for Healing, Lord - ELW #617

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Bpa94edrjY>

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude