

# **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



## **Easter People Follow**

**April 21, 2024**

Everyone is asked to silence or put their **cell phones** on vibrate while attending church services.

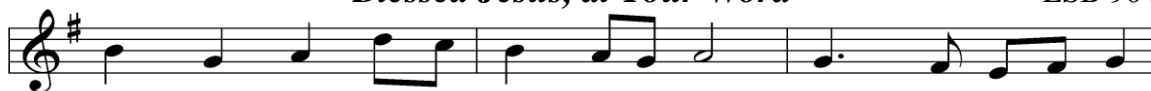
## AS WE GATHER

Flocks of sheep can number in the hundreds or even thousands. An annual trek from winter quarters to summer pastures and back again at a location in rural Idaho consistently draws hundreds of spectators to a location where the sheep must cross a major highway to reach their destination. Keeping track of two or three thousand sheep on the move is quite a task! Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows how to care for not just thousands but millions of His sheeplike people. The prophet Isaiah says of the Lord God that He “will tend His flock like a shepherd” (40:11). Assured and reassured that we are part of His flock, we travel through life following the guidance of our caring Shepherd!

### HYMN

#### *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

LSB 904



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from  
△ 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and



all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;  
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,



Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,  
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your  
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.  
low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

## INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
People: **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

*John 12:26; Ephesians 4:15; Psalm 25:1-3, 5, 10; 106:48*

Pastor: Jesus said: "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him."  
People: **Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ.**

Pastor: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.  
People: **Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.**

Pastor: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.  
People: **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.**

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!  
People: **And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.  
People: **O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not followed in the ways You have set forth for us. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do**

not even recognize. We have not honored those in authority and have not without reservation encouraged them. We have not completely put the best construction on all things and on all people. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace, bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

**Pastor:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## SALUTATION

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

Risen and ascended Lord, You are the Good Shepherd. You lay down Your life for the sheep; they are Yours. Empower Your church to reach every sheep that belongs to You and to give witness until You have brought all Your sheep into one fold; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## FIRST READING

*Acts 4:1–12*

**4** And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, **2** greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. **3** And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. **4** But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

**5** On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, **6** with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. **7** And when they had set them in the midst, they

inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" **8** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, **9** if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, **10** 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. **11** This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. **12** 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."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

*1 John 3:16–24*

<sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup> 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? <sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>19</sup> By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup> for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows

everything. <sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup> and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 10:11–18*

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

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

<sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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> 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.<sup>17</sup> For this reason

the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.<sup>18</sup> 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."

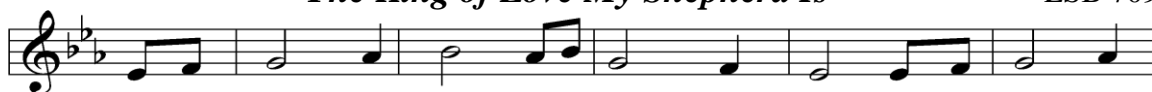
Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

LSB 709



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
 And, oh, what transport of delight  
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days  
 Thy goodness faileth never;  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
 Within Thy house forever!

Text and tune: Public domain

# **SERMON**

## **NICENE CREED**

**People: 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 worshiped 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**

**Pastor:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord, beseeching Him for the needs of ourselves and others.

Trusting in God's loving response, we pray for the church and all who are called to lives of service to God's people, asking that the Lord will bless His undershepherds and all who care for His flock.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for ourselves, that the Holy Spirit guide us into gracious ways and instill in us a holy confidence in the goodness of our God, aiding us in our prayers. With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthly journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ yet inspires us, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for the blessing of God upon our nation and its leaders that we may lead peaceable lives, and we pray for the needs of ourselves and others for healing and restoration, for solace and comfort.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** These things and all else that we should have asked grant us according to Your gracious will, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**People:** **Amen.**

# OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir

*They Shall Soar Like Eagles* by Laura Manson

Flutist: Sheri Orrahood

Chorus: They shall soar like eagles; rise up and soar like eagles, they who wait upon the Lord shall not be weary.

They shall never stumble, but gain new strength and power, they who wait upon the Lord.

Those who are weary and burdened with sorrow need not despair there is hope for tomorrow. God will be there each time you call on Him.

Chorus

## PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, heavenly Father, for in Jesus Christ You have shown Your saving power and Your great compassion. In amazing love, He sacrificed Himself and shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins. His unending love leads Him to intercede for us as, aided by the Holy Spirit, He brings our cares to Your throne of grace. Grant that we may live in humility, honoring our Savior in all that we do and rejoicing that we are granted a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may rejoice in the gifts before us and praise You with thankful hearts.

# SANCTUS

LSB 195



**☐** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**Pastor:** 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.

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."

## LORD'S PRAYER

**People:** 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.

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - - men.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sin, salvation, and eternal life. All who are baptized and repent of their sins are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

## **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.  
Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the church. And we ask You to help us by Your Holy Spirit that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works which You desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**People:** Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** Amen.

# CLOSING HYMN

## *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

LSB 411



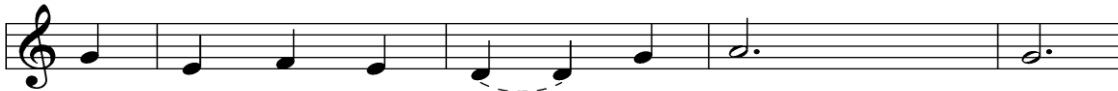
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
I want to look at Je - sus.  
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.  
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.  
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

### *Refrain*



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

**Fountain of Life Ladies  
Lunch Bunch  
Thursday, May 2, 2024  
11:30  
Fellowship Hall**

Bring a salad to share. Iced tea, Lemonade, and  
water provided.

RSVP: Tammy Ohm  
815-791-6991

[Ohmrn98@comcast.net](mailto:Ohmrn98@comcast.net)

Corrected email from last week

*For with you is the fountain of life;*



*in your light we see light. Psalm 36:9*

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**Pastor Emeritus: Thomas R. Daly**

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Office Email: [execsecretary@suncitylutheran.org](mailto:execsecretary@suncitylutheran.org)

**Prayer Requests:** Mary Ann Lowell 623-670-6870

### Schedule

#### **Sunday**

Chancel Choir Practice	8:30 am
Sunday Worship	10:00 am
Bible Study	11:15 am

#### **Tuesday**

Mid-week Bible Study	10:00 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Men's Breakfast/Royal Cafe	8:30 am

#### **Wednesday**

Quilters	9:00 am
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#### **Thursday**

1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> week	
<i>Permission to Grieve</i> Group	10:00 am

### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday (9am-2pm)

\*\*Closed Friday\*\*

**Fountain of Life Lutheran Church**