

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Prelude

"Pastorale" by Charles Wesley

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

C: He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Hymn:

ELW 385 *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!"*

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 3 Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

P: The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

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.

Hymn of Praise – Setting 3

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

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."

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 *(sung by musicians)*

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 3)

P: The Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

[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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 3)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 502 “*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*”

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

Apostle’s Creed

A: Let us confess our faith:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.**

On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

A: We are united to Christ in his death and resurrection through our baptism. As members of his risen body, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

A: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Hear us, risen Lord.

A: Holy God, you raise up leaders in your church who preach salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ. Inspire us to go and tell this good news throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, we pray for the resurrection of our world when Christ will rule and the establishment of your kingdom will bring an end to war, violence, injustice and death. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, as Christ's presence in our community, you call us to love and serve our neighbors. Bless the ministries of Concordia Church, Concordia Place and Concordia Day with the spirit of our risen Lord that your saving grace may fill the lives of all we serve. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, you wipe away the tears of all who cry to you in distress. Bring healing to all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and comfort those who struggle and seek your presence, especially those we now name before you *Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Betty, Bob, Rev. Arnie, Jean, Roger, Lupe, Guy, all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and those we hold in our thoughts.* Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, you have swallowed up death forever through the resurrection of your Son.
Speak to those who mourn with the promise of new life in Christ with those they
love. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and hopes, and fill us with the risen life of Jesus Christ, your Son.

C: Amen.

Anthem

"He Shall Feed His Flock like a Shepherd" from the Messiah by G.F. Handel

Eucharist Liturgy

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

Sanctus

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

P: Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,

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.

P: With this bread

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on this gift of bread
Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: 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.**

Communion Distribution

You are invited to come to the altar for Holy Communion. Places are marked where you may stand. Communion will be by the distribution of bread alone. After you have communed,

please return to your place in the pews. We ask that everyone observe the protocols of social distancing and wear your mask when approaching and leaving the altar.

Lamb of God – Setting 3

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Life-giving God,

in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn

ELW 789 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.

- 3 You have promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.

- 4 Early let us seek your favor,
early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,

with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Postlude in C" by Eugene Thayer

Announcements

- We invite you to join us for worship each week, either in-person or virtually. Please note that registration is required for in-person attendance. Read our safety protocols for worship and reserve your spot at www.concordiafaith.org/worship . All services will still be available virtually either by livestream via YouTube or recordings will be available later on our YouTube channel: Concordia Church Chicago.
- Get ready for the **First Annual Concordia Place Golf Classic**, a benefit for Concordia Place. This year's event will be on Monday, June 28, 2021, at River Forest Country Club in Elmhurst, IL. Proceeds from the outing will help in supporting Concordia Place's mission to create involved communities where all our neighbors can gather, learn, and grow.

Concordia Place serves approximately 800 individuals from ethnically, linguistically, and economically diverse Chicago communities. They serve single parent and low-income families through a sliding scale tuition model. Since 1981, Concordia Place has strengthened the community by fostering individual growth and opportunity for all, especially low-income or disadvantaged.

To read more details and/or to register, visit: concordiaplace.org/golf

- Enjoy some special artwork through virtual Art Shows for Concordia Place's Childcare Centers! Art shows are available for each center and there's still time to participate in the shows for Milwaukee and Whipple. Milwaukee's Art Show is live next Thursday (April 29th) and Whipple's Art Show is live next Friday (April 30th). You can view students' artwork and give a donation if you wish. Visit the church homepage (www.concordiafaith.org) for the links to participate!
- Support Concordia Place through the CLEF Dream Awards! Items needed for centers or classrooms are funded through donations raised by Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation's Annual Gala (virtual this year). Visit <https://e.givesmart.com/events/itf/i/> to view the teachers' dreams and make a donation!
- Do you have pictures of past Concordia Church events? We would love for you to share them with us for use in our service slideshows. If you have any photos of Concordia Church, members engaged in church activities, or other memories from past years, please send them to Desirae in the church office at ddiehl@concordiafaith.org.
- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
 1. Text-to-give: Text "Concordia" to 73256 and follow the link you receive
 2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
 3. Send a check via mail to the church