



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Pastor Mike Pretzer

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Introduction

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

The Gathering

Welcome & Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise,

with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” #385

Kyrie **pg. 184**
Hymn of Praise **pg. 185**

Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

We 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.

The Word

First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today’s reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus’ name to the religious authorities.

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: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 23 (in unison)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall 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, and my cup is running over.

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

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.

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: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand to welcome the Gospel

Gospel Acclamation

pg.188

L: The Holy Gospel according to John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy 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:] 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.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“The King of Love My Shepard Is”

#502

Apostles Creed

pg. 105

Prayers of the People

L: Lord in Your Mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Sung

The Sending

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.

Sending Hymn

"Savior Like A Shepard Lead Us"

#789

Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church

For the week of April 25, 2021

Prayer Concerns at Peace Lutheran Church

FOR HEALING, STRENGTH & GOOD HEALTH:

Deidra Shannon (Terry H. cousin)

Megan Grabow (Shelby & Derek Sister-in-Law)

Navah DenHerder

Ervin & Florence Heidecker

Eric Sellers (Cancer)

Tammy McReynolds (Terry Halversons Sister)

Matt Ellerkamp (Brain Tumor Treatment)

Lea Madler (Lung Cancer)

Bonnie Heidecker (Throat Cancer)

Holly (Cancer)

Carli Ystaas

Marlyne Tveter

COMMUNITY PRAYERS:

All those serving in the military & their families. Our partner congregations: St. John's Lutheran in Richardton & St. John's Episcopal of Dickinson partnering ministries: Lutheran Social Services, Badlands Ministries, the Ministries in the Central African Republic.

Wednesday Night Worship and Faith Formation have begun again. Join us for worship at 6:30 pm and Faith Formation at 7:00pm this Wednesday at Peace Lutheran.

Senior Recognition Sunday

Peace Lutheran Church is wanting to honor and recognize the senior students from our congregation on a Sunday in May. Please let the church or Pastor Mike know if you have a senior in high school or college that we can recognize. A letter will be sent to the seniors and families on our list with more information. But let us know if you have a senior so that we don't forget anyone!

It's Time to Plant the Community Garden!

Soon Peace Lutheran's Community Garden will be tilled and ready for planting. Updated registration and waiver forms can be found at the church website or in the church office. If you are interested in having a plot(s), please fill out the forms and turn in the appropriate fees. Plot assignments will be made by May 7th then planting can begin.

Peace Lutheran Confirmation Sunday is set for May 2nd, 2021

Confirmation for 5 Peace Lutheran students will take place on Sunday, May 2, 2021 during the 10:00 am worship service. Congratulations to the following students who have completed their confirmation instruction:

Camden Hjellming son of Carrie and Jim

Kolton Kupper son of Crissie and Travis

Alyssa Sadowsky daughter of Tammy and Todd

Ryan Schumacher son of Erika and Don

Codyn Ystaas son of Carli and Chad



Peace Lutheran

1550 21st St. W, Dickinson

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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