

## Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024

### Welcome

**P** This is the day that the Lord has made!

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



### Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

**P** Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

### *Silence is kept for reflection*

**P** God of grace and glory, **you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

**P** Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and ☩ frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever! **Amen.**

### Praise Songs

#### *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;

all along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
when my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
when my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

### *How Majestic is Your Name*

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.

O Lord, we praise Your name, O Lord, we magnify Your name;

Prince of Peace, Mighty God, O Lord God Almighty.

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray together. **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 Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

### First Reading *Acts 4:5-12*

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, ‘By what power or by what name did you do this?’ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, ‘Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let 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. This Jesus is “the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.” There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

....*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though 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.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely 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**

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. 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?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

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. 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.

....*The Word of the Lord.*

***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Verse

*Please stand as you are able*

***Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.***

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel **John 10:11-18**

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 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.***

Youth Time

Choir Anthem

Meditation

Hymn (*next page*)

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (TSC 319)*

The Apostles' Creed

A: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

**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 to the dead. 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 the Church

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence*

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, preserve the health of ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems, especially Glenda, Ralph and Shirley. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those impacted by war and violence, for our men and women in the armed forces, and for first responders. We also ask for your mercy and blessing on those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, help TOL and Augustana and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins.  
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day.  
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand as you are able*

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (*sung*):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### Words of Institution

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.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### The Lord's Prayer

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

*{P} The risen Christ dwells with us here.*

*All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.}*



Hymns Before Communion (sung)

*Please be seated*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*Communion: Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come to the communion rail and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. All who share our confession that Christ is present in the Sacrament are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please let Pastor know.*

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

**A** Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

Blessing

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always, † in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

Closing Hymn (next page)

# Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?  
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.  
5 Hal - le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom - y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,  
He who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,  
joined to him, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;  
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.  
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.  
with the Lord, at his right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.  
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

## Dismissal

**A** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Liturgical elements: Sundays & Seasons Augsburg Fortress-License No. 20817

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation

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Music Minister: Don Grabau

Media Minister: Jeff Ward

Today's Worship Assistant: Sue Wloch

Today's Prayer Partner: Sue Wloch

Today's Ushers: Kelly Barker and Debbie Feger

## Prayers and Announcements

**Welcome:** We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we are delighted to have you here, and we hope you enjoy your worship time.

**Prayer Partner Ministry:** If you are in need of additional prayer, please come to the Parents' Room in the back of church following worship. Prayers are confidential. Today's prayer partner is Sue Wloch.

**Mission for April:** In April, we will help support Augustana's RIDE (Refugee and Immigrant Driver Education) program, which assists people in obtaining drivers' permits and licenses enabling them to access employment, healthcare, education, etc. Our goal for the ministry in April is to provide one person's lessons and license cost of approximately \$650. Also, volunteers are always needed to help. Envelopes are on the table in the narthex, or use [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) through the TOL website. Thank you!

**Offering:** Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only—please don't mail cash. We also have online giving through [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly), which can be accessed through TOL's website homepage ([www.trinityoldlutheran.com](http://www.trinityoldlutheran.com)) or on your smartphone.

**Adult Ed:** Listed below is a schedule of the final two classes for this semester. We meet in the Fireside Lounge and on Zoom, from 1 – 2:30 pm. Please contact Charlie Schmidtke for a Zoom link if interested:

**Monday, April 22**

Rabbi Gamiliel, Paul's Teacher

**Monday, May 6**

Destruction of the Second Temple

**Award Winning Play by Loren Keller:** "A Pitch from Satchel Paige" written by the late Loren Keller and by James Keller will be presented at the Paul Robeson Theatre on **weekends during April!** We are planning a group outing to attend **this afternoon at 4 pm.**

**Sermon Discussion/input:** Pastor Fred is asking for participants to join him in a **bag lunch** discussion of the texts for the next month of sermons. We will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month in the Fireside Lounge. The next discussion group is this **Wednesday, April 24.** Please let Pastor Fred know if you are interested.

**Coffee Hour:** Coffee hour hosted by WWI will be held **following worship next Sunday, April 28.** Everyone is invited to join us for some desserts and fellowship. There is a sign-up sheet on our main bulletin board requesting baked goods and help.

**Women’s Luncheon Group:** We will meet next at Alton’s Restaurant, 2250 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, on **Thursday, May 9, at 12:30 pm.** If you need a ride, please contact Judy Menz at 716-435-6077 or Barb Maugans at 716-692-8116. All are invited!

**Men’s Breakfast:** The next breakfast will be on **Saturday, May 18.** More details are coming, and there will be a signup sheet on the main bulletin board.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Suggested donations for April are small toys (ball, jump rope, plastic animals, yoyo, etc.) We also continue to collect yarn. Donations may be placed in the labeled box in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

**We continue to collect for these ministries:**

- Empty egg cartons – box in narthex.
- Aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House – box in narthex.
- Dash’s Tapes for the Niagara Lutheran Health System – box in hallway.
- Cans and bottles to be recycled – barrel in hallway.
- Clothing and hygiene items for Friends of Night People– blue barrel.
- 2024 Calendars for the VA Hospital – box in narthex.

***This week’s calendar***

<p><i>Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly. Office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 am–12 noon. Please note that the office is unstaffed on Mondays. For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message or send an email.</i></p>	Sun	4/21	9:30 am 9:45 am 11 am 3:30 pm 4 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Sunday School Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship TOL Group to Satchel Paige Outing GA and GAMAnon Meetings
	Mon	4/22	10 am 1 pm 5:45 pm	OA Meeting Adult Ed Yoga (in Studio and on Zoom)
	Tues	4/23	9 am 6:30 pm 7 pm 7:30 pm	Sandwich Team #2 Eta Sigma Sorority C-E-O Teams CoDA
	Wed	4/24	12 noon 5:45 pm	Yoga (Zoom only) Yoga (in Studio and on Zoom)
	Thurs	4/25	9 am 9:30 am 5:45 pm	Weavers Guild Yoga (in Studio and on Zoom) Yoga (in Studio and on Zoom)
	Fri	4/26	10 am	South Asian Lutheran Community
	Sat	4/27		
	Sun	4/28	9:30 am 11 am 12 noon 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Coffee Hour Abiding Faith Worship GA and GAMAnon Meetings

**Announcements:** If you’d like to submit a bulletin or Tidings announcement, please send to [trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com) or call 716-836-4868 by Wednesday morning. Thank you.

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*TOL's Free WiFi and Password:*  
*N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig*