



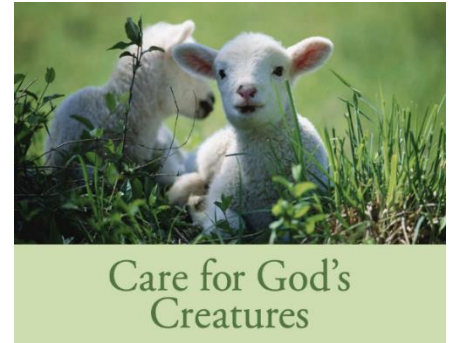
**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
SPIRIT-LED, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN**

**8:30 AM CT Traditional Worship
Sunday, April 21st, 2024
Fourth Sunday of EASTER
Holy Communion Setting 8**

Prayers Requests

Please Text-in-Church 314.329.0487 or

Office@holycrosselca.com



GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

MEDITATION MUSIC *Sheep May Safely Graze* arr. by J.S. Bach © 1940 H.W. Gray /
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WELCOME & Introduction of Bishop Susan Candea *by Worship Asst*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & ANNOUNCEMENTS *by Pastor*

THEME OF THE DAY EASTERING SIGNS: ALL THAT IS CREATED

PRELUDE Meditation on *The Lord's My Shepherd* (Brother James Air) arr. by Lani Smith
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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and the Whole of Creation.

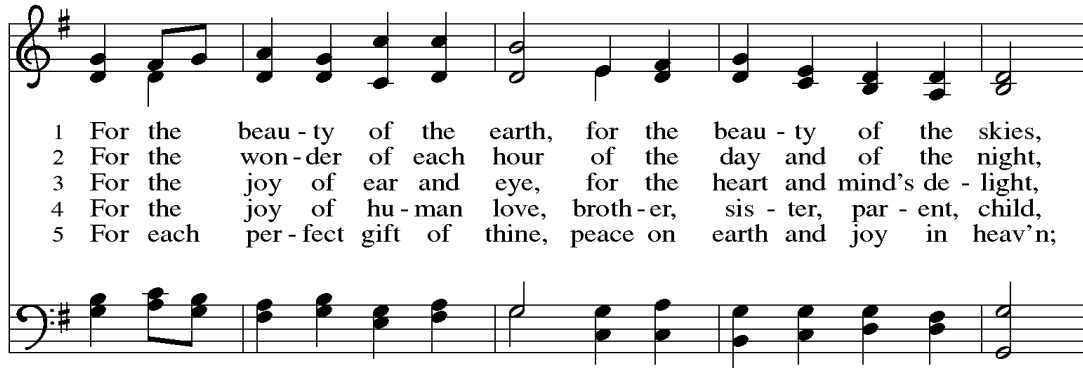
Silence is kept for reflection. God of compassion,

C: have mercy upon us. Heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the creatures who share the earth with us. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for what we have done to harm them, and for what we have not done to help them. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

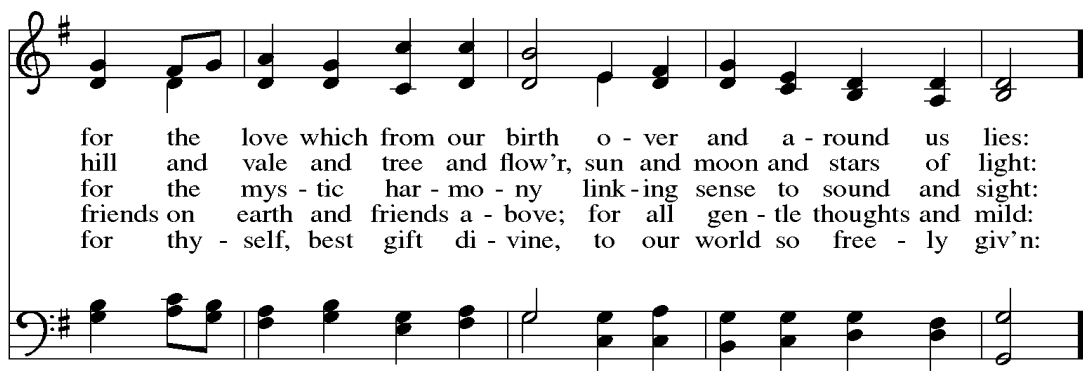
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

For the Beauty of the Earth

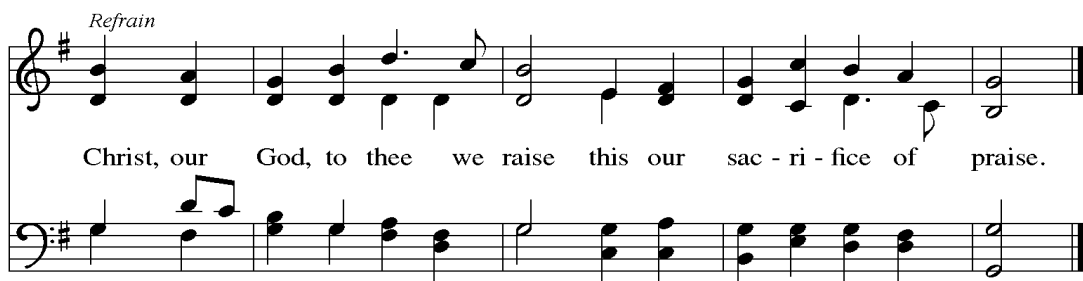


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

GREETING (ELW p. 184)

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The Beauty of our Creator inspires us, the Grace of the Good Shepherd be with us, and the unity of the Breath of Life enfold us all.

C: And may it be so!

KYRIE (ELW p. 184) Verses 1 & 4

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain
 let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.

C: Amen. *The assembly is seated.*

WORD God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING: Acts 4: 5 – 12 *Read by the Worship Assistant*

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."

Psalm: Psalm 23 *Read by the Worship Assistant and ALL in Bold*

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

C: 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.

C: 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.

C: 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18 *Read by Bishop*

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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON MESSAGE - SIGNS of EASTERING: Guest Preacher Bishop Susan Candea
ALL THAT IS CREATED has Shepherding Starting with the Children / Youth Time

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

CREED (ELW p. 189)

C: 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 THE PEOPLE *Led by the Worship Assistant*

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,

C: hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and 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,

C: 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,

C: 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. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable.

Keith DeCamp,

Adam Jackson,

Leah Leimbach,

Preben Christensen,

Sionie Elavsky,

Lois Ristau,

Ginger Prellwitz,

Alvin Leimbach,

Marylyn Bicknell,

Jeff Benson,

Sam Boydston, (friend of Brock & Michele Klingler),

Michelle Le Bihan (breast cancer, friend of Quentin),

Carol Hermann (Bud's sister in KC with heart problems),

Diana (hospitalized),

Patti, (treatment for cancer, friend of the Jost Family),

Larry Dennison (loosing battle with cancer and will be in hospice care soon),

Sally & Wayne (Prayers for healing and God's Peace, friends of Jayne & Clint),

Dorothea Botz,

All the those affected by illness and wars.

Prayers of condolence..

to the family of Jerry Benson (passed away 4/11, brother of Jeff Benson),

to the family of John Agre (passed away 4/14, friend of Dennis & Pastor Janice)

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Gracious God, help this 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,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions from Text-in-Church may be offered by Pastor

Pastor: Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith and the new Children receiving their First Communion this Day: **Alexander, Liam, and Tristan**. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. And God of grace, 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.

C: Amen.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. The assembly is seated.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING *Please continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through*

- *2024 Pledges*
- *E-giving pledge through Vanco online*
- *Send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141*
- *Go to our Website & hit "DONATE NOW"*
<http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>

If communing at home, please gather your Communion elements to hold up during the Words of Institution.

OFFERTORY *You Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd* (Picardy) from Ten Chorale Improvisations Set 5 arr. by Paul Manz © 1974 / 1992 / 2011 Birnamwood Publications, A Division of MorningStar Publishers. All Rights Reserved (*One License #10-355-10*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER *Led by the Worship Assistant*

Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.


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

PREFACE (ELW p. 190)

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own. That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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. Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's Table. *The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for communion. The families of our 1st Communion are invited to the Rail first partake and we pray over them before the Music and rest are invited forward.*

COMMUNION HYMN *You Are Holy* ELW # 525 see page 10

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads*

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.

C: Amen.

SENDING **God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world**

BLESSING *The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

The God of Resurrection Power, the Christ of unending Joy, and the Spirit of Easter Hope + bless you now and always!

C: Amen!

SENDING SONG *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* ELW # 536 Public Domain see page 11

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing* arr. by David Schelat

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WE ARE GRATEFUL! Pastor: Janice Hawley & Bishop Candea **Lay Assistants:** Mike Prange / Penny Rudolph **A/V Volunteers:** Philip Paul, Donovan Lucas, Court Templeton, Carrie Curnutte, Mark Rudolph **Organist:** Jack Hamill and **Singer:** Megan & Linda **Praise Band:** Brandon Clay, Marty Little, Jason Cooper, Matt Davis **Contemporary Music Worship Director:** Dave Reinking

Council Members: Dave Winkler (President), Bob Morin (Vice President), Kevin Aleshire (Member at Large) Kari Brangan, Kelly Caligiuri, Donovan Lucas, Philip Paul, Mary Bailey (Treasurer), Clarence Jentes (Financial Secretary), Penny Rudolph (Secretary)

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

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You Are Holy *Du är helig*

1*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945
Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling
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God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a-gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a-gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a-gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,

with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we

meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 meet a - gain,

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904
 Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833-1896