

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN**

April 25, 2021

10:00 a.m.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



*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.*

**GATHERING**

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

**PRELUDE** *The Lord's My Shepherd*

tune *Brother James' Air*  
setting by Searle Wright (1918-2004); Karen Sande, organ

**WELCOME**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.

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 #778 *The Lord's My Shepherd*



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;  
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;  
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

# WORD

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

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern

**FIRST READING** *Acts 4:5-12*

*read by Tyler Klingfus*

<sup>5</sup>The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.

<sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>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, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

**SECOND READING** *1 John 3:16-24*

*read by Erica Klingfus*

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>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?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him

<sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God;

<sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.


<sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>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.

Word of God.


**Word of Life.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION


*Refrain*




I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.



You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. *Refrain*

## GOSPEL *John 10:11-18*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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.**

SERMON

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern

## HYMN OF THE DAY #763 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,  
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.  
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

### *Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God.  
Your mercy is great.

or

Bless we the Lord,  
Thanks be to God!

#### **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.

#### **GOD EXTENDS AN INVITATION**

Logan McLean Strike

#### **OFFERING**

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to 218-325-9525 with amount you would like to contribute. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

#### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *The 23rd Psalm*

Bobby McFerrin (b. 1950)

*The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need  
She makes me lie down in green meadows  
Beside the still waters, She will lead  
She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs  
She leads me in a path of good things  
And fills my heart with songs  
Even though I walk through a dark and dreary land  
There is nothing that can shake me  
She has said She won't forsake me, I'm in her hand  
She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes  
She anoints my head with oil  
And my cup overflows  
Surely, surely goodness and kindness will follow me  
All the days of my life  
And I will live in her house forever, forever and ever  
Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter  
And to the Holy of Holies  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world, without end. Amen.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of love,  
you call us into beloved community and welcome all to your table.  
Receive our lives and all that we offer that together we might extend your reign.  
In the name of the Risen One.  
**Amen.**

## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

*By God's great mercy we have been given a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3*

We've made it to Easter;  
We have been strengthened, carried and raised through another year—  
Fed by Christ through word, song, glimpses of God in creation and one another, and this  
bread for the journey. We eat it with joy and thanksgiving.  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed; alleluia!**

### HYMN #388 *Be Not Afraid*

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The first system of musical notation for the hymn 'Be Not Afraid'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation for the hymn 'Be Not Afraid'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

# SENDING

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

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we 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.**

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

### **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

**Amen.**



SENDING HYMN #377 *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



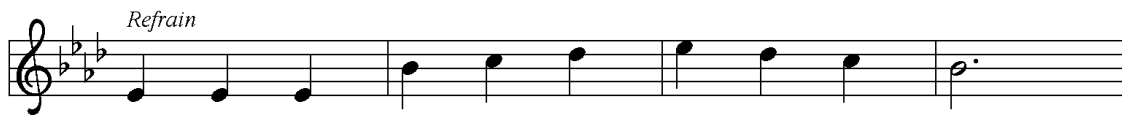
Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace, sent as joyful witnesses to this good news.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE** *Trumpet Tune in D Major*

David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

Karen Sande, organ

David N. Johnson composed our sending hymn tune, *Earth and All Stars*

**MINISTERS** All People of First Lutheran Church  
**PASTOR** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman  
**PASTORAL INTERN** Logan McLean Strike  
**PROGRAM STAFF** Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate  
Karen Sande, Director of Music  
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship  
**MUSICIANS** Aine Miller, Mary Dontje, Andy Frey, Doug Frey and Michael Fuchs, singers  
**VIDEO TEAM** Shania Krause, David Sproat, Dale Stahl, Sam Weston  
**DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER** Stacie Curnow

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*The Sanctuary is open for quiet prayer and reflection each Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Use the Superior St. entrance door leading directly into the Sanctuary.*

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land.

We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

(218) 728-3668 | [flcduluth.org](http://flcduluth.org) | [flcduluth@flcduluth.org](mailto:flcduluth@flcduluth.org)