

Trinity Church Welcomes You

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2021

*Indicates standing as you are able.

PRELUDE & LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Resources Worship)

We gather together to worship God, the Shepherd of our souls.

The one who has created us, who sustains us, who redeems us.

Who walks beside us in good times and bad,

And who calls us to follow.

This is our God!

Let us worship Him together! Praise God!!

*OPENING HYMN *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* UMH #307

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
3. Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.
4. Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Pilgrim Press)

Confident of God's mercy, we confess our sins

Gentle Shepherd, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. Forgive us, God, for not following Your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep, and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and loving our neighbors. Help us to unclench our fists and lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen

The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The Good Shepherd knows the sheep, and the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep so that the sheep may live. We are part of the flock; we are part of Christ's body. In Christ we find wholeness and restoration. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and Your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what You say to us today. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE

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."

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.

*Hymn

Alleluia

TFWS #2043

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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*GOSPEL READING

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.”

SERMON

Jean Schlickbernd

*APOSTLES’ CREED

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 communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN

He Is Lord

UMC #177

1. He is Lord, he is lord!

He is risen from the dead and he is Lord.

Every knee shall bend, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord. (repeat)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.**

OFFERING

We appreciate your support of the work of the church through your tithes and offerings. Please place all offerings in the plate by the entrance to the sanctuary. (A reminder: Checks or envelopes for Grace will go to Grace. Loose cash will go with Trinity’s offering.) The question remains for each of us, apart from this continued support, how, and what, else am I called to give for the sake of the world? Let us prayerfully discern what is ours to keep, and where the rest shall be given.

*OFFERING

Give Thanks

TFWS #2036

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the poor say,
"I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us."

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the poor say,
"I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us."

Give thanks!

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(John 10: 11-18)

Ever present God who speaks in thunder and earthquakes and in the softest whisper: we long to hear your voice over all the noise of the world this day. We need to hear not only the voice of the Shepherd but the cries of other sheep who are being marginalized, forgotten and abandoned. May the gifts we offer today be our response to hearing the One who speaks in the language of love and compassion. In His holy name, Amen.

***HYMN**

God Be with You till We Meet Again

UMH #672

1. God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, (till we meet,) till we meet, (again)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet)
till we meet, (till we meet,) till we meet, (again)
God be with you till we meet again.

2. God be with you till we meet again;
neath his wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. [*Refrain*]

3. God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put his arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again. [*Refrain*]

4. God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you,
smite death's threatening wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again. [*Refrain*]

Benediction & Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

(Nathan Nettleton)

Go now with your trust in the good shepherd, and let us love, not just in words, but in truth and action. Believe in the name of Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He has commanded us.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

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