



Salem Lutheran Church  
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Fourth Sunday Of Easter  
April 30, 2023 – 9:00am

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**OUR MISSION:** We are God forgiven and mission driven.

**OUR VISION:** To be that Lake Mills Place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a -forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

**Sunday—9:00am Worship Service**

**Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson**

**Organist:** Ruth Sheldon

**Readers:** Shannon Bruhns

**Sound:** Al Skellenger

**Live Stream:** Brad Evenson

**Ushers:** Adam & Jen Sauer Family

**Acolytes:**

**Liturgical Choir:**

**Communion Servers:**

**Altar Guild for April:** Margaret Okland, Linda Helgeson

**Worship Coordinator:** Shannon Bruhns

**The Live Stream Broadcast is given by the Members of Salem**

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## INTRODUCTION

*Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.*

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

### BELLS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

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

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

**Amen.**

**BAPTISMAL SONG***Springs of Water, Bless the Lord*


ELW #214

*The choir or cantor will sing three of the verses of the canticle, others may join in the refrain.*

*Refrain – All*



Springs of wa - ter, bless the Lord.



Give God glo - ry and praise for - ev - er.

*Leader or All* *Refrain*



- 1 Buried with Christ in death, you are raised with him to life.
- 2 Bathed in the foun-tain of life, you are born to a liv - ing hope.
- 3 You are God's work of art, cre - ated in Christ Jesus.
- 4 You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.
- 5 All of you are one, u - nited in Christ Jesus.
- 6 Re-joice, all you bap-tized, called to be chil-dren of God.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME***A Shepherd Song*

Whirl Story Bible p.118

**GATHERING SONG***The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

ELW #502



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
 thine unction grace bestoweth;  
 and, oh, what transport of delight  
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
 thy goodness faileth never.  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
 within thy house forever.

**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 God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

<sup>42</sup>[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALMODY

Psalm 23

*Today's psalm will be read responsively beginning with the lector*

<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.

**6** 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 Peter 2:19-25

<sup>19</sup>It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval.

<sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

John 10:1

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

ELW #611



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Come un - to me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “I am this dark world’s light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast.”  
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live.”  
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”





I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

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## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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### PROFESSION OF FAITH

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 INTERCESSION**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

You are the shepherd who gathers us in your mighty and loving arms. Help your church to listen for your voice, especially when the voices of sin, idolatry, and oppression threaten to overpower us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The green pastures, still waters, and dark valleys of this earth all belong to you, O Lord. Sustain your creation with a love that is both mighty and just. Where there is destruction, bring healing. Where there is desolation, bring abundance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You proclaim shepherding love, comfort, and protection for all people and all of creation. Direct leaders in our own time to learn from your example and instruction. Give them servant hearts, that they generously seek the good of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You journey with us wherever our paths may lead. We pray for those feeling overwhelmed by anxiety or depression or suffering in any way. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You are the sheepgate that gives safety to your beloved flocks. Provide protection for refugees, victims of domestic violence, those who are imprisoned, and all people who are vulnerable to violence and mistreatment. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call your sheep by name and lead them through the valley of death. We give you thanks for those who have died and now dwell in your house forever.. Be with those who mourn, and give them hope in the promise of resurrection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered as the pastor concludes the prayers.*

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always  
**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Generous God,

We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. With your word you have revealed to us the Risen One. By your word you move us from doubt to faith, from fear to joy. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## **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 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.**

## **BLESSING**

The God of all,  
who raised † Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

## *Lord, Be Glorified*

ELW #744



1 In my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;  
2 In our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;  
3 In your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;  
4 In your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;



in my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.  
in our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.  
in your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.  
in your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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