

Fourth Sunday of Easter

This is a creature
on fire with love,
but it's still scary
since most people
think love only looks
like one thing,

instead of
the whole world



creature on fire

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Creature on Fire by Brian Andreas

April 21, 2024

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.
- Please silence your cell phone.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

Prelude **Variations on "This Joyful Eastertide,"** Paul Bouman

Welcome

Hymn **I Will Change Your Name** *(sing twice)*

G C Dsus4 D

I will change your name,
I will change your name,

G C Dsus D

you shall no long - er be called
your new name shall be

G C D Bm7

wound - ed, out - cast,
con - fi - dence, joy - ful - ness,

lone - ly or a - fraid.
o - ver - com - ing one,

faith - ful - ness, friend of God,

one who seeks my face.

Greeting

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

Hymn of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be
 peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
Refrain
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of
 vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -
 le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading

1 John 3:16-24 (The Message, inclusivized)

A reading from the St. John's first letter to the early church

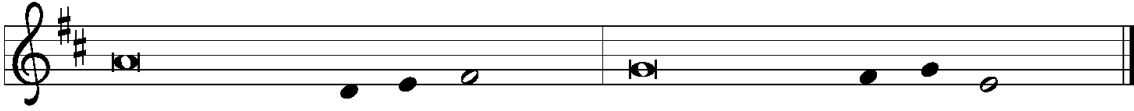
This is how we've come to understand and experience love: Christ sacrificed his life for us. This is why we ought to live sacrificially for our fellow believers, and not just be out for ourselves. If you see some sibling in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear.

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.

And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're able to stretch our hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what is pleasing in God's sight. The command is this: to believe in God's Own, Jesus Christ. Jesus told us to love each other, in line with the original command. Those who keep these commands live deeply and surely in God, and God lives in them. And this is how we experience God's deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit given to us.

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Amen.**

Psalm 23



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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The LORD ¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹ be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down ¹ in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹ side still waters.**

You restore my ¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways ¹ for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall ¹ fear
no evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they ¹ comfort me.


You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever.**



Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation



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** (The Inclusive New Testament)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Pharisees, “I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd would die for the sheep. The hired hand, who is neither shepherd nor owner of the sheep, catches sight of the wolf coming and runs away, leaving the sheep to be scattered or snatched by the wolf. That’s because the hired hand works only for pay and has no concern for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, in the same way Abba God knows me and I know God – and for these sheep I will lay down my life. I have other sheep that don’t belong to this fold – I must lead them too, and they will hear my voice. And then there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why Abba God loves me: because I lay down my life, only to take it up again. No one takes my life from me; I lay it down freely. I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to take it up again. This command I received from my Abba.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Message

Where There's Surprise, There's God

Musical Reflection

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

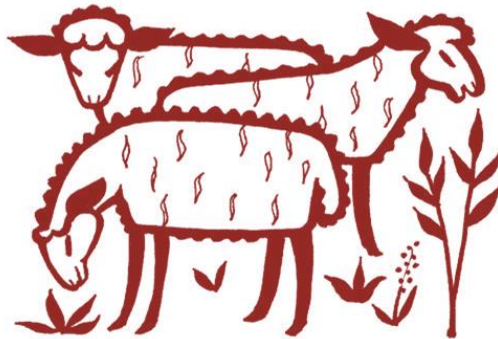
John Ness Beck
Senior Choir

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His, and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with Thee, dear Lord, beside me.
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

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



Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Your mercy is great, O God." **Receive our prayer.**

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreiness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy,
Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and
her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece
Michele Wolfe, Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman,
Emily Ott's aunt Kathy Richter, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, John Kennedy's
sister and brother-in-law, Becky & Vic Wolfe, Kathie Ehrich, Elaine Warren,
David Williams, Rose Jordan, Mary Watt, Heidi Carman, David Williams, Lorien Dana
For the people of Ibada ya Kiswahili Lutheran Church in Columbus
For Redeemer community members Laura and Terry Warren

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty
handshake or a hug.*

*For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign
of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.*

*We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before
greeting those in the sanctuary.*

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

*Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to
share this communion meal.*

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

You Are Holy

1*



You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÅR HELIG, Per Harling

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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

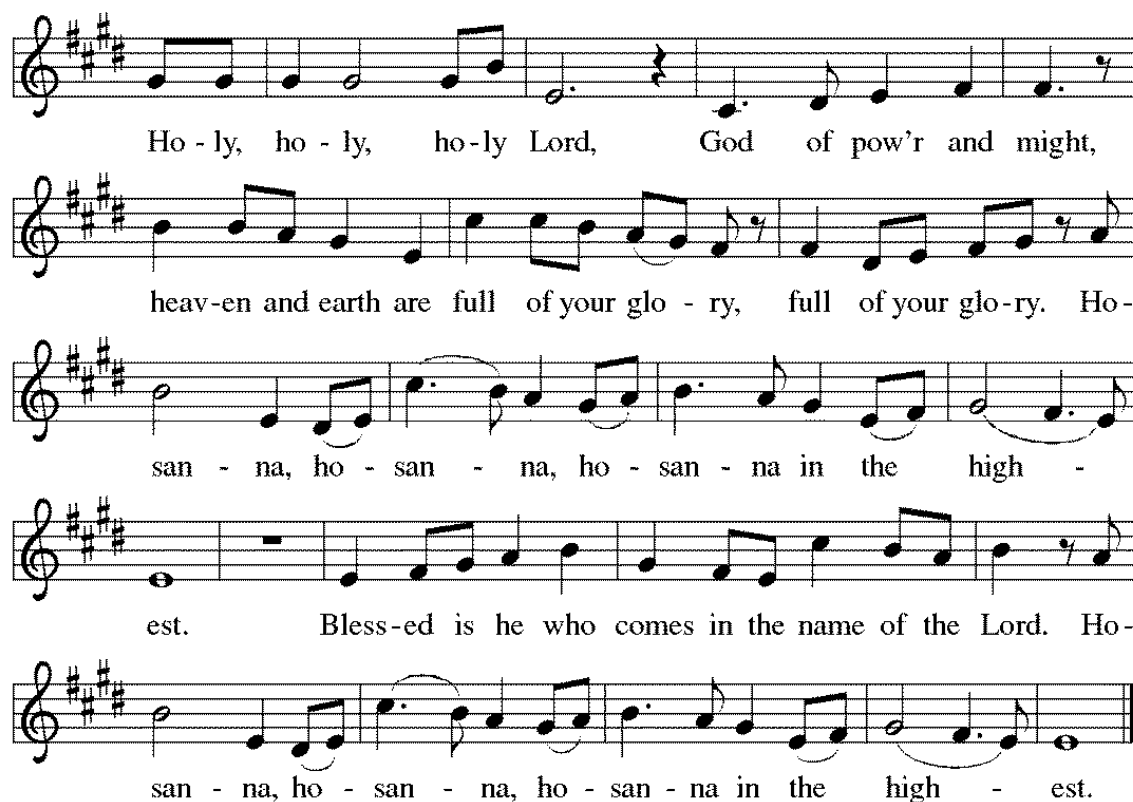
And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We stand in the resurrection garden of God – a place filled and shaped by love and ripe with all it might become when we are open to the Spirit's life and ours becoming one. This is the table of the risen Christ – a place fashioned and furnished by love and rich with its promises. So come – whether you have seen and believed, or are dubious and doubting still, whether you confess confidently, or come to this meal with a fragile, fearful heart. Come and share these gifts of grace, encounter Christ. Come and be healed by Love and transformed by Life.

We remember with wonder and joy that Love, though broken on a cross, was not defeated. We rejoice that Love, though swallowed by death, was not silenced. Neither defeated nor silenced, Love lives and speaks words of welcome, healing and hope to all. In awe of all you have done and all you are doing through us, we join our voices with that of Creation and with all those who bear witness across the world and throughout the ages to the eternal power of your Love and Life:



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.

Before the bright dawn in the garden in which Love was resurrected, before the cold silence of the tomb by which Love was swallowed, before the brutal horror of the cross on which Love was broken, before the bitter struggle of the Gethsemane garden through which Love affirmed its choices, Jesus ate a final supper with his friends.

He took bread, blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take this, and eat! This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." After supper, he took a cup of wine and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

And so we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Recalling that meal and honoring that life, eating this bread and drinking this cup, we thank you, God, for making us part of the ongoing story of your Love and Life. Now, we pray, send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine, that we may once again encounter Christ's Love and be transformed by Christ's Life.

Sharing the Meal

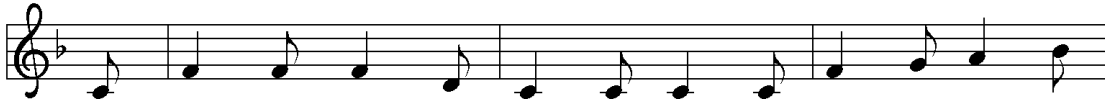
The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Hymn

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart



- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

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Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, Holy God, that in this meal, Jesus Christ, Love resurrected, has met us once again in this garden and touched and transformed us with Life. May the peace of the Resurrected One – the challenging peace of committed life, the liberating peace of selfless love, the vibrant peace of new possibility – recall us to radical living, empower us for rich loving, and transform us with radiant joy. **Alleluia! Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

Hymn Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Variations on "Victory", Janet Linker



Adult Ed – April 21, 11:15 am
 On this day-before earth day, we will talk about Creation Care and how we find ourselves responding to climate change. We will have with us from Seattle on Zoom Mike Schut, formerly with an interfaith organization addressing a variety of topics around Creation Care.


In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957366923?pwd=TnV6cFB4ZUplET25USTgzZ0diZlhnQT09>
 Meeting ID: 889 5736 6923 = Passcode: 383835
 Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Bible Study
Resurrection Stories
Tuesdays + 1:00 pm

Our weekly Bible study dives into questions about how Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John tell the stories of Easter.

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2pHTW11bHR0N1FHbFRZdStgk9Bdz09>
 Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622 = Passcode: 435549
 Phone only: 1-301 715 8592

Adult Ed – April 28, 11:15 am
 The Director and three intervention specialists from the Columbus Violence Reduction program will speak to us about the work of this new city initiative. The BREAD organization worked tirelessly to convince the city of the value of such a program. Now up and running, it is doing remarkable work building relationships with members of gangs who are open to living a different kind of life.

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957366923?pwd=TnV6cFB4ZUplET25USTgzZ0diZlhnQT09>
 Meeting ID: 889 5736 6923 = Passcode: 383835
 Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Birthdays this week:
 22 – Grayson Ullman
 23 – Andrew Skoog
 24 – Michelle Clemence
 24 – Elaine Disbro
 27 – Margie Frazier
 27 – Dora Pinder

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Emily Ott
Cantor	Mary Benis
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Nate Ott
Verger	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Kathleen Zwanziger, Naomi Morgan
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Scott Steiner
Hospitality	Judith and Ashley Bird

*Flowers are given by **Judith and Ashley Bird** in memory of
the best “Mamaw” ever – Wanda Slater.
Noisy Offering will go to World Central Kitchen.*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER APRIL 21 - 28

Today	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	12:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Tuesday	1:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Congregation Council
Saturday	10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 am	Memorial Garden Meeting
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America