

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

## Divine Service – Setting Two

### Confession and Absolution

**Prelude: Sheep May Safely Graze, fr. BWV 208**

**(J. S. Bach)**

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing LSB 475**

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;  
Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;  
Let all the world rejoice and say:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 Praise we in songs of victory  
That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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

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*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### **Invocation, Confession, and Absolution**

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

*Stand*

### Service of the Word

**Introit: Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b**



- P** I am the good | shepherd.\*  
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.
- P** The LORD is my | shepherd;\*  
I | shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green | pastures.\*  
He leads me beside still | waters.
- C** **He re- | stores my soul.\*  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his | name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are | with me;\*  
your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my | enemies;\*  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup | overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,\*  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.
- C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**
- P** I am the good | shepherd.\*  
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

### **Kyrie**

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** Amen.

### **This Is the Feast**

- P** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
- C** **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## First Reading: Acts 4:1–12

<sup>1</sup>As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they had set them in the 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 being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

*The reading concludes:*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Choral Gradual

**I** *Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor. He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.*

## Epistle: 1 John 3:16–24

<sup>16</sup>By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup>But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. <sup>19</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

*The reading concludes:*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

**C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel: John 10:11–18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>11</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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>And I have other sheep that are not of 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 that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

*The reading concludes:*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709

- 1** The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine forever.
- 2** Where streams of living water flow,  
My ransomed soul He leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.
- 3** Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me.
- 4** 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.
- 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!

*Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77*

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down  
from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin  
Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius  
Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the  
Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both  
the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is  
worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic  
Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of  
sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

*Petitions conclude:*

- P** . . . let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.

### Offertory

- C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you,  
O Jerusalem.

### Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

#### Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord,

almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.  
Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

- P** 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.

### The Words of Our Lord

#### Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

#### Agnus Dei

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Distribution

### Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

LSB 625

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread,  
May I in grace possess You.  
Let me with holy food be fed,  
In hunger I address You.  
Prepare me well for You, O Lord,  
And, humbly by my prayer implored,  
Give me Your grace and mercy.
- 2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide,  
To restful waters lead me;  
Your table well for me provide,  
Your wounded hand now feed me.  
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak,  
Refuge in You alone I seek,  
To share Your cup of healing.
- 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight,  
For full and free remission  
I come with prayer before Your sight  
In sorrow and contrition.  
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me  
That I receive You worthily,  
Assured of Your full pardon.
- 4 I do not merit favor, Lord,  
My weight of sin would break me;  
In all my guilty heart's discord,  
O Lord, do not forsake me.  
In my distress this comforts me  
That You receive me graciously,  
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

*Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.*

### He Shall Feed His Flock

(Handel)

*Stand*

## Thank the Lord

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone  
what He has done.  
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly  
bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in  
joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Post-Communion Collect

- P** Let us pray.  
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness,

who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

*Sit*

## The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

LSB 710

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for His own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table Thou hast furnishèd  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.

*Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh*

## Postlude: Ayre, fr. Heldenmusik

(Georg Philipp Telemann)

*Acknowledgments*

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