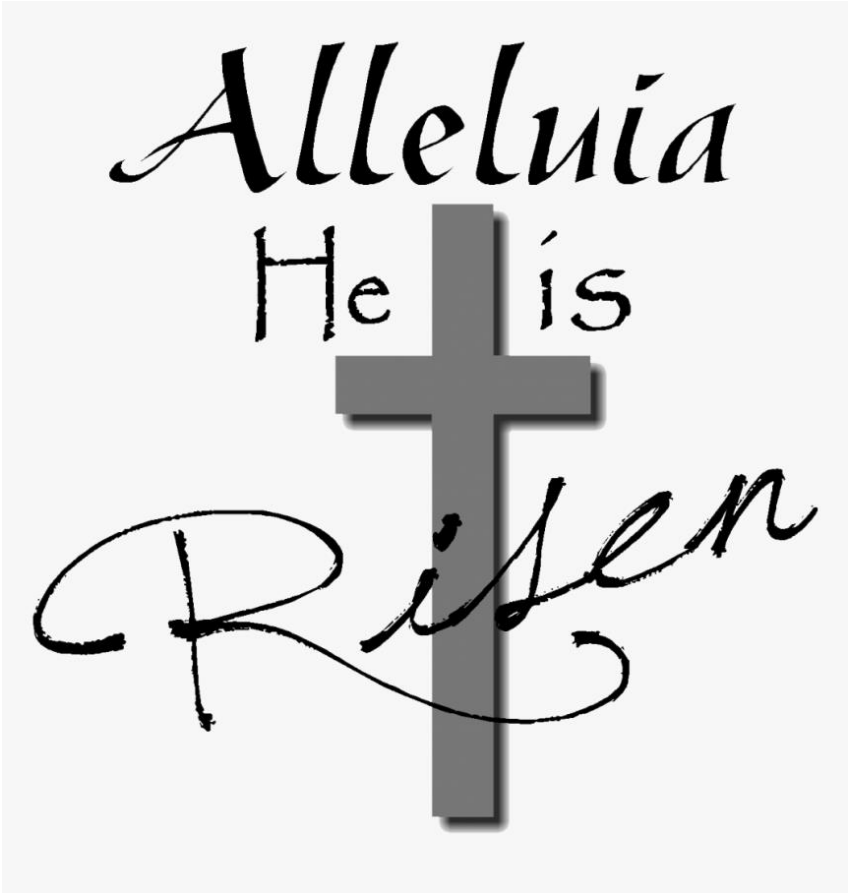


FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

21 APRIL 2024



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 10 (PAGES 203-209)

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

**PRELUDE: “PLACE IN THIS WORLD” BY MICHAEL W. SMITH
RINGING OF THE BELL**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – MACAILAH JACOBSEN

**CALL TO WORSHIP: “Jesus Loves All People the Same”
Sung by the Sunday School Children**

EASTER GREETING – GOD SQUAD

GS: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

**GS: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.**

C: Amen.

GS: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

**Alena: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for
what God has done for us.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice
thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried
your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the
dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s
land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your
boundless baptismal life.

GS: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

**Mason: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and
anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus’ death
and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling
love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad
hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen**

Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

GS: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

HYMN #581 “YOU ARE MINE”

GREETING – EVA BURKE

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE [PAGE 203]

♫ **Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow’r; create in us new hearts!**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE [PAGE 204]

♫ **Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father’s splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY – KARA OLSON

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray

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.

C: Amen

READINGS

EZEKIEL 34:11-16 / PSALM 23 / REVELATION 7:9-12

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 34:11-16 - DAVID BURKE

L: A reading from Ezekiel.

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 (READ RESPONSIVELY) – EVA BURKE

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**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.**

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

**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: REVELATION 7:9-12 – FAITH WILL

L: A reading from Revelation.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION [PAGE 205]

**♪ Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18 – PEYTON GRAU

L: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 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.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUTH SERMON – NOISY OFFERING – DAVID BURKE/PEYTON GRAU

REFLECTION – “ARE YOU IN GOD’S FLOCK”

WRITTEN BY GOD SQUAD YOUTH, READ BY MACAILAH JACOBSEN

HYMN #595 “JESUS LOVES ME”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED – MACAILAH JACOBSEN

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 – GRANT HOFFMAN/GRANT OLSON

L: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear,
let us pray for the church, the world and all those in need of
good news.

(Each petition ends: P: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.)

L: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom
we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our
resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.)

OFFERING

*THE YOUTH HAVE DESIGNATED THE LOOSE OFFERING TODAY
FOR THE CLINTON COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY*

“TRAUMEREI” BY ROBER SCHUMANN
PLAYED BY DAVID BURKE, PEYTON GRAU,
MACAILAH JACOBSEN

OFFERTORY PRAYER – RYAN OLSON

L: Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE [PAGE 207]

P: It is indeed right...and join their unending hymn:

**C: ♩ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED TODAY

*All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited to receive Holy Communion
Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

**♪ O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

HYMN #787 “ON EAGLE’S WINGS”

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (HYMN #619)

**♪ I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head!**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER – RYAN OLSON

L: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy,
strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent
love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING – GOD SQUAD

GS: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN “LEAD ON GOOD SHEPHERD” BY PATRICK MAYBERRY

DISMISSAL – GOD SQUAD

GS: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

RINGING OF THE BELL

POSTLUDE: “WE ARE THE WORLD”

WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeters: Mason Easterday and Caden Will

Bell Ringer: Dalton Will

Ushers: Grant Hoffmann, Grant Olson, Dalton Will, Caden Will

Acolyte: Faith Will

Communion Assistant: David Burke

Pastor: Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

God Squad Members: David Burke, Eva Burke, Mason

Easterday, Peyton Grau, Grant Hoffmann, Macailah Jacobsen,
Grant Olson, Kara Olson, Ryan Olson, Alena Wilhelm, Dalton
Will, Caden Will, Faith Will

God Squad Leader: Heather Grau

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

Cell Phone: (262) 914-9392

Email: pastorleahhollnil@gmail.com

Church Office

Phone: (563) 246-2622

Email: clparish@fbcom.net

Website: www.clparish.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/clparish1861

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Wednesday	6:00 pm	Confirmation at Faith
	7:00 pm	Bible Jam at Faith
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship Service at Faith
	9:25 am	Sunday School at Our Savior's
	10:30 am	Worship Service at Our Savior's

Those to keep in prayer: Mallory Boussetot, Diane Sievers, Jade Jensen; the homebound: Carol Christensen, Ron Gasper, Delores Lahann, Lucy Lee Petersen, Myrna Kay Peterson, Rusty Porth, Betty Schau, Bus Seastrand and Vera St. John; and those serving in the military.

Bible School will be Monday, May 6, from 3:15-5:30 at Faith.

Registration forms are at both churches. It is important to have completed forms in the church office by Friday, April 26.

God Squad is gathering **items for the Clinton County Humane Society**. There is a basket and a list of suggested items at each church.

Would you be willing to help at Bible School? There will be a meeting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 24, at Faith to make final preparations. If you are willing to volunteer your help, please contact Pastor Leah.

The **Bible School snack** will be a trail mix. Donations of mini pretzels, raisins, M&Ms, Gold Fish, and Cheez-its would be appreciated. The items do not need to be in small individual packages. Please leave the treats in the kitchen at Faith.

The **God Squad** will have T-shirts available for purchase, \$20.00 each while supplies last.

The True and the False Shepherd

by William Barclay

John 10:11-15 "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. The hireling, who is not a real shepherd, and to whom the sheep do not really belong, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and runs away; and the wolf seizes them and scatters them. He abandons the sheep because he is a hireling, and the sheep are nothing to him. I am the good shepherd, and I know my own sheep, and my own sheep know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep."

This passage draws the contrast between the good and the bad, the faithful and the unfaithful shepherd. The shepherd was absolutely responsible for the sheep. If anything happened to a sheep, he had to produce some kind of proof that it was not his fault. Amos speaks about the shepherd rescuing two legs or a piece of an ear out of a lion's mouth (Amos 3:12). The law laid it down: "If it is torn by beasts, let him bring it as evidence" (Exodus 22:13). The idea is that the shepherd must bring home proof that the sheep had died, and that he had been unable to prevent the death. David tells Saul how when he was keeping his father's sheep, he had the battle with the lion and the bear (1 Samuel 17:34-36). Isaiah speaks of the crowd of shepherds being called out to deal with the lion (Isaiah 31:4). To the shepherd it was the most natural thing to risk his life in defence of his flock. Sometimes the shepherd had to do more than risk his life: sometimes he had to lay it down, perhaps when thieves and robbers came to despoil the flock. Dr W. M. Thomson in *The Land and the Book* writes: "I have listened with intense interest to their graphic descriptions of downright and desperate fights with these savage beasts. And when the thief and the robber come (and come they do), the faithful shepherd has often to put his life in his hand to defend his flock. I have known more than one case where he had literally to lay it down in the contest. A poor faithful fellow last spring, between Tiberias and Tabor, instead of fleeing, actually fought three Bedouin robbers until he was hacked to pieces with their khanjars, and died among the sheep he was

defending.” The true shepherd never hesitated to risk, and even to lay down, his life for his sheep.

But, on the other hand, there was the unfaithful shepherd. The difference was this. A real shepherd was born to his task. He was sent out with the flock as soon as he was old enough to go; the sheep became his friends and his companions; and it became second nature to think of them before he thought of himself. But the false shepherd came into the job, not as a calling, but as a means of making money. He was in it simply and solely for the pay he could get. He might even be a man who had taken to the hills because the town was too hot to hold him. He had no sense of the height and the responsibility of his task; he was only a hireling.

Wolves were a threat to a flock. Jesus said of his disciples that he was sending them out as sheep in the midst of wolves (Matthew 10:16); Paul warned the elders of Ephesus that grievous wolves would come, not sparing the flock (Acts 20:29). If these wolves attacked, the hireling shepherd forgot everything but the saving of his own life and ran away. Zechariah marks it as the characteristic of a false shepherd that he made no attempt to gather together the scattered sheep (Zechariah 11:16). Carlyle's father once took this imagery caustically to his speech. In Ecclefechan they were having trouble with their minister; and it was the worst of all kinds of such trouble--it was about money. Carlyle's father rose and said bitingly: “Give the hireling his wages and let him go.”

Jesus' point is that the man who works only for reward thinks chiefly of the money; the man who works for love thinks chiefly of the people he is trying to serve. Jesus was the good shepherd who so loved his sheep that for their safety he would risk, and one day give, his life.

We may note two further points before we leave this passage. Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd. Now in Greek, there are two words for good. There is *agathos* which simply describes the moral quality of a thing; there is *kalos* which means that in the goodness there is a quality of winsomeness which makes it lovely. When Jesus is described as the good shepherd, the word is *kalos*.

In him there is more than efficiency and more than fidelity; there is loveliness. Sometimes in a village or town people speak about the good doctor. They are not thinking only of the doctor's efficiency and skill as a physician; they are thinking of the sympathy and the kindness and the graciousness which he brought with him and which made him the friend of all. In the picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd there is loveliness as well as strength and power.

The second point is this. In the parable the flock is the Church of Christ; and it suffers from a double danger. It is always liable to attack from outside, from the wolves and the robbers and the marauders. It is always liable to trouble from the inside, from the false shepherd. The Church runs a double danger. It is always under attack from outside and often suffers from the tragedy of bad leadership, from the disaster of shepherds who see their calling as a career and not as a means of service. The second danger is by far the worse; because, if the shepherd is faithful and good, there is a strong defence from the attack from outside; but if the shepherd is faithless and a hireling, the foes from outside can penetrate into and destroy the flock. The Church's first essential is a leadership based on the example of Jesus Christ.

Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT) – Public Domain