

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
Pastor Liliana Stahlberg

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 30, 2023

WELCOME—Let us prepare our hearts for worship. Take a deep breath! It is the breath of life...be present, center yourself, invite the Holy Spirit in this place and in your heart.

GATHERING HYMN: “*Gather Us In*” (verses 1 & 2)#532

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: 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.

MORNING PRAYER

P: Please join with me in the prayer of the day:

C: 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.

+WORD+

FIRST READING: ACTS 2:42-47

[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 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, 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.

L: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

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: 1 PETER 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 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. 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. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” 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. 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. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

L: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD”.....#801

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 10:1-10

P: The holy Gospel according to John the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “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. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “Jesus Came For Us to Have Abundant Life”..... Pastor Stahlberg

HYMN OF THE DAY “Shepherd Me, O God”.....#780

STATEMENT OF FAITH

C: We believe God, a divine presence, gentle and loving, the ground of our being. We believe Jesus, who embodied the love of God, and who urged his followers to express that same love in their daily lives. We believe the Holy Spirit, as God’s continuing presence in our world, surrounding us with compassion. We believe the church is the Body of Christ where people gather to praise and learn about Christ, to share our concern for one another, and to bring justice and healing to all of God’s Creation. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

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

need. *A brief silence.* Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let's share Christ's peace with one another.

OFFERTORY SONG "GIVE THANKS"

C: 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. Give thanks. Give thanks.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray:

C: Generous God, we give thanks everyday for the abundant gifts of life, health, safety, peace, joy and love. All good things come from you. In our offering we return to you what we can from our own abundance. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us into 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.

BENEDICTION

P: 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.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PEACE *(You may join hands.)*

C: My peace I give unto you. It's a peace that the world cannot give. It's a peace that the world cannot understand. Peace to know, peace to live. My peace I give unto you.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Have life and life abundant.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer is hosting May's Prairie Parish Event! There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex if you wish to bring a breakfast dish to share. As hosts of this event, it would be wonderful to see many of you in attendance - come join at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, May 6th!

Newsletters are printed and on the table in the narthex.

Join us next Sunday evening for a movie event you won't want to miss! Dinner will be served at 5:30pm and we will watch "I Can Only Imagine" starting at 6:00pm.

Anyone currently serving as an usher/greeter or anyone interested in serving in this capacity is requested to attend a training session following worship Sunday, May 14th.

Starting May 13th, Bible Study will resume here at LCOR! The group meets at 10:00 a.m. on Saturdays - come on over and join the discussion!

Ask the Pastor is a new event here at LCOR designed for you to get to know our pastor better and give her an opportunity to get to know you as well. This will be held at noon on Fridays May 12th & 26th. Plan to attend at least one!

***His Only Son* is playing at the Sand's Theater today at 3:00pm.**