Welcome, visitors! Welcome members and friends of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church. Thank you for joining us in church and on our online service today.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in our service this morning. +Guests who are baptized Christians, who acknowledge and confess their sinfulness, who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin, and who believe that He is really present in Holy Communion to bring us His forgiveness and life, are welcome to the Lord's Table.

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 1 pg. 98

April 21, 2024

Prelude – "The King Of Love, My Shepherd Is" – setting, Franklin Ashdown

WELCOME

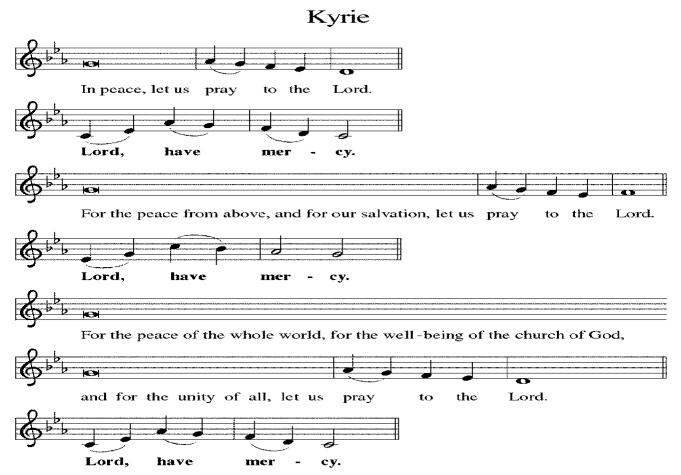
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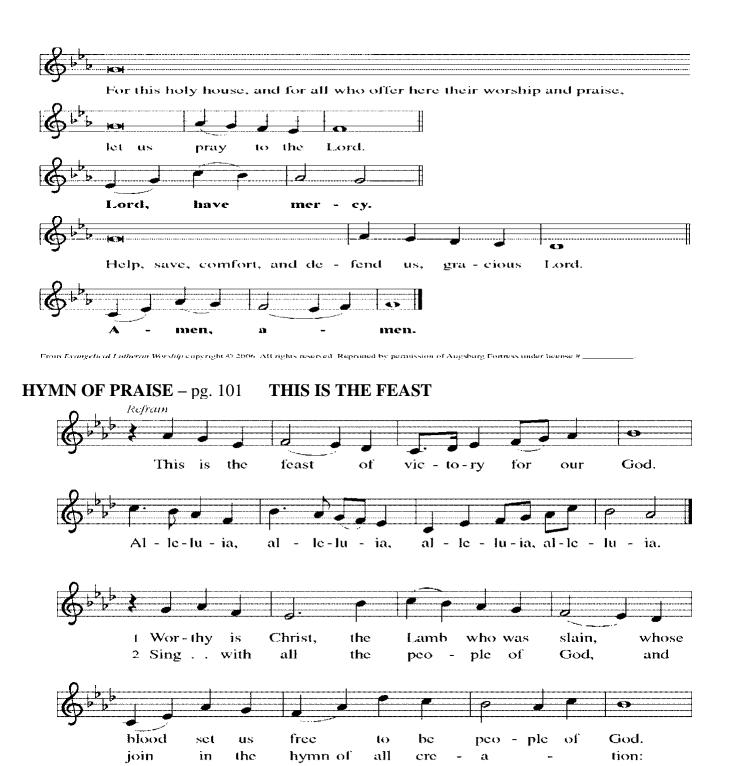
GATHERING HYMN - ELW 369 CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY; ALLELUIA!

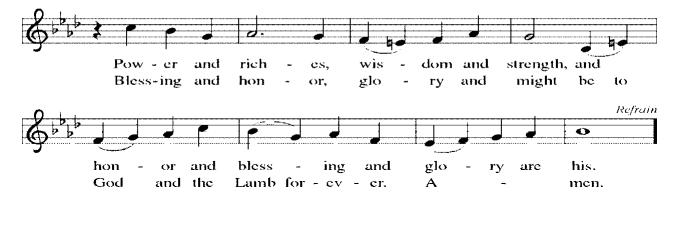
GREETING

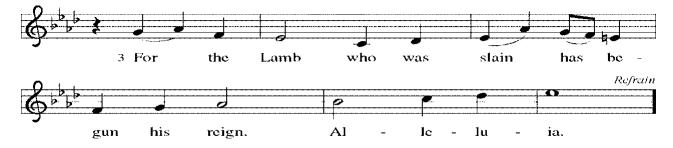
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Cong - And also with you.









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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Cong – Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

Luanne Handley-Blair, Worship Assistant

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

(Choir will sing before and at the R)

(The Psalm will be sung responsively, beginning with Choir)



¹The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,

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

⁴Though 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. R

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. R

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Luanne Handley-Blair, Worship Assistant

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong - Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – CHOIR

Alleluia. Jesus says, I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia. (John 10:14)

Pastor – The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

Cong - Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

Pastor Kelly Reagan

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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."

Pastor – The Gospel of the Lord.

Cong - Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 373 CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY!

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS

Pastor – God of grace,

Cong - Hear our prayer.

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.

Cong - Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Cong - And also with you.

PEACE – "He is risen."

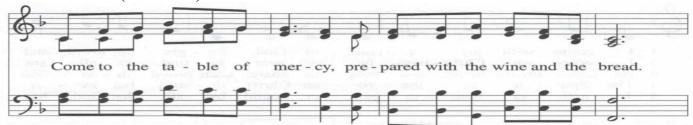
"He is risen indeed. Alleluia!"

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

(Please rise)

OFFERTORY – (ELW 481) COME TO THE TABLE

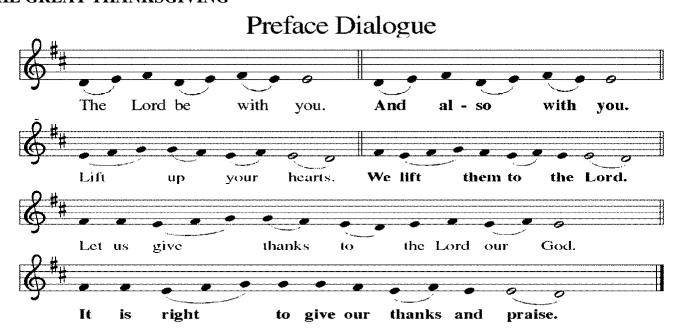




OFFERING PRAYER

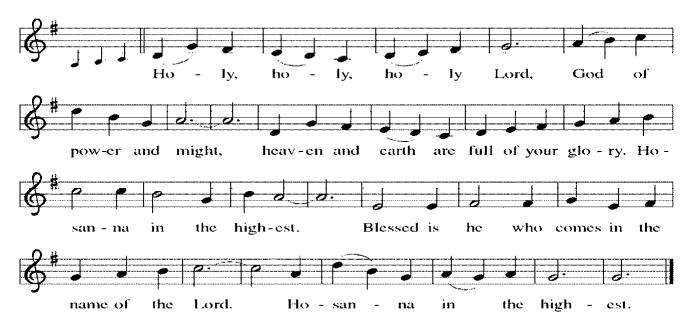
Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Cong – Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING V (ELW pg. 111)

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Cong – Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Cong – Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Cong – Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you. O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

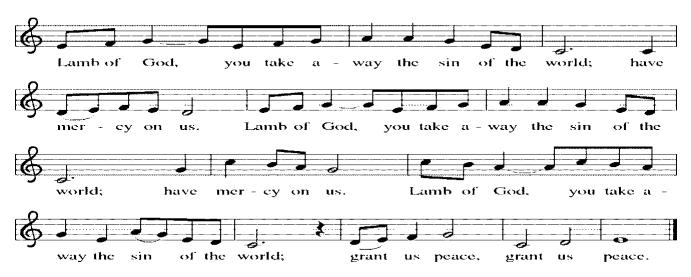
Cong - Amen.

THE 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.

(Please be seated)

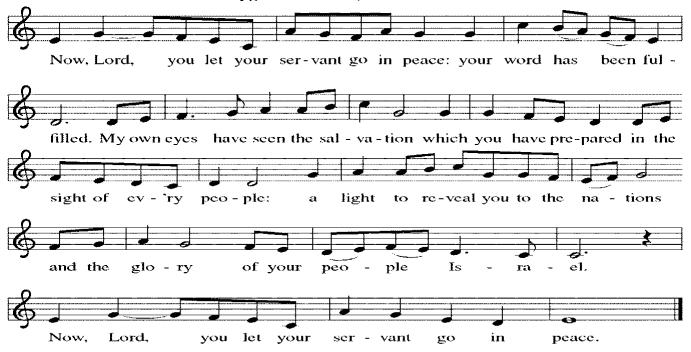




COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 502 THE KING OF LOVE MY SAVIOR IS

(Please rise)

POST-COMMUNION HYMN – pg. 113 NOW, LORD



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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Cong - Amen.

BLESSING

+ bless you now and always The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

Cong - Amen.

SENDING HYMN – ELW 544 PRAISE THE LORD, RISE UP REJOICING

(Please be seated)

Postlude – "Fugue" Johann Pachelbel

Pastor - Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Cong - Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor – Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Cong - Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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MEASURE OF LOVE – April 14, 2024 Attendance – 52 Total Deposit - \$1962.33

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY

Choir – 9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion Setting 1–9:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Class – 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

Choir - after Sunday School

MONDAY

TUESDAY.

Yarn Matters – 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study Coffee – 10:00 a.m.

April 21, 2024

THURSDAY

Al-Anon – 10:30 a.m.

FRIDAY

AA, Al-Anon - 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY

My Brother's Keeper -7:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY - April 28, 2024

Choir – 9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion Setting 1 - 9:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Class – 11:00 a.m.

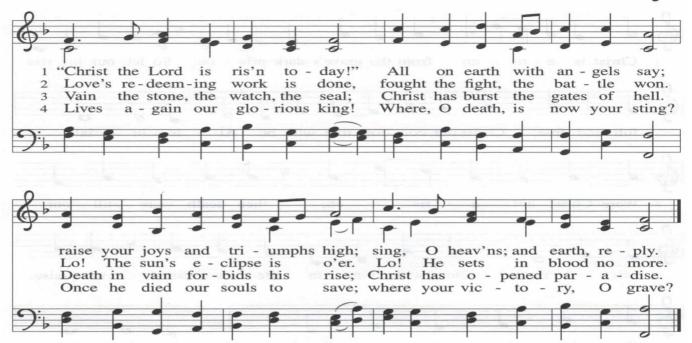
Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

Handbells – after Sunday School

369 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!



Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!



- 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to thee by both be giv'n. Thee we greet triumphant now: hail, the resurrection, thou!
- King of glory, soul of bliss, everlasting life is this: thee to know, thy pow'r to prove, thus to sing, and thus to love!

502

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.

 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

544

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt. Music: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt. Text © Oxford University Press

ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN