

## **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

April 21, 8:30 & 11 am

# Messiah Lutheran Church

MessiahFairview.org

(440) 331-2405

**Welcome to worship!** We are delighted you are here and have chosen to worship today. We believe the Holy Spirit of God gathers us together as one. May you be strengthened through his word and the promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission statement of Messiah Church is: ***Drawing in to Christ, Building up in Christ, Sending out for Christ.*** Our aim is to love each other as Christ has loved us all. We continue to encourage sensible social distancing. If you wish to wear a mask, please do so. If you are feeling ill, please take precautions and consider worshipping via the livestream ministry of Messiah. Online services can be found at ***MessiahFairview.org***; click "***watch services***" ***online.***

Holy Communion is shared at every worship service. The sacrament of holy communion is central to our worship life. If you are a first-time worshipper here, know that you are invited to receive and partake in the sharing of holy communion.

## Introduction to The Day

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 8:30 & 11 am

*The congregation is invited to participate at the places marked with **bold** type*

Prelude

*The King of Love*

Settings by Wilbur Held,

Brock Downward & Charles Callahan

## Gathering

*Stand and turn to face the cross of Christ at the Entrance to the Sanctuary*

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

**C Amen.**

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P 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.  
Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P 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.

**Amen.**

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Gathering Hymn Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia! ELW 369

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.**

### Canticle of Praise

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, 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.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.


*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** 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.**

*Sit*

## Presentation of Bibles to Second Graders

Matthew Adkins  
 Will Baker  
 Allie Behe  
 Amelia Grauel  
 Emily Henry  
 Bryson Polenz  
 Peyton Polenz  
 Lorelei Twigg  
 Patrick Welsh

# Word

## First Reading

Acts 4: 5-12

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their 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 questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let 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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 23** *The Lord is My Shepherd* H. W. Zimmermann (8:30 Choir)  
Shepherd Me, O God ELW 780 (11:00)

## Second Reading

1 John 3: 16-24

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How 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?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And 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. <sup>24</sup>All 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.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

*All sing refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

*All repeat Refrain*

## Gospel

John 10: 11-18

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

Sermon

Rev. Seth Bridger

*Silence for Reflection; Stand*

Hymn of the Day You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd ACS 954



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.  
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,  
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,  
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
 stripped of might up - on the cross,  
 sit in pow - er at God's side,  
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



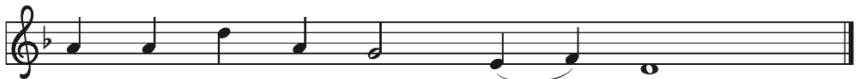
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er  
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.  
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,  
 have a love that reach - es wide.  
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.  
 you, who are both gift and cost.  
 you, who are our pil - grim guide.  
 you, who are our death and life.



## Nicene Creed

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.

## Prayer of the Church

*After each portion of the prayers:*

A Lord, in your mercy. . .

C Hear our prayer

## Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

*Greet those around you with these or similar words*

*You may be seated*

## The Lord's Supper

Music at the Offering *Have No Fear, Little Flock* Michael Burkhardt (8:30)  
*He Shall Feed His Flock* G. F. Handel (11:00)

*Stand as the Offerings are brought forward*

### Offertory:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW 674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

*If the Lord so moves you, you can make an offering by text to 855-913-1744 or by visiting our online giving portal at [tinyurl.com/giveMLC](http://tinyurl.com/giveMLC)*

A Risen One,

**C 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. 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.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. . .we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father. Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. (*the prayer continues*) For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.  
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in Christ's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Join our prayers with those of your servants  
of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high  
priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.  
Through him, with him, in him, almighty Father,  
now and forever.



**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.**

*Sit*

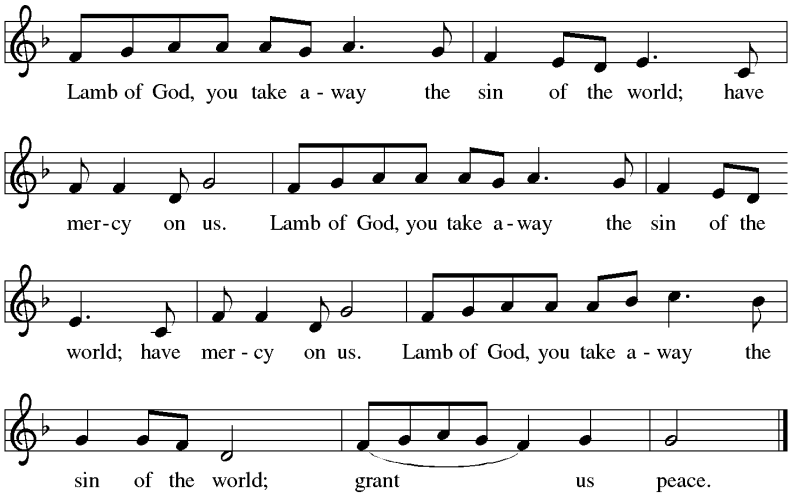
## Communion

*Concerning the sacrament — Holy Communion is Christ’s gift to his Church, his true body and blood given with bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Here Christ confirms in us the benefits of his death and resurrection. He forgives our sins, refreshes our lives, and promises our salvation.*

*We welcome to the Lord’s table all baptized and communing Christians who share this faith. In receiving, please follow the lead of the people around you. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. Quietly ask the Pastor for the Gluten-free host.*

*If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the Pastor with your arms crossed. If you are physically unable to come forward, simply let an usher or deacon know you would like to receive communion at your seat.*

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Distribution Hymns

The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 502  
ELW 764

*Stand after all have communed*

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

**C Amen.**

## Post Communion Prayer

P 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.

**C Amen.**

## Sending

## Blessing

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

## Sending Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

ELW 385

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Postlude

*Prelude in C*

J. S. Bach

## Serving Today

Preaching & Presiding Minister – Rev. Seth Bridger

Acolyte- -Paige Neumann (8:30)

Assisting Ministers – Linda & Carl Herhuth (8:30) Lindsay Baker (11:00)

Deacons – Amy & Mark Hunger (11:00)

Cantor/Soloist – Claire Connelly

Interim Director of Music – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Organist - Michael Cherup

Altar Guild – Marilyn Edwards, Diane Paton

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Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, Arrangement: Wayne L. Wold; copyright © 2008 Augsburg

Fortress. All rights reserved.

Lord, You Are Both Lamb and Shepherd, Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan; Text © 1991 GIA

Publications.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, Text: Fred Kaan, Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt.

Doreen Potter. Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company.

Have No Fear, Little Flock, Text: H. W. Zimmermann and Marjorie Jillson; Music: H. W.

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Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! Text © 1958, ren. 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern,

admin. Hope Publishing House.

## In Our Prayers

- For Easter joy to spread throughout the world, including within our lives and the lives of people we love.
- For the Senior Pastor Call process, that the Holy Spirit guide the discernment of candidates and those serving on the Pastoral Call Committee: Sam Gmetro, John Hayduk, Jay Machado, Kathy Neumann, Allison Younger-Waugaman, and Karen Wolf.
- For those with health concerns: Rae Szabo, Lenny Ludwig, Janice Snyder, Chip Difiore, Sue Nerlinger, Maddie Polenz, Rev. Daniel Benuska healing from surgery, Ellie Hendrickson (Edna Martin's great-granddaughter), Emerson Buskirk, Kristy Younger, Rev. Gerry Miller ( former Pastor with Messiah Lutheran) and his adult son Michael, Cliff Preuss, Terri Civittolo, Liz Dimmock, Nina Long, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Andrew Boraggina ahead of surgery, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), those quietly receiving medical treatments.

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## This Week's Commemorations

*Apr. 21*—ANSELM, d. 1109, bishop of Canterbury and among the greatest of medieval theologians and thinkers.

*April 23*—TOYOHIKO KAGAWA, d. 1960, a Japanese Christian, who made a significant contribution toward the addressing of social evils in his country.

*April 25*—ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST, companion of Saints Peter and Paul and author of the second Gospel.

## God's Word for Next Week

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8: 26-40; Psalm 22: 25-31; 1 John 4: 7-21, John 15: 1-8

*We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for worship next week.*

## **Messiah Lutheran Church**

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Connect with Messiah – text 'MESSIAHFP' to 84576 to sign-up

## **Messiah Lutheran School**

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(440) 331-6553

Email – [school@messiahfp.org](mailto:school@messiahfp.org)

[www.messiahfairview.org](http://www.messiahfairview.org)

+ + +

Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Principal Organist – Michael Cherup

Minister of Youth – Adonai Henderson

Technology Manager – Jared Waugaman

Building Manager – Jason Reynolds

Messiah School Principal – Helen Casselberry

Administrator & Pierstorf College Fund Director – Darlene Waugh

Communications Coordinator – Sarah Heinsbergen

Bookkeeper & Pierstorf College Fund Business Manager – Lisa Daley

Administrative Assistant – Diane Ward



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Drawing in to Christ. Building up in Christ. Sending out for Christ.*

*To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.*