

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5322 PALMS ROAD, CASCO TWP., MI 48064

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024 –9:30 A.M.

Office Phone: 810-765-4808

Office Email: stpauls@stpaulscasco.com

Website: www.stpaulscasco.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulscasco

Pastor Kirk Langset cell phone: 586-260-1466 (Call or text)

Email: pastorkirklangset@yahoo.com Pianist – Janet Teltow

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water! **C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG: The Trumpets Sound the Angels Sing ELW #531

1) The trum-pet sounds, the an-gels sing, the feast is read-y to be-gin.

The gates of heav'n are o-pen wide, and Je-sus wel-comes you in-side.

Refrain: Sing-with-thank-ful-ness songs of pure de-light;

come-and-rev-el in heav-en's love and light; take-your-place-at-the ta-ble of-the-King.

The feast is read-y to be-gin; The feast is read-y to begin.

2) Ta-bles are la-den with good things . . oh, taste the peace and joy he brings.

He'll fill you up with love di-vine; he'll turn your wa-ter in-to wine. **REFRAIN**

Words and Music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-727570 (Aug23-Aug224)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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.**

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

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.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.”

The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children’s Song: Oh How I Love Jesus

Refrain: Oh, how I love Je - sus . . Oh, how I love Je - sus . .

Oh, how I love Je - sus . . be-cause he first loved me!

There is a na-me I love to hear . . I love to si-ng its worth . .

It sounds like mu - sic in my ear . . the sweet-est name on earth.

Refrain: Oh, how I love Je - sus . . Oh, how I love Je - sus . .

Oh, how I love Je - sus . . be-cause he first loved me!

Words: Frederick Whitfield, 1829-1904 Music: Traditional Public Domain

THE SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: The King of Love My Shepherd Is ELW #502

- 1) The King of love my shep-herd is . . whose good-ness fail - eth nev - er . .
I, noth - ing lack if I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.
- 2) Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow . . my ran - somed soul he lead - eth . .
And where the ver - dant pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
- 5) Thou spreadst a ta - ble in my sight . . thine unc-tion grace be - stow - eth . .
and oh, what trans - port of de - light, from thy pure cha - lice flow - eth!
- 6) And so, through all the length of days . . thy good - ness fail - eth nev - er . .
Good Shep - herd may I sing thy praise, with - in thy house for - ev - er.

Words: Henry W Baker 1821-1877; music: Irish tune Public Domain

THE APOSTLES CREED P: Let us confess our faith in Triune God.

C: 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

THE PRAYERS

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. *A brief silence.*

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Today we pray for.....

And those we name now out loud, in our hearts, or in the comment section at this time.

(pause for names to be added)

Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace, **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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: I invite you, at this time, to make a gesture of peace to your siblings in Christ.



THE THANK OFFERING *For those who desire to make a financial offering you may drop them off at the offering station before or after service. For those who wish to make an online financial offering scan the QR code with your mobile device or go to: secure.myvanco.com/YM5K/home You may also choose to mail your offerings to the church: 5322 Palms Road, Casco, MI, 48064*

THE OFFERING PRAYER P: Let us pray – 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. **C: Amen**

THE 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: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

P: 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:

C: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

C: 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.

P: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER P: Let us pray in the words our Savior taught us.

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 MEAL P: All those who believe in the promise are invited to partake in God's amazing grace at this time.

COMMUNION HYMN: : Have No Fear Little Flock ELW #764

- 1) Have no fear . . lit-tle flock . . have no fear . . lit-tle flock,
For the Fa - ther has cho-sen. . to give you . . the king-dom, have no fear . . lit-tle flock.
- 2) Have good cheer . . lit-tle flock . . have good cheer . . lit-tle flock,
For the Fa-ther will keep you . . in his love . . for-ev-er . . have good cheer . . lit-tle flock.
- 3) Praise the Lord, high a-bove; praise the Lord, high a-bove;
For he stoops-down to heal you, up-lift and re-store you; praise the Lord, high a-bove.
- 4) Thank-ful hearts raise to God; thank-ful hearts raise to God,
For he stays-close be-side you, in-all-things, works with you; thank-ful hearts raise to God.

Words: Luke 12:32, v1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, v 2; Music: Heinz Zimmerman, b. 1930; ©1973 Concordia Publishing House; All rights reserved OneLicense #A-727570 (Aug 23–Aug 24)

2nd Communion song: Jesus Christ is Risen Today ELW #365

- 1) Je-sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia! Our tri-um-phant ho - ly day . . Al - le - lu - ia!
Who did once up-on the cross . Al - le - lu - ia! Suf-fer to re-deem our loss . . Al - le - lu - ia!
- 2) Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Un-to Christ our heav'n-ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en-dured the cross and grave, Al-le - lu - ia! Sin-ners to re-deem and save, Al - le - lu - ia!
- 3) But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia! Our sal-va-tion has pro-cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a-bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia! Where the an-gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
- 4) Sing we to our God a-bove, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise e-ter-nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise him, all you heav'n-ly host, Al-le - lu - ia! Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words and Music: J. Walsh; verse 4 Charles Wesley. Public Domain

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and give you peace.

C: Amen

DOXOLOGY - Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Public Domain

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.

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.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: God Be With You Till We Meet Again ELW #536

- 1) God be with you till we meet a-gain; by good coun-sels guide, up-hold you,
With a shep-herd's care en-fold you; God be with you till we meet a-gain.

REFRAIN: Till we meet till we meettill we meet at Je-sus' feet;

Till we meettill we meetGod be with you till we meet a - gain.

- 3) God be with you till we meet again; when life's per-ils thick con-found you,
Put un-fail-ing arms a-round you; God be with you till we meet a-gain. **REFRAIN**

Text: Jeremiah E Rankin, 1828-1904; Music: William G Tomer, 1833-1896 Public Domain

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-727570 Valid for: August 2023-August 2024 and CCLI podcast license #20426902 Licensed permission for Augsburg Fortress materials through subscription to sundaysandseasons.com

~ ~ *Additional Reading for this week Psalm 23* ~ ~

*Weekly devotional with Pastor Kirk
on Wed., April 24, 2024 Facebook at 7:00 p.m.*