

# Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by Susan Roegge – "Make Me a Servant," arr. Laura Bergquist*

## GATHERING

*Call to Worship*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*Confession*

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

1. **Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**
2. **‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.**
3. **Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.**
4. **The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.**
5. **When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise Than when we’d first begun.**

*\*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.**

*\*Prayer of the Day*

P: Gracious God, you called Saul to be your instrument to build your church and spread the gospel. Make us your instruments today to do the same and more in your Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*\*Sharing Christ’s Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

*Children’s Sermon*

1. **Blessed be your name In the land that is plentiful  
Where your streams of abundance flow Blessed be your name**

2. **Blessed be your name When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be your name**

*Refrain:*

*Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise*

*When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your name*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name*

3. **Blessed be your name When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's 'all as it should be' Blessed be your name**

4. **Blessed be your name On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering Blessed be your name** *Refrain*

## WORD

*Reading:* Acts 9:1-19a

*Reader:* Angela Spray

<sup>1</sup>Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup>He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup>The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, "Lord,

I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup>I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” <sup>17</sup>So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup>and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

*\*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 6:19-24

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>19</sup>“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup>“The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup>but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

<sup>24</sup>“No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Song* – “Make Me a Servant”

*(piano)*

**Make me a servant, humble and meek, Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.  
And may the prayer of my heart always be: Make me a servant, make me a servant,  
make me a servant today.**

*Sermon:* “Paul's Conversion - Make Me an Instrument”

*Song of the Day* – “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant” ELW 659 (piano)

- 1 **Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**
- 2 **We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road;  
we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**
- 3 **I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**
- 4 **I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.**
- 5 **Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

*\*The 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 of Intercession*

*Stewardship Time*

"I Saw the Light," arr. Crowder  
*Faith Singers*

*–We now have Worship Cards in the pews. Please let us know if you are  
communing, share a prayer request, and place your card in the offering plate  
as a gesture of stewardship as we grow in relationship with God  
through the use of our time, talents, and finances–*

*\*Offering Prayer*

P: Merciful God,

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**


## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.



☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.



☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

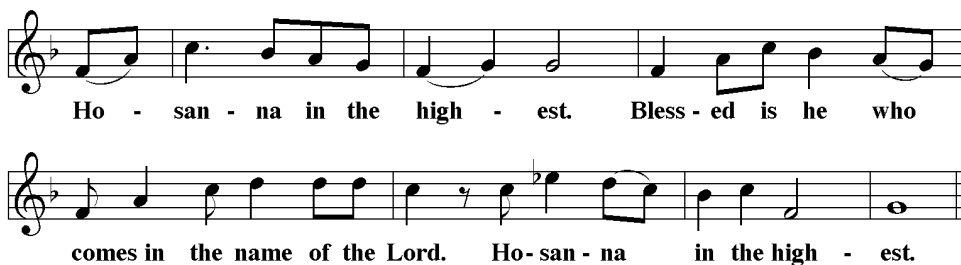
☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:



☑ 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.



¶ 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.

*\*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.**

*Communion Songs*

“Beautiful Savior” ELW 838 (organ)

- 1 **Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**
- 2 **Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!

“Be Thou My Vision”

*(piano)*

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

*Chorus: I want to see what You see and feel with Your heart;  
I want to go where You lead; to be where You are.  
Lord, You are my source; the beginning and the end.  
So be Thou my Vision, my Treasure and Friend.  
Lord, be Thou my Vision, my Treasure and Friend.*

3. Riches I heed not, or man’s empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou, and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

*Chorus: I want to see what You see and feel with Your heart;  
I want to go where You lead; to be where You are.  
Lord, You are my source; the beginning and the end.  
So be Thou my Vision, my Treasure and Friend.  
Lord, be Thou my Vision, my Treasure and Friend.*

*\*Post-Communion Blessing*

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

C: **Amen.**

*\*Closing Prayer*

## SENDING

*\*Benediction*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor, and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “Make Me an Instrument”* *(piano)*

*Refrain: Make me an instrument of your love; let me be a channel from above;*

*Make me an instrument of your love, an instrument of your love.*

1. **When a friend is in need of an open heart, let me be there, oh, let me be there.**  
**When a friend is lost with nowhere to go, let me be there. Refrain**
2. **When someone is hungry, when someone is cold,**  
**let me be there, oh, let me be there.**  
**When someone needs help to carry their load, let me be there. Refrain**
3. **If someone should wonder, is God still alive, let me be there, oh, let me be there.**  
**If someone should wonder, does God really care, let me be there. Refrain**

*\*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Song Credits

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**, © 2006 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission.

“Blessed Be Your Name,” words and music by Matt and Beth Redman, © 2002 ThankYou Music. CCLI#973583

“Make Me a Servant,” from **Songs for Praise & Worship**, Word Music, © 1992. CCLI#973583

“I Saw the Light,” arr. David Crowder, ATV Acuff Rose Music, © 1948. Used by permission.

“Be Thou My Vision,” arr. Kirk Kirkland, McKinney Music, Inc., © 2012.

“Make Me an Instrument,” words and music by Larry Olson and Karol Baer, Dakota Road Music, © 1989.

CCLI#973583

The altar plants are donated today by the Roth family  
in celebration of Maria Snodgrass' birthday on April 16  
*and by*  
Pat Ashbaker

## Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert  
Greeter: Carol Freesen  
Reader: Angela Spray  
Ushers: Angie & Mike Fenner  
Pastor: Adam Dichsen  
Music Director: Jean Welch  
Organist: Susan Roegge  
Pianist: Jean Welch  
Guitarist: Marilyn Dichsen  
Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen  
Financial Assistants: Patty Nelson & Monica Proefrock  
Chancel Committee: Kim Heise  
Coffee Host: Karen Sibert



### Singers:

Maddie Crossin	Kelly Hartz	Adam Krohe	Cole Street
Benen Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Kris Roth	Melissa Street

### Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kevin Krohe	Monica Proefrock	Cory Street
Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kay Schnitker	John Williams

## What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, April 19, 9:30am: Worship **Newsletter Deadline**  
11:00am: Discussion Group in the Justice Room  
4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp

Wednesday, April 22, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Sunday, April 26, 9:30am: Worship **Friends from Faith**  
11:00am: Discussion Group in the Justice Room

Wednesday, April 29, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Thursday, April 30, 1:00pm: Discipleship Core Team

## News Updates

### Lay Ministry Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

### Faith's Little Flock — (Ages 2–7)

gathers each Sunday after the Children's Sermon and returns to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

### Post-Service Discussions

After the service, grab some refreshments and join us in the Justice Room to further encounter the readings – and the sermon. *Naomi Hahn*

### Read the Bible in a Year

Join us in reading the Bible over the course of a year, **Wednesdays at 10:00am in the Faith Library**. We gather weekly to discuss our insights and reflections. We are utilizing The Bible Recap by Tara-Leigh Cobble, available on the YouVersion Bible app, to guide our journey. For more information, feel free to reach out to Pam Devlin.

### Bible Boot Camp and Faith Inkubators

Pastor Adam will lead the gathering today. If others would like to help lead a fun activity, please contact Pam Devlin, Carol Freesen, or Celeste Hill on our Discipleship Core Team or **sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Area**. Our typical schedule is for Bible Boot Camp from 4:30-5:30, a meal for 15 people from 5:30-6:00, and Faith Inkubators from 6:00-7:30.

### Spring Altar Flowers for Faith's Gardens

Beginning after Easter, we will be purchasing flowers each week for the altar that will then be planted in our church gardens. If you would like to donate a plant, the cost is \$15, and you can sign up at the podium in the Gathering Area.

## **Picnic & Planting Day at Faith**

Join us after church on **Sunday, May 3**, for a Picnic & Planting Day at Faith! We're inviting everyone to stay after worship for food, fellowship, and outdoor planting to help spruce up our garden spaces. Kids and adults are welcome—there will be jobs for all ages. Picnic food will be provided. This special day is a collaboration between the Garden Team and the GIFT Team—come ready to eat, connect, and get your hands a little dirty!

## **Summer Youth Camps**

**Performing Arts Camp (PAC)** at Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on June 12-13, 19-20, and 26-27. Cost is \$50/camper.

**Fire in Our Hearts (FIOH)** at Green Pastures is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on July 13-17 and 27-31. Cost is \$135/camper.

If needed, scholarships are available.

Registration link: <http://www.greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration>.

For more information call: 217-584-1374

Email: [contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org](mailto:contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org)