

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Susan Roegge – "Christ Is Risen!" arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

GATHERING

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Returning again to the waters of baptism, we begin in the name of the Father and of the
+ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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

Silence

P: Gracious and merciful God,

C: We confess to you the truth of our broken lives. We have not trusted your promises or walked in your ways. We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of your creation. We have failed to welcome the stranger and the outcast, and to make room at the table for the homeless and the hungry. We have neither worked to release the oppressed nor admitted our own captivities. Forgive our sin, heal our lives, and set us free that we might live with your whole creation in the justice and joy of your promised future.

P: God, who is merciful and kind, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, hears the cries of all who plead for mercy and, in these last days, has sent Christ Jesus to announce the good news of forgiveness and release to all who are bound by guilt or broken by shame, that they might praise God and serve the world with glad and generous hearts.

P: For freedom Christ has set you free.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Sharing of the 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.

Gathering Song – “We Are Called” ELW 720

- 1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.**

*Refrain: We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.*

- 2. Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and blindness will be no more. *Refrain***

- 3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we’ll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. *Refrain***

Children’s Sermon

Hymn of Praise: “Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life”

*Refrain: Come and gather beneath the tree of life.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life –
Root of wisdom, branch of peace, fruit of healing and release.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life.*

**Here we raise the saving cross of Jesus,
singing praise to him who leads us on from death into new life. *Refrain***

WORD

Reading: Psalm 40:4-10

Reader: Terri Kimler

⁴ Happy are those who make
the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.

⁵ You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts towards us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.

⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt-offering and sin-offering
you have not required.

⁷ Then I said, 'Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

⁸ I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart.'

⁹ I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O LORD.

¹⁰ I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great congregation.

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

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 28:16-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of the Day – “Lord, You Give the Great Commission” ELW 579, vv. 1, 2, & 5

**1 Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:**

Refrain: With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

**2 Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community: *Refrain***

**5 Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity: *Refrain***

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

"Jesus, Lord To Me," by Gary McSpadden and Greg Nelson
Susan Roegge

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

C: We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.

**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.

**Words of Institution*

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: 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

"Will You Come and Follow Me" ELW 798

1. **Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**
2. **Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?**
3. **Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**
4. **Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**
5. **Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

"Christ the Life of All the Living" ELW 339

- 1 **Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving to the darkest depths of woe:**

**through your suff'ring, death, and merit life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.**

- 2 You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion, fully to atone for me;
for you chose to be tormented that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.**
- 3 Then, for all that bought my pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden, I will thank you evermore;
thank you for the groaning, sighing, for the bleeding and the dying,
for that last triumphant cry, praise you evermore on high.**

**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*

*Song: "By Your Hand, You Feed Your People ELW 469

- 1. By your hand you feed your people, food of angels, heaven's bread.
For these gifts we did not labor, by your grace have we been fed:**

*Refrain: Christ's own body, blessed and broken, cup o'erflowing, life outpoured,
Given as a living token of your world redeemed, restored.*

- 2. In this meal we taste your sweetness, bread for hunger, wine of peace.
Holy word and holy wisdom satisfy our deepest needs. Refrain**
- 3. Send us now with faith and courage to the hungry, lost, bereaved.
In our living and our dying, we become what we receive: Refrain**

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “My Redeemer Lives”*

**I know He rescued my soul, His blood has covered my sin. I believe, I believe!
My shame is taken away, my pain is healed in His name. I believe, I believe!
I’ll raise the banner ‘cause my Lord has conquered the grave!**

**My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives!
My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! *Repeat verse***

My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives!

**You lift my burdens, I’ll rise with You. I’m dancing on this mountaintop
to see Your kingdom come!**

**My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives!
My Redeemer lives! My Redeemer lives! *Repeat***

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker

Greeters: Verla Buckner & Laura Sweatman

Reader: Terri Kimler

Usher: Pat Glyshaw

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Susan Roegge

Organist: Susan Roegge

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Mindy Carlson & Kelly Street

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Host: Kay Schnitker

Singers:

Benen Dichsen

Kelly Hartz

Kris Roth

Marilyn Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Melissa Street

Rigby Dichsen

Adam Krohe

Carol VanderKloot

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street

The plants at the altar today are donated by the Roth family
in celebration of Maria' birthday today
and by Carol Rauen in loving memory of Chick Quandt
and the flowers in the altar vases are donated in memory of Dixie Williams
by Bob & Janet, Timothy & Stephanie, and Andrew & Alicia Chipman
and Mary Lee, Mark & Meredith, and James & Madison Williams

Song Credits

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What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, April 16, 1:00pm: Bradbury Show – “The Bystanders”
5:30pm: Confirmation Class

Newsletter Deadline

Monday, April 17, 7-8pm: Ministry Support Structure Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
10am: Discipleship Group in the Faith Library
5:30pm: First Communion Class
6:00pm: Women of Faith

Thursday, April 20, 6:00pm: Church Council Meeting

Monday, April 24, 12 noon: Potluck meal
12:30pm: Movie: “A Man Called Otto”

Wednesday, April 26, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
12 noon: Pastor's Pick Book Study
6:00pm: Pastor's Pick Book Study

Saturday, April 29, 10:00am: Music Rehearsal

News Updates

Ken Bradbury Show — “The Bystanders”

All are welcome to attend Ken Bradbury’s one-act play, "The Bystanders", being performed **TODAY** at:

10:00 am First Presbyterian Church, 870 W. College Ave.

1:00 pm Faith Lutheran Church, 1385 W. Walnut St.

5:00 pm Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, 1447 Merritt Road

This one-hour play is a collection of monologues; eight stories shared by those who were around Christ before, during, or after the Crucifixion. This powerful drama features Tim Chipman, Christine Smith, Audra Nelson, Buford Stowers, Cooper Stowers, Emma Guidish, and Keith Bradbury. Admission is free. For more info: 217-473-4735.

First Communion Instruction

Do you have a child interested in receiving communion? If they are in first grade or older and you feel they are ready for this step in their faith, come talk to Pastor Adam. He will be leading a three-session course (**beginning April 19**) that will include teaching, discussion, making chalices, and baking communion bread. The classes will be held in April and May with plans to celebrate First Communion with the congregation on Mother’s Day, May 14.

Discipleship Group

Join us at 10am on Wednesday, April 19, in the Faith Library as we meet for great conversation and fellowship time. If you haven’t attended before, now’s a great time to give it a try! For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

Join us on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:00pm as we celebrate Earth Day by painting flower pots. Take it home with a flower for yourself or give it to a friend. Plus we’ll have dirt dessert for a treat! Please **RSVP to Monica by TODAY**.

Faith and Film

Do you like the ways movies nurture and challenge our faith? Come check out this small group as we gather for fellowship and lunch, then watch a movie and have discussion. Our next potluck and movie will be on **Monday, April 24 at noon**. The movie will be *A Man Called Otto*.

Worship, Celebration, and Dinner... UGANDA STYLE!!!

On Sunday, April 30, join us for a worship service that breaks us free from our typical Lutheran norm as we incorporate music and prayer from our Ugandan neighbors at Pillars of Africa. Afterwards, we will host a meal similar to the cuisine our team enjoyed. As you eat, we will tell stories and show pictures of our adventures and share more about opportunities to walk more closely with the programs at Pillars as we help them become more sustainable. And look for the crafts! We brought three suitcases back filled with crafts from their Pillars Empowerment Program that supports local crafters and gives them training to improve their skills.

Music Rehearsal Time Changes

Our Exaltation Ringers and Chancel Choir are trying out a new rehearsal schedule to encourage more to be a part of the music program here at Faith.

**Chancel Choir will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays;
Exaltation Ringers on the 2nd and 4th Sundays; all from 10:45-11:15am**

I hope to see you on Sunday mornings for rehearsal at 10:45am in the sanctuary!

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

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 Grieved to Serve!*

Faith Telephone Directory

A new Faith Directory is available in the gathering area on the Coffee Sales counter by the Mission & Ministry Center for all to take home (1 per household, please).

Contribution Envelopes for 2023

are in the gathering area at the Coffee Bar. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf & flavored; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate—

milk & dark; **\$5.50** coffee pods; **\$6.25** cashews). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.