

**Sunday, April 22, 2018**

Fourth Sunday of Easter



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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Church Secretary: Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH*

*we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS*

*we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**

**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**

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## Fourth Sunday of Easter

### INTRODUCTION

*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 sister or brother in need.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN:**                    **“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”**                    **#836 ELW**

Please Stand on the Last Verse

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

### **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*As an alternative to the assembly's spoken response, a sung refrain may be used.*

Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

### **We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain and snow, for [local water sources may be named].

### **We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.**

We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

### **We give you thanks for your salvation through water.**

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

### **We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.**

We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into

Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

**We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.**

### **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. Amen**

### **First Reading: Acts 4:5-12**

*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 is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.*

<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."

The Word of the Lord.

### **Thanks Be to God**

### **Psalm: Psalm 23**

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

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though 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.**

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

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## **Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24**

*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.*

<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.

The Word of the Lord.

## **Thanks Be to God**

*Please rise for the Reading of the Gospel*

## **GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Lord appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

*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:] <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.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to You, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON: “Hey, I Know You”**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” #742 ELW**

**APOSTLE’S 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**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion.*

Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Bless all who shepherd your sheep and guide them in their serving. We pray for church custodians, office managers, Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, baptismal sponsors, deacons, pastors, youth workers, and bishops. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Restore natural environments damaged by our hands. We pray for river valleys and grassy plains, coral reefs and arctic ice, mountains, deserts, and marshlands. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Protect and guide first responders. Bring mercy and justice with their presence. We pray for military personnel, firefighters, paramedics, and police officers, and for disaster relief and crisis intervention teams. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Heal and renew all who ache for a better tomorrow. We pray for the unemployed and underemployed, the forgotten, the nameless, and the outcasts; for our enemies; and for our loved ones (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Give to all who are restless, reckless, or uncertain the peace you promise that is deeper and richer than anything we can imagine. We pray for all who live with chronic pain, who live with anxiety, and who are ill or hospitalized (*especially*).

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Nourish us with the testimony of all the disciples who have gone before us. We give thanks for the faithful departed and their witness in every age. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

*Ushers will begin passing the offering plate.*

*Please rise as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.**

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BLESSING**

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN: “You Never Let Go” Matt Redman (Insert)**

**Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship!  
Please come again.**

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Digital Hymnal Greeters: Pat & Jerry Becker  
Ushers: 8:30am: Lynn Hansen & Patti Smith Lectors: 8:30am Judy Seifert  
10:00am: Darrell Kelly 10:00am Val Benton  
Hospitality Hosts: Bev & Wally Swenson, Char & Roy Berg, Jeannine B.

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God’s Word Last Week: Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>: 8:30am: 49 10:00pm 20

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**

**April 23 through April 29, 2018**

Monday	4/23	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	4/24	9:00 am	Quilters
Wednesday	4/25	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:0 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Catechism
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	4/26	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:00 pm	Funtimers-Pot Luck (Noon) & Cards (12:30pm)
Friday	4/27	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	4/28	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ATTENDANCE REGISTRY** Please sign and pass the new attendance registry folders which you will find in the pew.

**JELLY MAKING:** The date for our annual jelly making has been set for Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Please come and join in the fun. No experience needed. Signup sheets will be in the fellowship hall. The jelly will be sold at the veggie stand this summer. All proceeds go to the Benevolence fund. Donations are very welcome. Some items needed are: Sugar, Sure Jell, Certo, and 8 oz. jelly jars, and monetary donations for purchasing fruit are also welcome. If you have Rhubarb or hot peppers in your freezer from last year we could use them also. Please mark all items “Jelly making” and all donations need to be in by April 30<sup>th</sup> so we can take inventory. Thank you to everyone that helps out.

**HEARTLAND CONFERENCE** will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in McGrath on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Registration is between 8:00-9:00am.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** Riverwood Healthcare center will be starting a new 6-week Grief Support series on Thursdays from 4:30-6:00pm. Starts on April 19, 2018. See the bulletin board in Narthex for more information.

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR ISLE SCHOOL PANTRY** •Oatmeal Packets  
•Ramen Noodles •Peanut Butter & Jelly •Men’s Deodorant •Women’s Hygiene Products •Bottled Water •Granola or Protein Bars •Pop Tarts •Canned Meats (Tuna, Spam or Chicken) •Tooth Brush & Toothpaste •Athletic Shorts •Money for School Lunch Accounts

**BETHESDA QUILTERS** are displaying their **Lutheran World Relief** quilts on our pews today. There are over 20 quilts for this project. Thanks to all who helped with fabric, sewing and construction of these quilts.

**MALMO LIONS** are looking for gently used stuffed toys to use as prizes for this summer’s Community Picnic which will be held in June.

**TEMPLE TALK** Last Sunday was on Cheboksary Russia-one of the global mission’s efforts of Bethesda. It is part of the companion synods our NE Synod supports. There is information in the narthex and a donation basket. Thank you.

**FOOT CARE** – Our next Foot Care will be held on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Call the church office (Mon-Fri 11:00-3:00) if you want to make an appointment.



## **You Never Let Go**

**by Matt Redman**

1. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death  
Your perfect love is casting out fear  
And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storms of this life  
I won't turn back, I know you are near  
And I will fear no evil. For my God is with me. And if my God is with me.  
Whom then shall I fear? Whom then shall I fear?

(Chorus:)

Oh no, You never let go  
Through the calm and through the storm  
Oh no, You never let go  
In every high and every low  
Oh no, You never let go  
Lord, You never let go of me

2. And I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on  
A glorious light beyond all compare  
And there will be an end to these troubles. But until that day comes  
We'll live to know You here on the earth  
And I will fear no evil. For my God is with me. And if my God is with me.  
Whom then shall I fear? Whom then shall I fear?

(Chorus)

3. Yes, I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on  
And there will be an end to these troubles, But until that day comes  
Still I will praise You, still I will praise You  
Yes I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on  
And there will be an end to these troubles. But until that day comes  
Still I will praise you. Still I will praise you.

(Chorus 2 times)

# VOLUNTEERS PACKING AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN



APRIL 12, 2018

