

FIRST READING. Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, 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, 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. This Jesus is

“the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.”

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

SECOND READING. 1 John 3:16-24

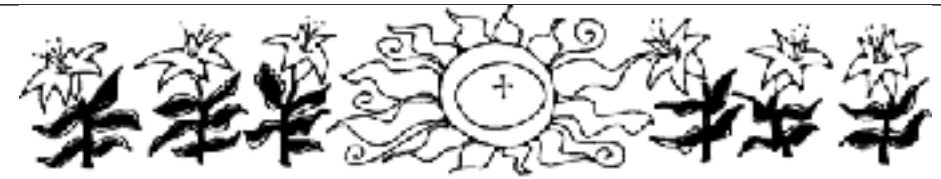
We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

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

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. 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.

GOSPEL. John 10:11-18

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 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.'



**Fourth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 21, 2024**

“In response to God’s love, St. Matthew’s is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone.”

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord’s Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Order of Worship

This morning’s Order of Worship is located in the *Hymnal Supplement*, and the hymns are located in the *Hymnal Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

If you missed last week’s sermon, it is available on our website.

St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church



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Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

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

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.

Psalm 23 – Tune 380, *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!*

Reader: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

God, my shepherd, shall provide | Ev'rything I want or need.

He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

Oh, good shepherd, be my guide; | I shall follow where you lead.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Where my shepherd welcomes me, | There is true security.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff--they comfort me.

God, my shepherd, shall provide | Ev'rything I want or need.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Oh, good shepherd, be my guide; | I shall follow where you lead.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Where my shepherd welcomes me, | There is true security.

Sing Psalms! By Arden W. Mead. © Copyright 1999/2005 by Creative Communications for the Parish

Dates to Remember

TODAY	Church Council Meeting after the service
May 17	6:30 p.m. – Spring Fling: Wine, Cheese and Flamenco Guitars

Everyone is welcome to attend **St. Matthew's 1st Annual Spring Fling** featuring Wine (and non-alcoholic beverages), Charcuterie Trays, and live acoustic music. Tickets are \$5.00 per person, available from Dianne Yungblut until May 10. Please buy your ticket early, as numbers are limited!

GATHERING

Welcoming Song ELW 529, *sung twice*

Thanksgiving for BaptismPrinted

Gathering SongELW 377 Alleluia!

Jesus Is Risen!

GreetingPage 2

KyriePage 3

Now the FeastPage 4

SalutationPage 7

Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23.....printed in bulletin

Second Reading1 John 3:16-24

Gospel Acclamation Page 8

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GospelJohn 10:11-18

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ..ELW 385 Good Christian...

Nicene CreedPage 10

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response**“hear our prayer.”**

Peace

MEAL

Offertory PrayerPage 13

Great Thanksgiving.....Page 14

HolyPage 15

Eucharistic Prayer

Acclamations 2 and 3Page 16-17

Through Christ, With Christ.....Page 17

The Lord's PrayerPage 18

Communion

Lamb of GodPage 18-19

Communion Hymns ELW 484, 780

Thanks Be To YouPage 20

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING

Blessing

Sending SongELW 544 Praise the Lord,...

Dismissal:

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!