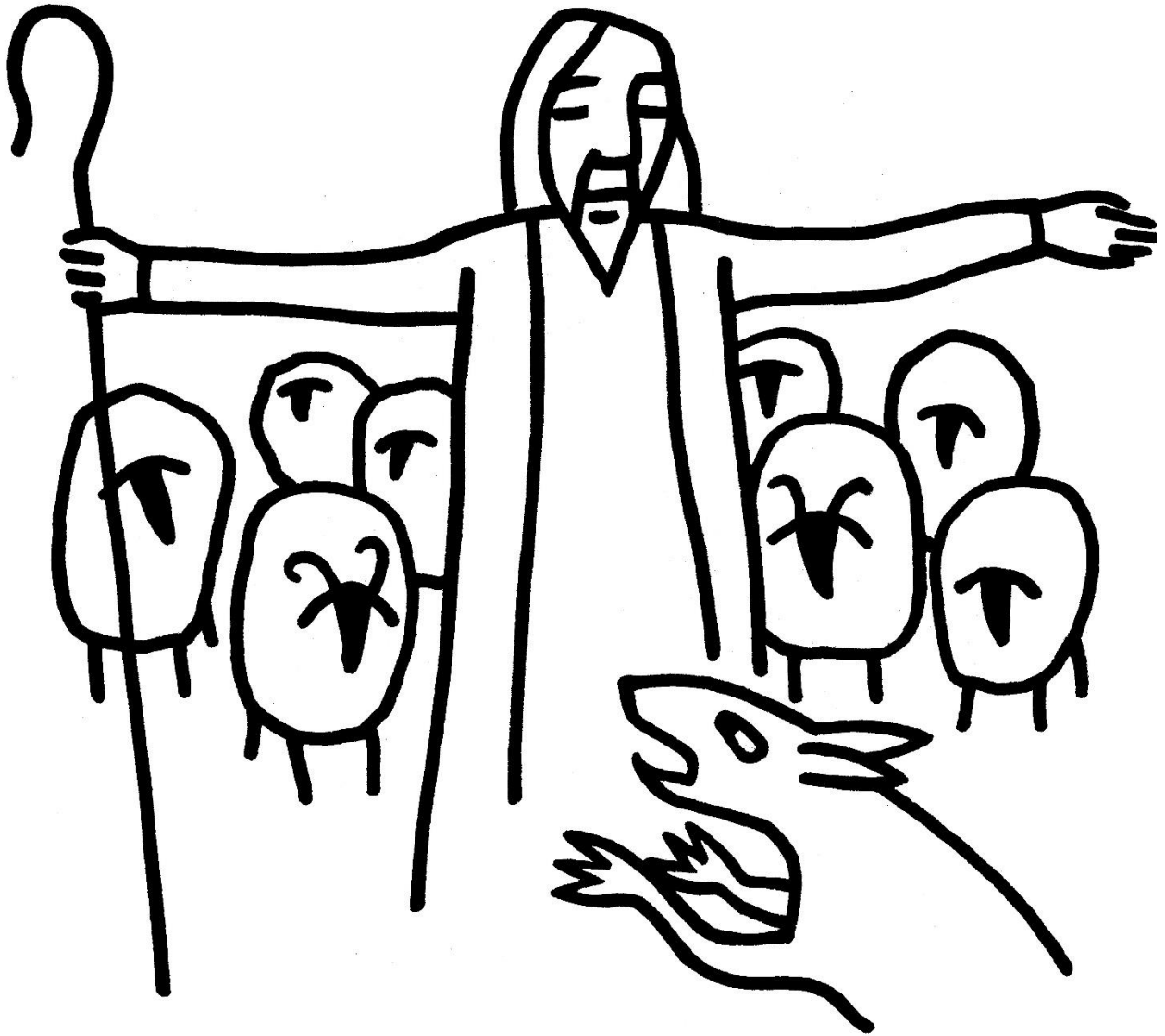


Peace Lutheran Church of Lake Zurich



April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME

Peace to all who enter here. You are welcome in this place.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME TO BAPTISM: PRESENTATION (ELW p. 232)

Dear friends, we gather today with these people who have been called by God's Spirit to inquire into the Christian faith and life. Together, let us welcome them to this community of faith in Jesus Christ.

A sponsor presents each person.

I present Joe Charpentier, Cate Charpentier to be welcomed by this congregation.

The presiding minister asks each person presented:

What do you ask of God's church?

Response: To hear God's word with you.

What do you seek from God's word?

Response: Faith and fullness of life.

Grace and mercy are given to all who call upon God's name.

We pray that God may bring you to Christ in baptism.

I invite you to join with this assembly to hear the word of God.

Will you be faithful in learning the way of Christ?

Each person responds: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The presiding minister addresses the sponsors and the assembly.

People of God, will you help these people hear the gospel of Jesus Christ within this household of faith?

The assembly responds: We will, and we ask God to help us.

The assisting minister addresses those who have been presented.

Joe & Cate gather with this community of faith and hear the word of God with us.

GATHERING SONG "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"(ELW 885)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

GREETING (*ELW p. 98*)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*ELW p. 102*)

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.

Amen.

You may be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S WORD

Children from birth through Sunday School are invited forward for a special moment of preparation before the proclamation of God's word in the assembly.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

A reading from Acts.

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 can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

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."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

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

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

⁴**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.**

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

⁶**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

A reading from 1 John.

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.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia,**

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O 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:] 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 the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

MESSAGE

Rev. Daniel Morris

A moment of silence for reflection is kept after the message.

Please rise as you are able to proclaim the gospel in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (ELW 502 sts. 1,2,5)

1 The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

WELCOME TO BAPTISM: SIGN OF THE CROSS (*ELW p. 233*)

Following the hymn of the day.

The presiding minister addresses those being welcomed.

You have heard the holy and saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now receive the sign of that gospel on your body and in your heart, that you may know the Lord and the power of his resurrection.

A sponsor for each person being welcomed traces a cross on the person's forehead as the presiding minister says:

Receive the ✝ sign of the cross, a sign of God's endless love and mercy for you.

The assembly responds: **Praise to you, O Christ, the wisdom and power of God.**

The presiding minister may continue. A sponsor for each person may trace a cross on the person as indicated. The assembly may respond after each section.

That you may hear the gospel of Christ, the word of life, receive the ✝ cross on your ears. **Response**

That you may see the light of Christ illumining your way, receive the ✝ cross on your eyes. **Response**

That you may sing the praise of Christ, the joy of the church, receive the ✝ cross on your lips. **Response**

That God may dwell within you by faith, receive the ✝ cross on your heart. **Response**

That you may bear the gentle yoke of Christ, receive the ✝ cross on your shoulders. **Response**

That God's mercy may be known in your work, receive the ✝ cross on your hands. **Response**

That you may follow in the way of Christ, receive the ✝ cross on your feet. **Response**

The presiding minister may extend both hands over them or may lay a hand on each person's head during the prayer.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, creator and giver of life, you have called all people from darkness into light, from error into truth, from death into life. Grant grace to Joe & Cate and bless them. Raise them by your Spirit. Revive them by your word. Form them by your hand. Bring them to the water of life and to the bread and cup of blessing, that with all your people they may bear witness to your grace and praise you forever through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assisting minister addresses those being welcomed.

God bring you in peace and joy to fullness of life in Christ
and call you to the waters of baptism.

*The assembly responds: **May the God of all grace, who has called you to glory,
support you and make you strong.***

Those who have come forward return to their places.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION (*ELW p. 234*)

Those making affirmation may gather with the ministers at the font.

They may be joined by others from the assembly.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

The presiding minister may note briefly the occasion for this affirmation.

Those making affirmation are presented.

I present Erica/Ken/Jean, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers,
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called them to yourself,
enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished them in the community of faith.

Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH (*ELW p. 235*)

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

The assembly may stand and join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response: **I renounce them.***

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ASSEMBLY

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

The assembly responds: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The blessing may be repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

Stir up in Erica, Ken, Jean, the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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. 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.

Give every good gift to those we remember in prayer this week, especially Mike, Wally, Chuck, Stephen, Tom, MaryKate & Ivy, Bruce & Anne, Mary and Wayne. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Hear now the prayers we offer aloud and in the silence of our hearts...(long pause.....). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith (*including Anselm of Canterbury and all who labored to help generations understand the good news of the gospel*). 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.

PEACE (*ELW p. 106*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may greet one another with a handshake in the name of the Lord, saying Peace be with you. Afterwards, you may be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Your offering this morning supports the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING “As the Grains of Wheat” (*ELW 465*)

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

Please rise as you are able when the offering is brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (*ELW p. 107*)

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is our duty and delight
that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God,
through Jesus Christ,
who by his death on the cross and glorious
resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death
and gave life to áll creation,
and so with the church on earth,
all creation and the host of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosana in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosana in the highest, hosana in the
highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER (*ELW p. 112*)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

You may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you break the chains of hatred and fear; have mercy on us, mercy
on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace; have mercy on us, mercy on
us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to the table. He is truly present for you in the eating and drinking offering forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation to all who trust his words. Children are welcome to commune, "for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs" (Luke 18:16). The ushers will invite you forward to encircle the Lord's Table and receive the bread with wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You may join hands to receive the blessing before returning to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN “*Have No Fear, Little Flock*” (ELW 764)

1 Have no fear, little flock;
have no fear, little flock,
for the Father has chosen
to give you the kingdom;
have no fear, little flock!

2 Have good cheer, little flock;
have good cheer, little flock,
for the Father will keep you
in his love forever;
have good cheer, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above;
praise the Lord high above,
for he stoops down to heal you,
uplift and restore you;
praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God;
thankful hearts raise to God,
for he stays close beside you,
in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise as you are able for the blessing.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✝ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG “*I Know that My Redeemer Lives!*” (ELW 619 sts. 1,2,7)

1 I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my ever-living head!

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above;
he lives to rule his church in love.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

GRATITUDE

So much gratitude for everyone who has contributed to worship today.
Find all of this week’s announcements in the Prints of Peace on the PLC
website.

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