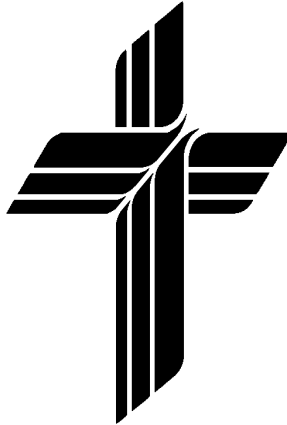


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

La Crosse, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25th, 2021



Our purpose: Faith Lutheran Church exists to share with all, God's love through Christ and His promise of salvation!

As We Gather... In our first reading we find Peter and John arrested. Their crime? Healing a man who couldn't walk and preaching the Gospel. This certainly seems to be an example of, "No good deed goes unpunished." Certainly, the good news of Jesus often finds its opponents and people who are "greatly annoyed" at this teaching. Nonetheless, this is not an excuse to cower from sharing this good news, but to share it all the more boldly, knowing that we never go alone, but we go forth by the power of the Holy Spirit with Jesus at our side. Even in the midst of adversity, Peter and John saw positive results from their ministry. Five thousand men were added to their numbers. Even when the world would seek to persecute us, let us never shrink away from this Gospel message knowing that in it God can produce much fruit.

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912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
 2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
 △ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
 And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
 Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus

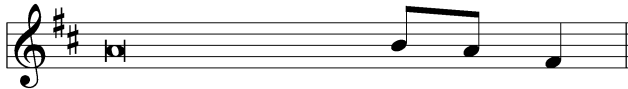


great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
 that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
 pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

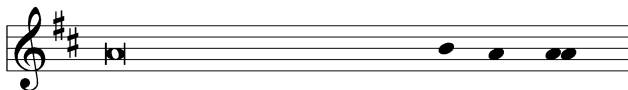
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L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Antiphon

L The Lord is risen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.

C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite

LSB 220

- C** 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 2 For the Lord is a great God
 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 3 and His hand formed the dry land.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
 4 For He is our God,
 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,

- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



L The Lord is risen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Proper

Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

P I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

C The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

P He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

C He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

P Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

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

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

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

First Reading

Acts 4:1–12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. ⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the 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 being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this

man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. ¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

John 10:11–18

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of 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 that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory (Easter)

LSB 222

L Sing to the Lord and bless His name, proclaim His salvation from day to day.

C **Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.**

- L** Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that sleep.
- C** Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.

900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love



- 1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
- 2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,
- 3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth
- 4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Kneel-ing in her low-ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
 For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo-ple save."
 When the cup of hu-man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
 Under all the mighty heav'n
 Whereby those to sin enslaved
 Burst their fetters and are saved.
- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
 Human name of God above;
 Pleading only this, we flee
 Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

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Sermon

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.=

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set
 △ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 life And by His pres - ence stills all
 day That by our lives we tru - ly
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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Kyrie

LSB 227



Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Collects

L O Lord, hear my prayer.
C And let my cry come to You.

Prayer of the Church

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 228

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 228

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

C Amen.

549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is-rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da-vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget

The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,

On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

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Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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Verse to Ponder

Psalm 103:2,4

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Title: One Road

Text: Acts 4:1–12

- It might appear that Peter and John made a bad choice preaching the _____.
- Declaring Jesus as the only road to _____ seems to be an even worse choice!

In a 2020 survey of Evangelical Christians, almost _____ agreed that God accepts worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

- Having too many roads makes it easy to get _____.

BECAUSE CHRIST IS THE ONE ROAD TO _____, WE CAN STICK WITH HIM IN GOOD TIMES AND BAD.

- Knowing Christ is the one road means we know where we're _____.
- Knowing Christ is the one road makes it easy to give _____.

Stanislav Petrov may have singlehandedly saved the world from _____.