



*My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. - John*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

10:27 - 28

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 21, 2013**

P.O. Box 411

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Rev. Mark Bringman, Pastor

Matt Claus, Pianist

Rev. Ralph Storm, Guest Minister

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an \*, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 21, 2013**

*The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

*Today the church commemorates Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, who died in 1109.*

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN #369: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!***

**\*GREETING**

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

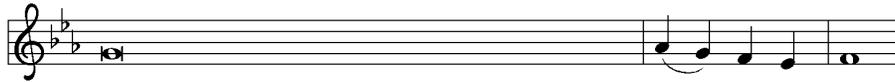
**And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



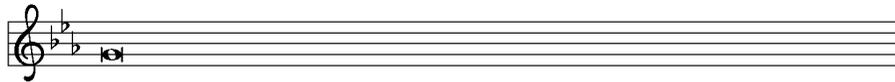
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



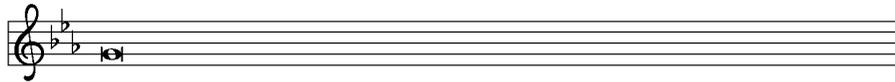
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

**\*THIS IS THE FEAST**

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



*Refrain*  
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



*Refrain*  
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

**FIRST READING: Acts 9:36 - 43**

*Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing was well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.*

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 23: The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ELW 502)****SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9 – 17**

*Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering, in whose blood the saints have washed their robes and made them white.*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**\*GOSPEL READING: John 10:22 - 30**

*Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON****SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #789: *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us***

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,**

of one Being with the Father;  
 through him all things were made.  
 For us and for our salvation  
   he came down from heaven,  
   was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
   and became truly human.  
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
 he suffered death and was buried.  
 On the third day he rose again  
 in accordance with the scriptures;  
 he ascended into heaven  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
 who has spoken through the prophets.  
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing with all the witnesses of the resurrection, let us pray in confidence for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Come to us without delay and help us to hear your voice with clarity. Reveal to us the way to forgiveness, reconciliation, and hope. Lead your church to proclaim your love for all your children. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Refresh us with springs of water and favorable weather. Ensure equitable access to clean water throughout the world. Make us good stewards of all your resources. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Guide those who shape our economies and systems of government so that all have the opportunity to work and share your abundant resources. Grant meaningful and secure employment to those who are unemployed. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Be present with those who wander in dark valleys of suffering. Heal the sick, feed the hungry, and console those who live in fear especially Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Winnie, Helen, Margaret, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Build up the ministries of this congregation that form and shape the lives of young people. Help us to shepherd and learn from their faith, that we may all trust and receive you with open and generous hearts. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Wipe away the tears of all who mourn. Grant us joy in the memories and witness of those who now dwell in the house of the Lord forever especially Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In resurrection hope we commend to you all for whom we pray, trusting in the promise of new life; through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING HYMN #764: *Have No Fear, Little Flock***

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings.

As you have raised us to new life in Christ,

give us glad and generous hearts,

ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

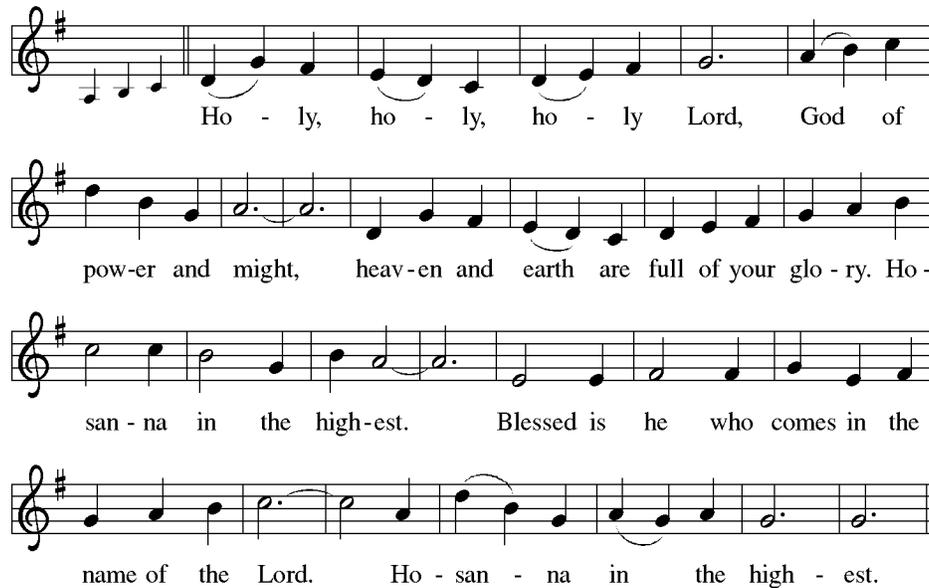
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide,  
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs  
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,  
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,  
who joined us in our desert,  
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was handed over,  
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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life, death, and resurrection,  
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.  
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food  
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:  
wash away our sin,

that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.  
 Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
 Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
 in your holy Church,  
 both now and forever. **Amen.**

### \*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**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The table of life is spread before you.  
 Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

### COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**  
 The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The inner ring of individual cups has grape juice.*

### COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN #782: *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*****\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace. **Amen.**

**\*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,  
that you make your home with us,  
bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.  
Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here,  
that we may wipe away tears,  
tend to those in mourning and pain,  
seek the healing of the nations,  
and bring to earth the presence of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The blessing of the Lord God Almighty,  
the blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #544: *Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing*****\*DISMISSAL**

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

**POSTLUDE**

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The flowers on the altar are from Ruth Ann Tully and John Tully in honor of Kennedy's sixth birthday on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Clarence and Marelene Strabel gave the flowers on the organ in memory of Wally Strabel.

**Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109**

*This eleventh and twelfth century Benedictine monk stands out as one of the greatest theologians between Augustine and Thomas Aquinas. He is counted among the medieval mystics who emphasized the maternal aspects of God. Of Jesus Anselm says, "In sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us." Anselm is perhaps best known for his "satisfaction" theory of atonement. He argued that human rebellion against God demands a payment, but because humanity is fallen it is incapable of making that satisfaction. But God takes on human nature in Jesus Christ, Anselm proposed, in order to make the perfect payment for sin.*

**Assisting Minister (8:00 a.m.):** Clarence Strabel

**Ushers (8:00 a.m.):** John Tully

**Acolyte (8:00 a.m.):** Laura Greb

**Communion Assistant (8:00 a.m.):** Marlene Strabel

**Counters:** Martha Ward and Ruth Ann Tully

**Attendance Last Week:** 75

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**Budgeted Weekly Need:** \$2,669.62

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(2013 Annual Budget of \$138,820 divided by 52 weeks)

**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$42,713.85 (Weekly Expense Need multiplied by 16 weeks - as of 4/7/13)

**Assisting Minister (10:30 a.m.):** Carolyn Jarrett

**Ushers (10:30 a.m.):** Zac Claus

**Acolyte (10:30 a.m.):** Madison Cardinal

**Communion Assistant (10:30 a.m.):** Cindy Knauff

**Attendance Last Year:** 60

**Last Week's Giving:** \$2972 (257)

**Year to Date Receipts:** \$51,311.05

**YTD Actual Expenses:** \$39,128.18

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