**SALT Sunday**

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

## ~ April 30, 2023 ~

**Service of Word & Prayer**

**Gathering**

 **Welcome & Announcements**

***\** Gathering Song *“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”*** LBW #353

Vs. 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!

Vs. 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.

Vs. 3 He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to

 guide me with his eye; He lives to comfort

 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

Vs. 4 He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to

 wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my

 troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

 **Greeting** *WOV pg. 46*

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

 ***C: And also with you.***

L: The word is near you.

 ***C: on your lips and in your heart***

 L: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

***C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.***

 L: Faith comes from what is heard.

 ***C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.***

**\* Prayer of the Day**

 L: The Lord be with you.

 ***C: And also with you.***

 L: Let us pray. O God our shepherd,

***C:*** ***you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

**Word**

**Reading: Joshua 1:9**

9I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

**Psalm 23**

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

**2The 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.

**4Though 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. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

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

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,**  **and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

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

**\* Gospel: John 8:31-38**

31Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” 34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. 37I know that you are descendants of Abraham; yet you look for an opportunity to kill me, because there is no place in you for my word. 38I declare what I have seen in the Father’s presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father.”

 **Sermon**

 **Hymn of the Day *“The Lord’s My Shepherd”*** LBW #452

Vs. 1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 In pastures green; he leadeth me The quiet waters by.
 He leadeth me, he leadeth me The quiet waters by.

Vs. 2 My soul he doth restore again, And me to walk doth make
 Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake;
 Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake.

Vs. 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
 For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still;
 For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.

Vs. 4 My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
 My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup over-flows.
 My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup over-flows.

\* **Response to the Word** *WOV pg. 49*

L: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your

 salvation.

 ***C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised***

 ***Holy Spirit.***

L: Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

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

 ***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,***

 ***He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin***

 ***Mary,***

 ***He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was***

 ***buried;***

 ***He descended into hell.***

 ***On the third day he rose again;***

 ***He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the***

 ***Father,***

 ***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.***

L: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith:

 ***C: pray in the Holy Spirit.***

 L: Keep yourselves in the love of God:

 ***C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.***

 L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

 ***C: Everything old has passed away; behold everything has become***

 ***new!***

L: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

L: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us, in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

L: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness and remission of all our sins.

**C: Amen.**

 **Peace** *WOV pg. 50*

L: Sisters and brothers rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

 L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

 ***C: And also with you.***

**Prayer**

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

 blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

 that we may be fed with the bread of life.

 Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we

 offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

 and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer** *WOV pg. 51*

L: Let us pray.

L: Gracious God,

***C: in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, form silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**\* The Prayers**

  ***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

You are the shepherd who gathers us in your mighty and loving arms. Help your church to listen for your voice, especially when the voices of sin, idolatry, and oppression threaten to overpower us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The green pastures, still waters, and dark valleys of this earth all belong to you, O Lord. Sustain your creation with a love that is both mighty and just. Where there is destruction, bring healing. Where there is desolation, bring abundance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You proclaim shepherding love, comfort, and protection for all people and all of creation. Direct leaders in our own time to learn from your example and instruction. Give them servant hearts, that they generously seek the good of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You journey with us wherever our paths may lead. We pray for those feeling overwhelmed by anxiety or depression or suffering in any way. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You are the sheepgate that gives safety to your beloved flocks. Provide protection for refugees, victims of domestic violence, those who are imprisoned, and all people who are vulnerable to violence and mistreatment. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call your sheep by name and lead them through the valley of death. We give you thanks for those who have died and now dwell in your house forever. Be with those who mourn, and give them hope in the promise of resurrection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

 ***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 52*

***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.***

 **Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 53

 L: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

 **C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”** LBW #481

Vs. 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need your tender care.
 In your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use your fold prepare.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are yours.

Vs. 2 We are yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
 Keep your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.

Vs. 3 You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
 You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to you.

Vs. 4 Early let us seek your favor, Early let us do your will;
 Blessed Lord and only Savior, With your love our spirits fill.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.

**\* Dismissal**

 L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

 ***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***

***Thank you to Bob Larson for leading worship this morning while Minister Dave is at Synod Assembly.***

**This Week at SALT**

Monday, May 1 Culver Quilters, Faith 10:00 am

Wednesday, May 3 Confirmation, Faith 2:30 pm

Thursday, May 4 SALT Parish Council,

St. Peter’s 6:30 pm