# **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

## April 25, 2021

#### Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## Kyrie

- P Lord, have mercy upon us.
- Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### Confession & Absolution

- Let us confess our sin to God: O Lord, great God, all holy, Father most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love.
- We are embarrassed to come before you, for we have rebelled against your wisdom and have gotten into trouble,

for we have rejected your fatherly guidance and have gotten lost altogether.

And therefore we are embarrassed.

To you belongs righteousness, O Lord, and to us confusion of face.

- P O Lord, great God, all holy, Father, most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love.
- Incline your ear to our troubles.

Hear us when we pour out our sorrows before you.

Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness,

but on the ground of your great mercy -

on the ground of your great mercy in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.

It is in his name that we pray,

for He is our Savior and the mediator of the covenant of grace. Amen.

P Because of Jesus, God has forgiven all our sin. Hear the gospel of Christ from Psalm 103:

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles."



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Psalm Psalm 23

- P I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.
- 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.
  - your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 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.

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.

Acts Reading Acts 4:1–12

<sup>1</sup>As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>5</sup>if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let 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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

### **Holy Gospel**

John 10:11-18

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>11</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>He 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. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>And 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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No 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."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.



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Epistle 1 John 3:16–24

<sup>16</sup>By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup>But 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? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And 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. <sup>24</sup>Whoever 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.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

## Sermon

## Prayer

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

## **Apostles' Creed**

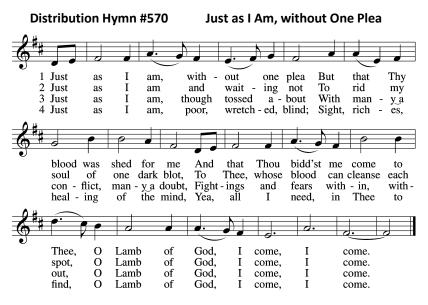
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the 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.

### 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.

## **Holy Communion**



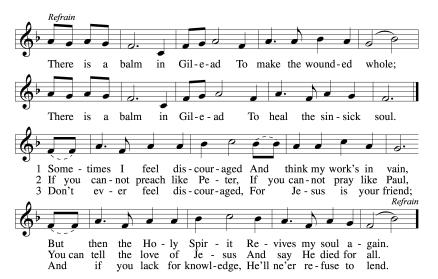
- Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, tune: William B. Bradbury, text & tune: public domain



Text: (sts. 1-3, refrain) Almaz Belhu, trns. Hartmut Schoenherr, Jim Keefer, Aurelia Keefer; (st. 4) Joseph Herl; tune: Almaz Belhu; text (sts. 1-3, refrain), tune: © 1970 Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. Text (st. 4): © 1998 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

#### There Is a Balm in Gilead



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For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

#### **Nunc Dimittis**

C

- P Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Your Word.
- Which You have prepared before the face of all people;

  To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of Your people Israel.

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.



Text: William C. Dix; tune: Rowland H. Prichard; text & tune: public domain

## **Benediction**

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
  The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
  The Lord look upon you with favor and 

  → give you peace.
- C Amen.

## **Announcements**

**Bible Study** – Today 12:30 PM (Zoom). Please text Pastor Mueller if you have not yet attended and

would like a Zoom invitation link sent to your email.

Youth Confirmation -Today 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Sunday Evening Prayer - 5:00 PM

Wednesday Evening Zoom Bible Study (*The Screwtape Letters*) 7:00 PM Contact Aaron for a Zoom invitation.

Titus 2: Women of Faith Bible Study - Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

#### Jr. High & Sr. High Youth Group (6th-12th Grade)

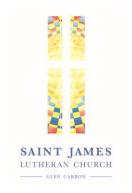
Join us Tuesday night at church for Bible study, fellowship and fun from 6:30-8:00 PM.

**Congregation Voters Assembly** - Sunday, May 2 All members of St. James Lutheran Church are invited, after the 10:15 service, to vote on the final approval for CCLS to start the microschool in our facility.

**Calling All Puzzle People!** St. James is starting a puzzle library. If you have puzzles you've completed and would like to share, bring them to the bookshelf by the upstairs coat rack. Then feel free to borrow any puzzles there to complete!

**Mowers Needed!** St. James is looking for volunteers willing to help mow the grass over the coming months. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact Joe Rathert via email at <a href="mailto:joerathert@stjamesglencarbon.org">joerathert@stjamesglencarbon.org</a> or contact Cheryl in the church office.

**Metro-East Lutheran High School** is looking for a Head Girls Volleyball Coach, and a Head Cheerleading Coach for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. If you are interested, please contact Athletic Director Jason Batty at <a href="mailto:jason.batty@melhs.org">jason.batty@melhs.org</a> or <a href="mailto:618-656-0043">618-656-0043</a> ext.134.



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