



**FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER — APRIL 25, 2021**

**This service will be livestreamed on YouTube  
at 10 a.m. from Temple Beth El Synagogue  
The link for this service is: <https://youtu.be/2YH0FdRX2jk>  
You can also access it via St. Mark's YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDILvaJR1dSNoaXxjasLhVg>**

**Prelude: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* - arr. by Michael Mazzatenta**

**Opening Litany** (*For those present in-person, please stand as you are able.*)

L: Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: O God, sometimes we get caught up in our fear of things known and unknown.

**C: We shut our doors and hide from the world around us.**

L: O God, sometimes we grow weary in body and soul.

**C: We turn inward and close our hearts to compassion.**

L: But perfect love casts out fear,

**C: As the risen Christ walks into our lives each day.**

L: Even when we feel confused and doubt ourselves.

**C: Jesus welcomes us with words of peace and love.**

L: For in the risen Christ, we see life that overcomes death.

**C: We find joy that makes pain bearable and faith that makes room for doubt.**

L: O risen Christ, come among us and breathe upon us your Spirit.

**C: The breath of peace. The spirit of gentleness. The wind of hope.**

L: Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Gathering Hymn: ELW #369 – “Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia! vs 1-3**

**1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!  
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!  
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!**

**Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

**2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!  
sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!**

**3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!  
when contending death and life, Alleluia!  
met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**

**Greeting**

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.**

**Hymn of Praise** – Congregation sings the refrain. Pastor sings the verse.

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!  
I Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has  
freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

**Prayer of the Day**

**L:** Let us pray. O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep,

**C:** 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.

**First Reading: 1 John 3:16-24**

- Haley Kroshus

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How 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?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And 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. <sup>24</sup>All 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.

**L:** The word of the Lord **C:** Thanks be to God.

**Children’s Sermon**

L: <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

C: <sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

L: <sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C: <sup>4</sup>**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.**

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

C: <sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

L: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: John 10:11-18** (Please stand as you are able.)

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The 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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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>I 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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No 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.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon:** “*Good and Bad,*” - Pastor Joe

**Hymn of the Day – ELW #764: “Have No Fear, Little Flock” - vs 1-4**

(Please remain seated for the hymn.)

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!**

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!**

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!**

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!**

**Prayers of Intercession** (Please stand as you are able.) Each petition ends with the following response:

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

## Sign of Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(For in-person, please exchange a "touch-free" bow or hand wave from where you are sitting.)*

## Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Communion

**In-person:** *We invite you to commune individually from your seats with the pre-packaged juice & wafer.*

*Note: The usher will collect your empty communion cups during the communion hymn.*

**At Home:** *We invite you to receive the bread and wine/grape juice with one another or by yourself.*

## Communion Hymn: ELW #778 – "The Lord's My Shepherd" verses 1-5

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| <p>1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.<br/>he makes me down to lie<br/>in pastures green; he leadeth me<br/>the quiet waters by.<br/>He leadeth me, he leadeth me<br/>the quiet waters by.</p> <p>2 My soul he doth restore again,<br/>and me to walk doth make<br/>within the paths of righteousness,<br/>e'en for his own name's sake;<br/>within the paths of righteousness,<br/>e'en for his own name's sake.</p> <p>3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,<br/>yet will I fear no ill;<br/>for thou art with me, and thy rod</p> | <p>and staff me comfort still;<br/>for thou art with me, and thy rod<br/>and staff me comfort still.</p> <p>4 My table thou hast richly spread<br/>in presence of my foes;<br/>my head thou dost with oil anoint,<br/>and my cup overflows.<br/>My head thou dost with oil anoint,<br/>and my cup overflows.</p> <p>5 Goodness and mercy all my life<br/>shall surely follow me,<br/>and in God's house forevermore<br/>my dwelling-place shall be;<br/>and in God's house forevermore<br/>my dwelling-place shall be.</p> |
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## Post Communion Prayer and Blessing

### Announcements

**Dismissal - L:** Go in peace. Remember the poor and sick. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: *The Lord's My Shepherd* -BROTHER JAMES' AIR - setting by John Carter**

### *Thanks to Today's Worship Leaders!*

- Joe Larson, Pastor  
- Alpha Roeszler, Piano  
- Haley Kroshus, Lector  
- Ryu Kroshus, Song Leader

- Linda Hamann, Camera Technician  
- Tammy Lanaghan, Altar Guild/Bread  
- Stan Franek, Usher

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME!** St. Mark's Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)** and a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation—welcoming all people, including LGBTQ individuals.

**JOIN US TODAY on YouTube!** This morning's worship service will be livestreamed on YouTube at 10 a.m. from Temple Beth El Synagogue.

**The link for this service is:** <https://youtu.be/2YH0FdRX2jk> You can also access this service via St. Mark's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDILvaJR1dSNoaXxjasLhVg>

**ZOOM LINK TODAY for FELLOWSHIP TIME & the LGBTQ YOUTH AND THE CHURCH SERIES:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85186855503?pwd=S1pkUkFiajJNTlZzdnpvOUFaNWtxdz09>

**Meeting ID: 851 8685 5503 Passcode: 134233**

**To call into Zoom meeting, dial: 1-312-626-6799**

**LGBTQ YOUTH AND THE CHURCH SERIES:** St. Mark's is sponsoring the second of two sessions led by Ross Murray, author of a new book *Made, Known, Loved*, today at 11:30am. Ross is a Lutheran deacon and director of The Naming Project, a faith-based camp for LGBTQ youth ([www.thenamingproject.org](http://www.thenamingproject.org)). The session will be held on Zoom after fellowship time. See the link above. Everyone is welcome!

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE INVITED for the sick:** Maxine Fagerland, Anna Burger, Ginny Johnston (Adam's mother), Al and Nels (friends of Barbara Edin), Adam Henshel (Alpha's nephew), Tierra Nueva Uno in Guatemala, Florence Roholt, Michael and Carmen Zoughbi, Jerry Jacobson, Kermit & Marilyn Jensen, Leah Martell Torkelson, Chris Maki, Avis Twamley, Karla Ware, and Charlie Jordan.

**St. Mark's Circle of Prayer:** Aurora Sobolik; Elna Solvang; Susan Stout-Parkos; David Twamley; and Ron Schwartz. **Fargo Conference List:** Shepherd of the Prairie-Christine, Hickson, Walcott; Pastor Karin Moberg

**GRIEF AND LOSS DISCUSSION GROUP:** The final session of this series will be held at 7pm on **Thursday, April 29, 2021**. The group is led by Linda Hamann, who is a licensed Master-level psychologist with previous experience as a therapist and parish minister. Here is the Zoom meeting link (you need to pre-register):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86892236973?pwd=WlJ3alB5NFBobUYvMHpNbVp1bGFsdz09>

**Questions?** Contact Pastor Joe at: [pastorjoe@stmarkslutheranfargo.com](mailto:pastorjoe@stmarkslutheranfargo.com) or Linda Hamann at: [fagerham@cableone.net](mailto:fagerham@cableone.net)

**OUT OF THE OFFICE:** Pastor Joe will be out of the office from April 28-May 5. Helen Beth Kuhens will be on call for pastoral emergencies and preach and preside at worship on May 2. She can be reached at 218.477.0703. You may also call the office at 701.235.5591.

**NEWSLETTER** articles are due tomorrow, Monday, April 26. You are welcome to join us for the assembly and mailing on Thursday, April 29, at 9:30am. Thanks!

**PASTOR JOE'S PANDEMIC ART SHOW & OPEN HOUSE!** Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 15, for Pastor Joe's Open House from 1-4pm at our office building on Main Avenue. The paintings are for sale but will remain on display until July. Proceeds will benefit St. Mark's. Come and help celebrate Pastor Joe's first Art Show! Refreshments will be served.

**ART AND RELIGION:** A two-part “Art and Religion” series will be sponsored by St. Mark’s and Temple Beth El on May 9 and 23! Both sessions will be held on Zoom at 11:30 after our fellowship time. Pastor Joe and Rabbi Janeen Kobrinsky will lead the sessions. Look for further details in the newsletter and upcoming bulletins.

**OFFERINGS: *St. Mark’s needs your continued support!*** Please continue to send in your offerings as you are able. Our mailing address is **St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, 417 Main Ave., Suite #401, Fargo, ND 58103.** You also can donate **online** at [www.stmarkslutheranfargo.com/donate.html](http://www.stmarkslutheranfargo.com/donate.html).

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