



April 21, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
1655 Main St.  
Newington, CT 06111

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are glad you have joined us today for worship! Visitors, you are invited to fill out the envelope in the pew and put it in the offering plate so that someone can follow up with you. The songs are found in the red (ELW) hymnal book. Please prepare yourself for worship.

## PRELUDE:

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*Please stand as able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

**P** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:**

*"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"*

ELW #369

## **GREETING**

**P** 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, 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.

**C** **Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMONETTE**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12**

**L** A reading from Acts.

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their 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>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24**

**L** A reading from 1 John.

<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.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Please stand as able.*



**GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**

**P** The holy gospel according to John.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**P** [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.”

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Hymn of the Day:**  
*Please stand as able.*

*“Have No Fear, Little Flock”*

ELW #764

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

The congregation will respond to the assisting minister with **Hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

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

**OFFERING** *ushers come forward*

**OFFERING PRAYER** *Please stand as able.*

☞ 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.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

☞ 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

☞ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

**☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

**☩ Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**☩ Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.

**☩ Amen.**

### **THE 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.**

### **Communion information for our visitors**

#### **All of God's people are welcome to our Lord's table**

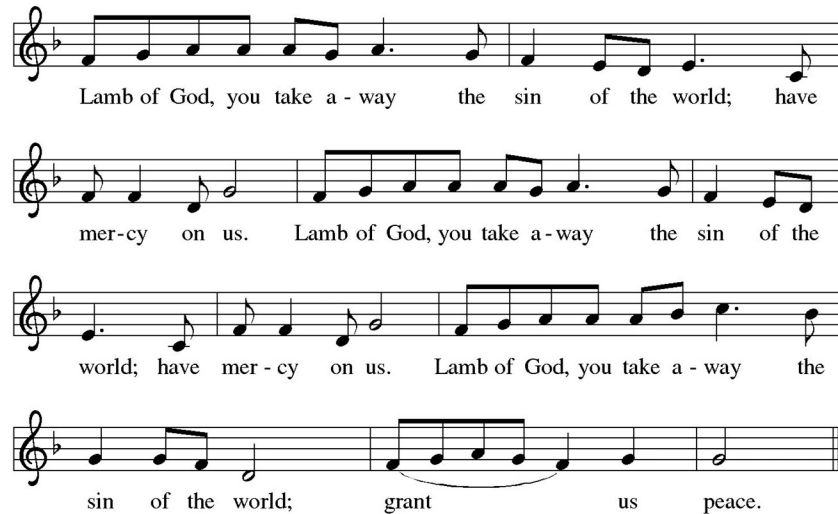
Red wine and white grape juice are offered along with our regular communion bread, wafers or Gluten-Free Wafers.

### **THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**☩ Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

**☩ Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD



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.

*Please come forward for communion or blessing.*

**Communion Hymn:**

*"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*

ELW #359

**THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *Please stand as able.*

**P** Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:**

*"The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing"*

ELW #531

**THE DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:**

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## **For Your Information**

### **Welcome**

We are so glad that you are worshiping with us today. Following the service there will be some food and drink available in fellowship hall - which is located at the bottom of the stairs. Please join us around the fellowship table today and come back again next week!

### **TODAY**

Sunday April 21 – Earth Day celebration following worship. Come and plant flowers and beans

Sunday April 21 – Earth Day Eve Conference celebration 3-5pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church Hartford

### **Upcoming Events**

Saturday June 1 – OSLC Tag sale 8am – 2pm start gathering your treasures - SAVE THE DATE

### **Newington Food Pantry/ Newington Human Services – ministry support**

Your love can feed the hungry, shelter someone who has lost everything, and remind the most vulnerable they are not forgotten. The Newington food pantry helps close this gap in food insecurity. We are collecting nonperishable food items, along with hygiene and household products. There is a list of suggested donations in the Narthex.

### **Clothing Shed – ministry support**

Donating your excess clothing to the St Pauly shed is a win-win for the environment, people in need, and the church. OSLC **receives funding** for donated clothing and we help keep clothing out of landfills! Accepted items: clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, towels, sheets, curtains, pillowcases, and stuffed animals. Let your friends and neighbors know about this meaningful project.

### **'We Can' for Camp Calumet – ministry support**

With the new bottle deposit guidelines we now accept even more containers. In addition to regular cans and bottles we can now return juices, sports drinks, teas and coffee containers. Reduce/Reuse/Recycle. Bring bottles here or contact Jan Levett. OSLC is collecting bottles & cans for Camp Calumet. Help support this great cause.

### **Final thoughts**

Doing something new always involves some measure of risk because we cannot know for certain what the outcome will be. Reconnecting with God's faithfulness reminds us that we can trust God and take a risk that God might be asking us to take in order to move forward.

### **Worship Assistants and Contacts**

Organist: David Marottolo

Assisting Minister: Joe Drouin

Lector: Joe Drouin

Altar Guild: Pat Mahoney

Flowers: Lisa Jaksina

Usher:

Fellowship Host: Earth Day celebration

Counters: Steve and Eileen Turner

Sunday School: Chloe and Skyla

Pastor: Joseph McGarry, (315) 935-7240, [joe@pastorjoemcgarry.com](mailto:joe@pastorjoemcgarry.com)

Council President: Robin Aldieri, (860) 559-8480, [RSAldieri@icloud.com](mailto:RSAldieri@icloud.com)

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