

WE are **Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (elca)**

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Welcome and thank you for coming to worship!

We welcome all visitors this morning to our service of Word and Sacrament. ALL are invited to receive the bread and the wine. Please know that at CELC this common meal is for all who feel moved to receive. This sacrament is God's gift to all, and is not tied to membership, doctrine or creed.

4th Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

9:00 am

-Service of Word and Sacrament-

The Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER GREETING

P: Christ is Risen. He is Risen indeed.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 531 *"THE TRUMPETS SOUND, THE ANGELS SING"* VS. 1, 2, & 3



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
 2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
 3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
 peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
 poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
 he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
 the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.

Refrain



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever. **Amen.**

PASTORAL GREETING

P The beauty of the Creator inspire you,
the unity of the Breath of Life enfold you.
And the grace of the Good Shepherd be with you,
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.
Amen.**

[Congregation is seated.]

The Word

FIRST READING: ACTS 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

5The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, 6with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" 8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, 10let 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. 11This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

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

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

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

²**The 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.

⁴**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.**

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

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

SECOND READING: I JOHN 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

16 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. 17 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?

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

23 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. 24 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.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *“RESUCITO”*

Refrain: Resucito, resucito, resucito, aleluya.
Aleluya, Aleluya, Aleluya, Resucito.

Vs. With him then, die and live with him then,
Rise and sing our hymn then, sing alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 11“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12The 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. 13The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16I 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. 17For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18No 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.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: PASTOR JEFF

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

The Meal

OFFERTORY / OFFERTORY MUSIC

“SHINE LIKE THE SUN”

ADORATION CHOIR

ARR. BY KAREN BLACK

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A

Let us pray.

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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,..

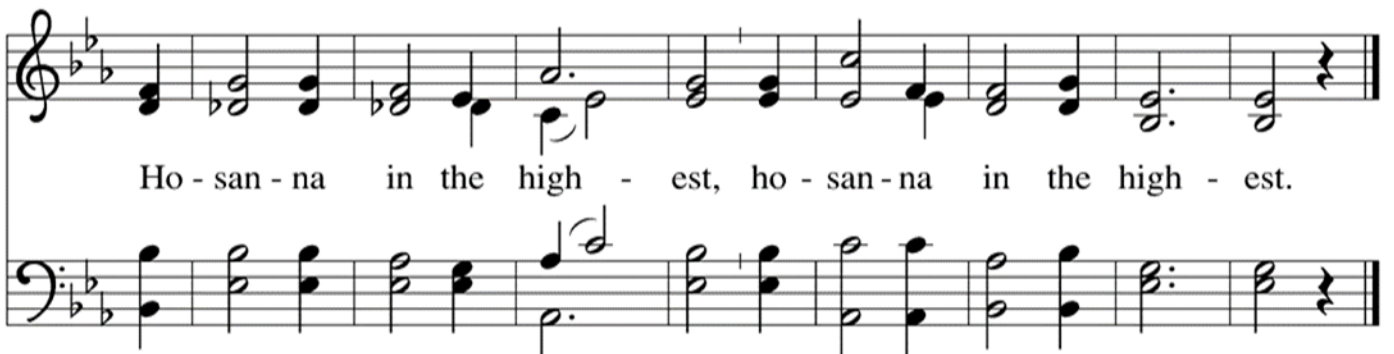
We praise your name and join their unending hymn...



Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.



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



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

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

[THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE] (NUMBER 4)

P In the night in which he was betrayed...

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks...

And so we remember your Son, his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection, his word, and his presence in this meal, and we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray that you send your Spirit, your breath, your fire, your wisdom, your guidance everywhere in the church.

Send your Spirit upon this bread and cup; inspire your people for service, always be making us new; and renew the world with your mercy, with your healing, your justice and your peace, reconciling us with you and our neighbors.

We praise you, all-holy God, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, Abba, Living Water, Breath of Life, today, tomorrow and forever. **Amen!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG: *“AND KATAWAN NI KRISTO”*

In the presence of our God,
as we gather here in Christ,
feel the Spirit breathe upon us,
the breath of life, graced and divine.

We have come to break the bread;
we have come to share our lives.
Let us bring these fruits to the table,
the love of God, yours and mine!

Refrain:

Ang Katawan Ni Kristo (2x)

Behold the Body of Christ, Jesus our Saviour and Life!

Rejoice O people of God! We are the Body of Christ!

When we gather in our homes,
through our prayers and our meals,
we are fed and nourished together,
our families, broken and blessed.

In the household of the Lord,
where we come to share the meal,
we are fed the words of our Saviour,

one family, strengthened and healed. (Refrain)

PASTORAL BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.
Shepherding God,
**you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

The Sending

BENEDICTION: TO BE SUNG BY CHOIR

P The Lord bless you and keep you:
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
and give you peace,
and give you peace,
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you, be gracious,
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto to you.
Amen -

SENDING SONG: ELW 536 *“GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN”*

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,

with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we

meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 meet a - gain,

DISMISSAL:

P

Go in peace. Journey gently on this planet's green pasture.

Thanks be to God.

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