

# *Welcome to Messiah Lutheran* *+ Fourth Sunday of Easter +*



The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

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# *Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church*

*The mission of Messiah Lutheran Church is to glorify Christ,  
by nurturing our faith, sharing His love, and teaching His Word.*

*April 25, 2021*

*10:30 a.m.*

## *~ We Gather for Worship ~*

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

L: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

L: We thank you, risen Christ,  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

**C: We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.**

L: Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

**C: Make us one, risen Christ.  
Cleanse our hearts.  
Shower us with life.**

L: To you be given all praise,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God,  
now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

# OPENING SONG: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!" - ELW 369



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.  
 Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

## EASTER LITANY:

**L:** How joyful it is, to celebrate the good news of God's love!

**C: We are called to be Easter people!**

**L:** Darkness cannot claim us!

**C: Fear cannot bind us!**

**L:** Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen.**

## \*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.**

### **\*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.**

### *~ We Hear God's Word ~*

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

<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."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;**

<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

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

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

<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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “The Strife is O’er the Battle Done”- ELW 366**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded you,  
From death's sting free your servants too,  
That we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 10th chapter.

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

[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.”

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON SONG: “*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*” – ELW 789

- 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.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.
- 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.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.

## SERMON

### *~ We Respond as God's People ~*

#### **\*NICENE CREED:**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **OFFERING MOMENT:**

*We receive your offering gifts each week with grateful hearts, blessed to know that our work together in ministry continues with strength and vigor! Today we also receive a love offering from the quilters as they present their quilts to help those in need locally and around the world.*

### **RECOGNITION OF QUILTERS:**

*Quilters, please stand so we may acknowledge and celebrate your many hours of time, skill, and dedication!*

### **BLESSING OF THE QUILTS:**

*Extend your hand in blessing as we offer a prayer to bless these quilts.*

### **OFFERING SONG: “The Quilting Song” (Tune: “Church in the Wildwood”)**

*Chorus:*

Oh, quilts, quilts, quilts, quilts,  
Made from used sheets and bedspreads,  
Dresses, used denim, and drapes;  
Old coats, and blan-kets, and jac-kets;  
It’s a thrill just to see them take shape.

*Verse:*

They’re used as a cover while sleeping,  
Or a tent in the heat of the day.  
Or for carrying precious possessions  
On their back, as they walk by the way.

*Chorus:*

Oh, stitch, stitch, sew, sew,  
Tie them with yarn of bright colors,  
Yes, 60 by 80’s the size,  
There’s a feeling of deep satisfaction...  
This must be precious work in God’s eyes.

## PRAYERS:

*Each prayer concludes with*

L: "Good Shepherd, **C: Receive our prayer.**"

## \*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.

## \*BENEDICTION

*~ We Are Sent to Serve ~*

## CLOSING SONG: "To God be the Glory" – Sing Joyfully Hymnal 79

- 1 To God be the glory, great things he has done;  
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life gate that all may go in.

### *Refrain*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he has done.

- 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our vict'ry, when Jesus we see.

### *Repeat refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

**DISMISSAL:** Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God!**



***A Teaching Moment ... Which Creed and When?** The Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed both originate from the early Christian Church. This was a time when questions about the identity of Jesus were widely debated among Christians. Both creeds affirm that God is fully present in Jesus, that Jesus Christ is both God and human. These creeds are called ecumenical because they are accepted and used by Christians worldwide. Along with many other Christians, Lutherans use the Apostles' Creed at baptism; it is also the Creed most often used in basic Christian education. Lutheran Christians often use the Nicene Creed at festivals like Christmas and Easter because of its expansive description of Christ.*

Week at a Glance	
<u>Sunday, April 25</u> Blanket Sunday - Special Offering 10:00am: Sunday School 10:30am: Worship Service 10:30am: FB Live 11:30am: Youth Praise Band 7:00pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade YG Via Zoom	<u>Sunday, May 2</u> 10:00am: Sunday School 10:30am: Worship Service 10:30am: FB Live 11:30pm: Youth Praise Band Practice 7:00pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade YG via Zoom
<u>Tuesday, April 27</u> Packing Quilts	<u>Wednesday, May 5</u> 3:30-pm: 1 <sup>st</sup> – 3rd YG 7:00pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade R.O.C.K.
<u>Wednesday, April 28</u> 3:30pm: 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group 5:30pm: Confirmation PIZZA PARTY 6:00pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes (Last Day) 7:00pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade R.O.C.K.	<u>Thursday, May 6</u> 3:00pm: Girl Scouts Using Library Room
<u>Friday, April 30</u> LWR Quilt Pick Up	

## Announcements

**TODAY! Blanket Sunday Celebration:** Today we recognize, celebrate, and bless the hard work of our Quilters. At the conclusion of the service, we will be collecting a special offering to help offset the shipping costs of quilts going to Lutheran World Relief. *LWR distributed its first quilts in 1945 to families in war-torn Europe following the Second World War. Within a decade, the ministry was reaching around the globe to villages far removed from the world's attention. Today, an average of 300,000 quilts are lovingly given worldwide each year.* This year, 235 quilts were made by our quilters at Messiah, bringing the total number of quilts made since 2003 to 5,446 quilts!

**Sarah Wahlberg Scholarship Applications** can be picked up at the church office or found on the Messiah Church website at [messiahroseau.net](http://messiahroseau.net) under the Resources tab. **The application deadline is July 1, 2021 for returning students!**

**Please Donate Your Printer Cartridges!** There is a box below the church mailboxes with a list of the empty Printer, Copier and Fax Cartridges/Toners/Drums etc., that we could return to raise church funds.

**Tin Cups Offering:** Donations will go towards the Messiah Summer Day Camp which will be the first week in August!

**REMINDER!** As you do your spring cleaning, please keep in mind the Messiah quilters and Bell Choir. The quilters are replenishing their supply of sheets and fabric and donations can be left at the church office or put on the shelf just off the Sunday school wing. Also, the Bell Choir will be having their annual rummage sale. We have decided it will be held probably in August. As you go through your household items, please hold them for us. We will take anything except clothes. We will ask for the items right before the sale. Watch for further information.

**“Lord, Hear our Prayer”:** If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, we would love to pray for you! You can be placed on the confidential prayer chain by reaching out to Messiah’s Prayer Chain Coordinator, Mary Olson (218-463-2364). To make a request for prayers during worship, fill out the prayer request form found on the table in the narthex and turn in to the church office. *If you have any questions, please feel free to ask either Mary, Deacon Joanne, or Pastor Dave.*

**Worship Service Sunday, April 18, 2021**  
**Attendance: 67; Offering: \$1,160; Direct Debit: \$600**

## *Staying connected*

*Thank you for worshipping with us in person, or on Facebook Live!*

**FaceBook Live:** Go to Messiah's Facebook page to watch our livestream video of worship at 10:30am.

**Radio Broadcast:** Tune in to WILD 102 at 11 AM to listen to the morning service recorded at Moe Lutheran Church.

**Breeze App:** If you watch Facebook Live of our worship service, please Check in to today's worship via the Breeze app on your phone.

### *Messiah Leadership:*

***Pastor*** Dave Swonger:

**218-452-4639**

**Deacon** Joanne Swonger:

[deaconjoannemlc@gmail.com](mailto:deaconjoannemlc@gmail.com)

**Youth Director:** Jay Ostgaard:

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**Council President:** Karyn Santl

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**Office hours: Tues-Thurs, 9:00am-3:00pm**

### *Worship Servers for Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>*

**No Communion**

**Reader:** Mark Wilson

**Greeter:** Stuart McFarlane

**Sound Booth:** Marty Trangsrud

**Council Rep:** Stuart McFarlane

**Counters:** Duane & Barb Erickson

### *Worship Servers for Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**No Communion**

**Reader:** Marsha Hagen

**Greeter:** Katie Gunderson

**Sound Booth:** Marty Trangsrud

**Council Rep:** Katie Gunderson

**Counters:** Warren & Marsha Hagen

