

Fourth Sunday of Easter - April 21, 2024



The Fourth Sunday of Easter is informally known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus, the Good Shepherd, knows his own and they know him. The shepherd, as opposed to the hired hand, will go to any length necessary to save his sheep. This is exactly what Jesus did when he died on the cross for the sake of those he loves. Salvation comes from one way only, through Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

PASTOR CORKY SPITLER (912) 826-2711

- ◆ You are here by God's calling and we extend Christ's hospitality to you this day.
- ◆ In worship, we hear God's Word, partake in the Lord's Supper, and return our thanks in prayer and praise.
- ◆ If you receive the Lord's Supper in your home congregation, you are welcome to receive it here.
- ◆ Restrooms and a nursery are located in the backside hallway. Look for the horseshoe cross.
- ◆ Please fill out a visitor card so we can keep in touch. The Lord give you strength for daily living.

LBW - DIVINE SERVICE TWO

▼ = SIT ▲ = STAND

MUSICIAN: KAREN HALL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL PRELUDE - KAREN HALL

GREETING

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

SHARE THE PEACE

HE IS RISEN! **HE IS RISEN INDEED! (3 TIMES)**

▲ ENTRANCE HYMN "THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD" LBW #554

▲ HYMN OF PRAISE (*Sung*)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

(Continued)

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

▲ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Shepherding God, you have brought us into your holy flock out of great love and mercy. **Grant that we, having been so richly and undeservedly forgiven and accepted, might likewise show forth your love in truthful words and through our compassionate acts of love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

▼ FIRST READING — ACTS 4:1-12 (pew Bible pg. 1083)

▼ SECOND READING — 1 JOHN 3:16-24 (pew Bible pg. 1212)

▼ KCJAM & CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

▲ GOSPEL READING

**Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!**

The Holy Gospel from John 10:11-18 (pew Bible pg. 1065) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

▼ MESSAGE: "THE GOOD SHEPHERD"

▲ HYMN "THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS" LBW #456

▲ APOSTLES' CREED (*Spoken*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE CHURCH (*Spoken*)

▲ OFFERING HYMN (*Sung*)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

▲ OFFERING PRAYER (*Spoken*)

Blessed are you, **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

▲ GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Spoken*)

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

▲ SANCTUS (*Sung*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

▲ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER (*Spoken*)

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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. 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 in remembrance of me.

Our Father, who art in heaven...

▲ AGNUS DEI (*Sung*)

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.

▼ DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT

(Those who receive the Lord's Supper at their home congregation are welcome to join with us today.)

▲ POST-COMMUNION HYMN (*Sung*)

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done.

Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.

He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

▲ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Spoken*)

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. **Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

▲ BENEDICTION (*Spoken*)

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

▲ HYMN: "THE OLD COUNTRY CHURCH" (Sunday School Convention Song)

**Oh, I'd like to go back to that old__ country church,
And to hear__ the songs of__ praise, songs of praise;
How the people would sing, it would make the heavens ring,
At that old, at that old, country church.**

**Shall we gather at the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river That flows by the throne of__ God.**

**Oh, I'll never forget at that old__ country church,
How the glory of the Lord came__ down, it came down.
And the children would smile as they shouted down the aisle,
Of that old, of that old country church.**

**In the sweet by and by, We shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet__ by and by, We shall meet on that beautiful shore.**

**Then on Sunday to see all my friends so dear to me,
At that old_____ country church, country church;
When it came__ time for prayer; ev'rybody would be there,
At that old, at that old country church.**

**Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Now the years have gone by and so many have died,
At that old_____ country church, country church;
But they're on the other shore, and they'll sing forevermore,
As they did at that old country church.**

**I'm redeemed__ by love divine, Glory, glory,__ Christ is mine;
All to Him_____ I now resign, I have been redeemed. At that old country church.**

CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER

DISMISSAL (*Spoken*)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude - Karen Hall