

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER April 21, 2024

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Seattle, Washington

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

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us - Dale Wood

WELCOME

Beloved of God-

Welcome to University Lutheran Church to those of you who have joined us in person as well as those of you who are online.

We are a progressive Christian faith community, whose campus is located on the historic unceded lands of the Coast Salish peoples. For 106 years, our congregation has been responding to God's grace by: caring for creation, accompanying the underserved and marginalized, advocating for justice, and promoting peace. Therefore, we celebrate people of all sexual orientations and gender identities/expressions, affirm that Black Lives Matter, and champion the liberation of all. Here at ULC, we strive to make our liturgical worship approachable and relevant.

This is a safe place to be curious, ask questions, doubt, and find fellow seekers. Rather than remain the same, we are ready and eager to creatively try new and innovative ways for mission and ministry. While we do not know where this will lead us, we trust with all our being that God is already there and is drawing us to join in the parade.

In short, We Choose Love! Welcome.

-The Congregation of University Lutheran Church

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, • one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen. Look, here is water!

GREETING

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

Please rise in body or spirit for the Gathering Song.

GATHERING HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is - ELW 502



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

FIRST READING Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 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, 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. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There 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!

SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us--and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a sibling in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and God knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey God's commandments and do what pleases God. And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of God's Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as God has commanded us. All who obey God's commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit that God has given us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

Please rise in body or in spirit to greet the gospel:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL John 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

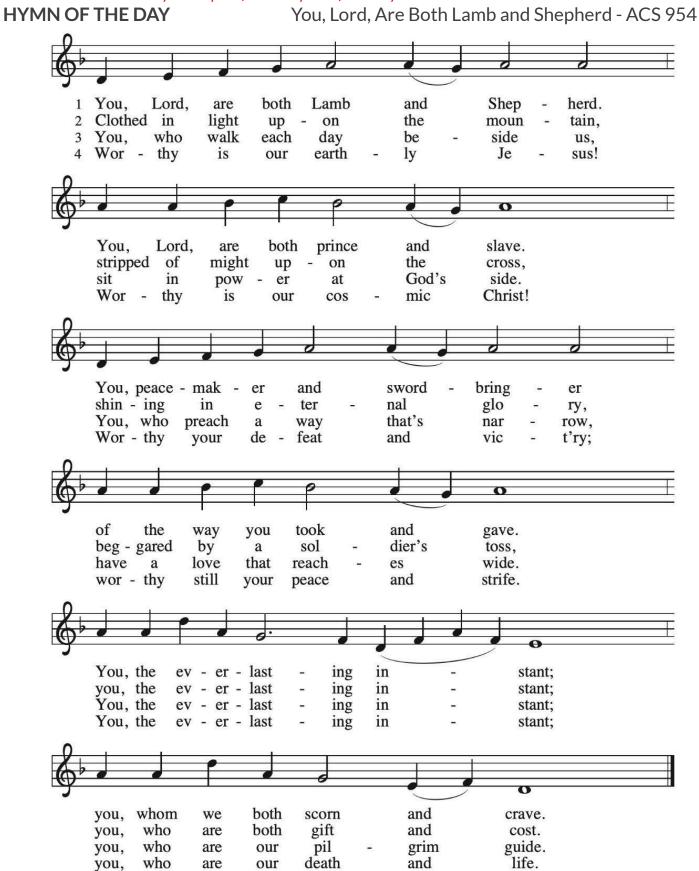
GOSPEL RESPONSE

Please be seated

SERMON - The Reverend M. Andrew Flatt-Kuntze

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please rise in body or in spirit for the Hymn of the Day.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

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.**

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith (including Anselm of Canterbury and all who labored to help generations understand the good news of the gospel). Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For what else shall the people of God Pray? (pause for petitions) **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

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.**

PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Financial gifts are vital to the ministry and mission of University Lutheran Church. Contributions of any size are needed and deeply appreciated.



OFFERTORY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is - Dale Wood

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to Christ.

Let us give thanks to 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,

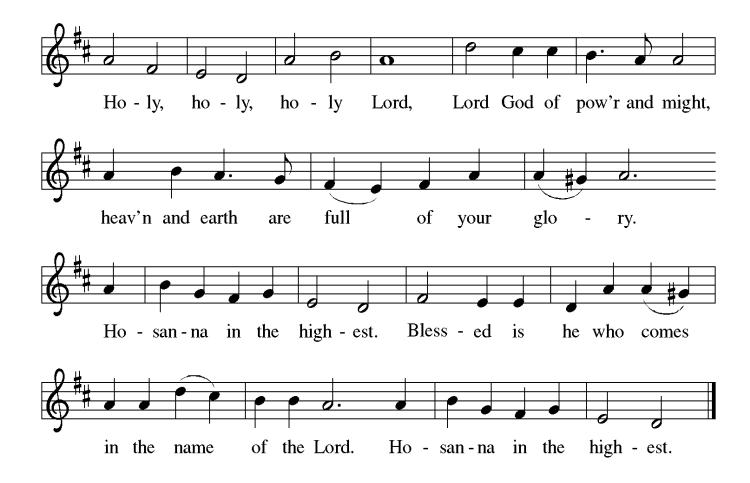
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and 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:



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.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

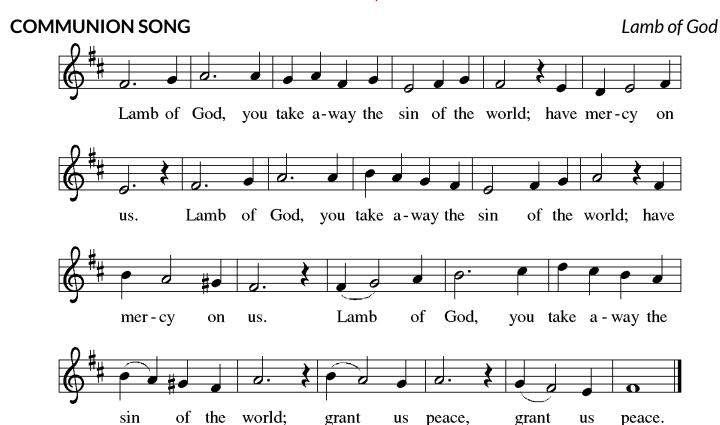
Our Father-Mother-Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's Table! Please come forward using the center aisle to receive the bread (please indicate if you need gluten free) and then wine (red) or grape juice (white). Those who don't commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing - cross your arms on your chest to indicate this request. Return to your seat by way of the side aisle and place your empty cup in one of the trays. If you have any questions, please ask someone around you or an usher.



COMMUNION SONG

Where Charity and Love Prevail - ELW 359

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are so glad you joined us today in worship! If you have been coming for years or this is your first Sunday, please take a moment to fill out the worship registration form in your bulletin or using the QR code for our online form. We would love to get to know you more. We also invite you to check out our Instagram/Facebook @ULCSeattle and our website (UniversityLutheranSeattle.org) and to learn more about us.



Forum Today is an Earth Day Intergenerational Nature Walk at Magnuson Park! Grab your daypack and sack lunch/snack and beverage and meet in the lounge after church to sign up and arrange carpool rides. We'll have a Scavenger Hunt to identify plants and animals of the PNW with prizes for children of all ages!

Tonight, April 21 at 7pm, the ASP board is hosting a **zoom meeting** for all high school youth and adults interested in traveling to Ailanga Lutheran Junior Seminary school in Tanzania in July/Aug of 2025. Trip highlights—interacting with students, visiting a Rehab Center, coffee farm, and local markets, going on safari--as well as travel costs and logistics will be shared. Contact Lynn Farrier, scottnlynn@hotmail.com, for more info.

Seattle Pride Parade Sunday, June 30th! The NWWA Synod is organizing a contingent of congregations to march in the parade. This is a fun and great event - and provides a wonderful way to support the LGBTQ+ community as well as our pastor. ULC needs to register attendees by the end of April. Please indicate your interest on the worship registration form, or contact the office so you are counted.

Our Special Offering this month is Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power and Light
On October 2, 2004, ULC became a Greening Congregation with Earth Ministry. Since that time, we have worked on being environmentally conscious in all our decisions and actions. Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power and Light transforms faith into action for the well-being of communities and the environment. They organize people of faith and conscience to advocate for strong environmental policies and provide strategic guidance to religious communities working toward environmental justice.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope

+ bless you now and always.

Amen



DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Presider: The Reverend Andrew M. Flatt-Kuntze | Lay Leader: Frank Gregory | Communion Assistant: Theresa Lehan Anderson | Organist: Margie Paynton | Tech Producer: Jake Burleigh | Tech Assistance: Ethan Moll | Attendance: Clint Pehrson | Altar Guild: Linda Maschhoff |

Ushers/Greeters: Christy Donner | Coffee Fellowship: Yolanda & Bob Houze

CREDITS

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UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1604 NE 50th St, Seattle, WA 98105 www.universitylutheranseattle.org | (206)525-7074 Scan the QR code for our virtual attendance form

