



May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Joint Worship to be the church together.

Voices from all congregations – Hope, Augustana, First Lutheran
Worship broadcast via radio and YouTube. YouTube links found on:

www.hopeff.org www.augustanalutheran.org

www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the beginning, O God, your Spirit moved over the water, and you created all that is, seen and unseen.

We give you thanks for the gift of water that sustains all life.

In the time of Noah, you destroyed evil in the water of the flood; and by your saving ark, you gave a new beginning.

We give you thanks for new beginnings.

You led Israel through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

We give you thanks for the gift of freedom and the gift of the land.

In the water of the Jordan our Lord was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit; by the baptism of his death and resurrection, Christ set us free from sin and death and opened the way to eternal life.

We give you thanks for our own baptism and the gift of eternal life.

By the water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We give you thanks for the gift of water that sustains life.

We give you thanks for the gift of the new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.

Amen.

1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I

I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.

You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand

still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*
 Come and rest in me. *To refrain*
 all will know my name. *To refrain*
 up, now walk and live! *To refrain*

Refrain
 Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by
 name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I
To stanzas 3 and 4
 love you and you are mine."

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
 Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas
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GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

How Great Thou Art

(vs. 1) ELW # 856

I O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou
art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to
thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray together.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN*Jesus Loves Me***(vs. 1 & 3) ELW # 595****Vs. 1**

Jesus loves me! this I know,
 for the Bible tells me so;
 little ones to him belong,
 they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me,
 yes, Jesus loves me,
 yes, Jesus loves me,
 the Bible tells me so.

Vs. 3

Jesus loves me! he will stay
 close beside me all the way;
 when at last I come to die,
 he will take me home on high.

Refrain**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****AMBER KRAFNICK****PSALM 23****LOWELL BRENNAN**

¹The LORD is my shepherd I shall not be in want. ²The 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. ⁴Though 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. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Sanctuary (sing twice)*

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, Pure and holy, tired and true, With thanksgiving, I'll be a living Sanctuary for you.

GOSPEL READING**JOHN 10:1-10**

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹"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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shelter Me

composed by Father Michael Joncas

Congregation sings the refrain as printed

O shel-ter me, O shel-ter me:
 The way a - head is dark and dif - fi - cult to see.
 O shel-ter me, O shel-ter me:
 All will be well if on - ly you will shel-ter me.

1. Shepherd and sheep, my God and I:
 to fresh green fields you led my steps in days gone by.
 You gave me rest by quiet springs
 and filled my soul with peace your loving presence brings.
2. Yet now I tread a diff'rent way;
 Death dogs my path with stealthy steps from day to day.
 I cannot find your peaceful place
 But dwell in dreary darkness, longing for your face.
3. I will look back in days to come
 and realize your faithfulness has led me home.
 Within your house I'll find my peace,
 trusting that in your mercy you have sheltered me.

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THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

Lord, in your mercy, **hear 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.

SENDING (PSALM 23 FROM THE MESSAGE)

God, my shepherd! I don't need a thing. You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from.

True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction.

Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side.

Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure.

You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies.

You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing.

Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life.

I'm back home in the house of God for the rest of my life.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

ELW # 677

Vs.1

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Vs. 3

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Vs.2

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSAL

Be at peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



FIRST LUTHERAN ANNOUNCEMENTS SUNDAY MAY 3, 2020

It is unknown at this time if some of the events scheduled in the upcoming weeks will occur. We will do our best to keep you advised. Be sure to call the church with any questions at 739-3348 or email to office@flcff.org.

The altar flowers and radio broadcast are sponsored by Pam and Gregg Western in celebration of their wedding anniversary on May 2.

COVID 19 Update – The church building will remain locked through the end of May. We will not be able to accommodate public meetings during this time. We will continue with worship services closed to the public through the month of May. If you have a pastoral care emergency, you can contact Pastor Gretchen at 218-321-0995. Please continue to call (leave a message) and email with questions or concerns. Phone: 218-739-3348, Email: office@flcff.org, or check our website firstlutheranchurchff.org for further updates. The church office will be staffed from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday, as we are able.

First Lutheran, Hope & Augustana will continue to provide worship opportunities on Sunday mornings. All worship services are closed to the public, but will be live streamed on YouTube and on-air on KJK AM 1020 or Channel 977 FM97.7 at 9:30 am. **Services are also being aired on PEG Access Channel 8.** The schedule can be found on the website: <http://pegaccess.com/channel8programming.html>

We appreciate your on-going support of the ministry of First Lutheran Church. Your gifts may be mailed to the church at 402 South Court Street, or you can visit the website firstlutheranchurchff.org and click donate on the upper right corner and set up your donation plan. Any questions, please call the office 739-3348.

ZOOM get-together for 7th – 9th Graders with Calie & Pastor Gretchen will be on Wednesday, May 6. Here is the schedule: 7th graders from 4 to 5 pm; 8th graders from 5 to 6 pm, and 9th graders from 6 to 7 pm. Calie will send out information for the Zoom meeting closer to May 6. Looking forward to seeing you all via ZOOM.

Joint ELCA Congregations of Fergus Falls will hold a Baccalaureate Service to honor our high school graduates on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. The service will be broadcast on our Facebook page.

Homemade masks for 1st Lutheran - Pastor Gretchen would like to have a supply of homemade masks on hand for the day we do return to worship in person! Our goal is 300 masks. We can use both adult size and children's size. If you are able to help by sewing masks, please do! There are many patterns available on-line, or if you need a pattern, please contact the church office. If you have masks ready to deliver to church, please give us a call at 739-3348 and we will arrange a drop-off time. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Gretchen at 218 321-0995. Thanks SO much!

May Messenger and calendar has been mailed out and posted to our website. We also put some copies in our outdoor Little Lending Library, if you care to pick one up there.

Otter Tail County needs quality foster homes for children. Children in foster care need stable, loving care until they can either safely reunite with their families or establish other lifelong relationships with a nurturing adult/family. Foster parents play an essential role in children's lives and have the ability to provide structure, stability, and nurturing. Please contact Jody Dahlen at 218-998-8191 with any questions related to foster care or to start the process. More information can be found at <https://ottertailcountymn.us/content-page/foster-care-adoption/>

Breathing Under Water, Bible Study based on the book by Richard Rohr is being postponed.

LutherCrest has cancelled all of their on-site camps for the summer.

VBS Day Camp with Luther Crest and Butterflies are both cancelled for July. Watch for VBS to-go packs filled with fun activities and links to songs & stories, and the possibility of a one-day VBS get together in August!!