

# **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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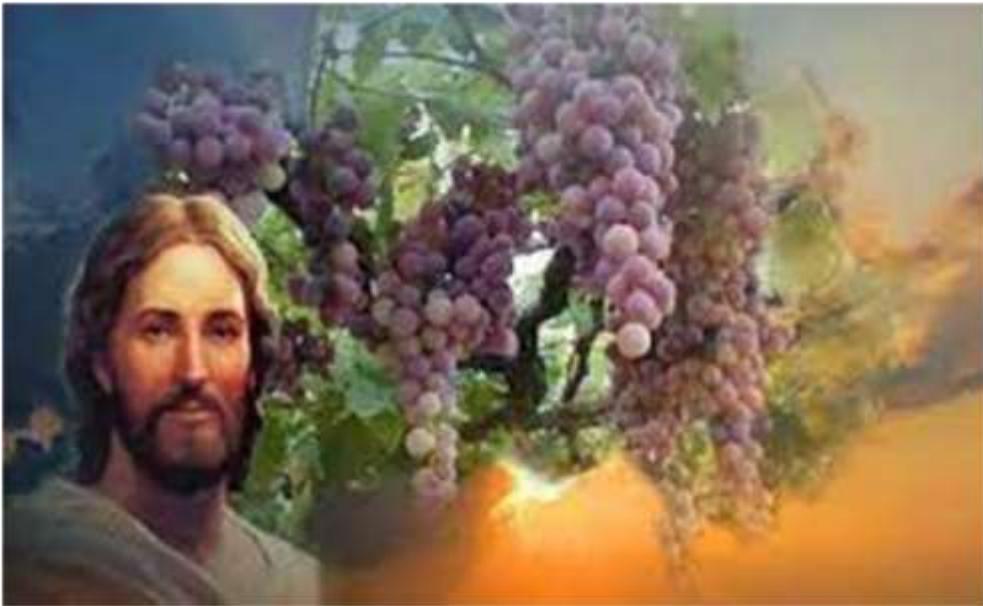
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**Website: [www.GoodShepherdLena.org](http://www.GoodShepherdLena.org)**

**Facebook: [GSLCLenall](https://www.facebook.com/GSLCLenall)**

April 28, 2024 9:30am

Fifth Sunday of Easter



*John 15:1 and 8*

***15:1 [Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.***

*15:8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. [ESV]*

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship - Setting 3, page 138*  
*Please leave your offering in the plate at the door*  
*You may stand at times marked with an asterisk (\*)*

## **GATHERING**

**Prelude**

Tena Rackow

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*ELW page 94*

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord..

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection*

**P:** Most merciful God,

**C: Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.**



## \* Prayer of the Day

**P:** Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## WORD

### First Reading: *Acts 8:26-40*

**L:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup> And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup> And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup> Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup> And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup> And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup> And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. [ESV]

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm: 22:25-31**

<sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup> **The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!  
May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup> **For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup> Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,  
shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup> **Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup> They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

## **Second Reading: *1 John 4:7-21***

**L:** A reading from the first letter of John.

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother. [ESV]

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\* **Gospel Acclamation**

*ELW page 142*

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

\* **Gospel: *John 15:1-8***

**P:** The holy Gospel according to John.

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

**15** [Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. [ESV]

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Thomas Mosbo

\* **Hymn**

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

**ELW # 359**

\* **Nicene Creed**

*ELW page 104*

**P:** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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 whom 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,  
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.**

## **Choir Anthem** *Praise Ye the Name of the Lord*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*ELW page 143*

*Please respond to each petition with the following:*

**L:** ... God of grace,

**C:** 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.

**C: Amen.**

*We lift our prayers for*

*Lynn Lyvers, Jerry, Fern Harnish, Taylor B., Denny Bergmann, Rene', Paul Fahr, Gary Hudik, Brady Meier, Leona Block, Virgil Martin, Tena Rackow, Marilyn Fulfs, Connor Stadermann, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Paul Heller, Janet, Ryse Stone, Nicole, Meghan and her baby, John, Chuck, Joyce, Terri, Tina, Julie, Jamie, Crystal, Katie, Christian, Anna, Abby, Karla, Jacob and his family, Richard Gordon, Kay, Shanna, Kathy, Charlie, Brad, Jack, Tina, Joe, Sue, Emma, Cindy, Lamar Hail, Connie, Rachel Collins, Ethan, Hanna, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Heckman, Jeri, Allie, Al, Glen Hagemann, Bruce Stewart, Pam, Caroline, Tina D., Howard D., Christine, Michelle, Maci Diffenderfer, Jim DeMontigny Jr. and Madilyn Yeager.*

**Lord's Prayer**

*ELW page 145*

**P:** Let us pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us :

**C: 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

## Blessing

*ELW page 146*

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you,  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace,  
In the name of the Father, † and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## \* Hymn

*Let All Things Now Living*

**ELW # 881**

## \* Dismissal

*ELW page 146*

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

Tena Rackow

Attendance April 14  
In-Person 31, Online 33

## Scholarship Forms

*Good Shepherd Scholarship forms are due  
April by April 30<sup>th</sup>.*

*The forms are available at the church office upon request.*

Today,  
Chime Practice from 10:45-11:15  
Choir will practice from 11:15-11:45

*Good Shepherd Piece Corps Quilting Group*  
*Every Wednesday 8:30am –11:30am*

### **Friendship Club**

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 Potluck, followed by 1:00pm meeting.  
Entertainment by Glenda Linneman.

## **Good Shepherd Council**

### *Newsletter Deadline*

*Please have your announcements and/or meeting  
dates sent to the office by Monday, Wednesday, May 15.*

*Thank you.*

Mom 



Sunday, May 12th,  
Mother's Day

*Remember, each Mother is like a flower,  
each one is beautiful and unique.*

Good Shepherd will  
Celebrate the 2024  
graduates  
On Sunday, May 19th.  
Worship Service  
Come and congratulate  
our graduates for a  
healthy and prosperous



### *Devotional thought on Joy*

*I used to be a little baffled by Nehemiah 8:10: "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." To me, that verse never made much sense because joy didn't seem to be all that strong a quality. I thought it would have made more sense if it had said, "The Strength of the Lord is your joy."*

*But the longer I live, the more I realize that the ability to find joy in life really is a tremendous strength. The people who can laugh are the strong ones. The people who can throw their heads back and delight in the joy of the moment are going to live a lot longer than those of us who are stressed and pushed and taking ourselves terribly seriously.*

*Children really are good at open-hearted spontaneous joy. They know it intuitively. That's why they use it lavishly in the present moment. They don't put it in savings account for a rainy day. They don't put it on hold or put a lid on it. They spend it with abandon. They practice it at every small occasion. That's why they are such pros at getting it right!*

*Claire Cloninger*