



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

"Encouraging faith and proclaiming God's love by Gathering, Growing and Giving."

4th Sunday of Easter

Sr. Appreciation/Communion Worship

April 30th, 2023

This worship is being livestreamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.

*NOTE: **Bold text** indicates worshippers' response, and '*' means please stand as able.*

PRELUDE

Michelle Young

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

GATHERING

* CONFESSION We confess our sins before God and one another. *Pause for silence and reflection.* God of resurrection, **You have redeemed us through the gift of your son, yet we often act as though we don't know what that means. We fail to see where we need to change, and where we need to work to bring positive change to the world. We remain fixated on ourselves rather than living in love and service for others. Forgive us our sins of thought, word, and action or lack of action, that we might better do your will.**

* FORGIVENESS Christ is risen indeed, and proclaims to you and all of creation the entire forgiveness of sin. Receive this gift of forgiveness with joy! **Amen.**¹

479 HYMN *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* Page 7

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

*KYRIE

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for all salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of Christ, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

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¹ Narrative Lectionary *Programs 1 22-23* Worship resources Copyright © 2022 Clergy Stuff. One License Podcast / Streaming License A-724679/ CCLI Streaming License #1727740

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was
 slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
 strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. I Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and
 might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. II For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

* P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

* PRAYER OF THE DAY P: Let us pray. Gracious God, **You set aside Paul and Barnabas for the work of sharing the good news. In the same way, call us into service to you and our neighbors near and far, in Jesus name. Amen.**¹

GROWING

Jesus has risen from the grave and ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of God. His work continues through the believers who have been filled with the Holy Spirit. By this time in the church's history, it has been revealed to the leaders that the Good News of salvation through belief in Jesus Christ is for the Gentiles, as well as the Jews. The events of today's readings take place inside of Roman province occupied by Gentiles who have greater knowledge of the Greek gods, than the God of the Jews. Paul and Barnabas have to explain by whose name and power they are able to miraculously heal a man lame since birth. A reading from the Book of Acts, and includes various verses from chapters 13 and 14.

^{13:1} Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul. ²While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ³Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

^{14:8}In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. ⁹He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, ¹⁰said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man sprang up and began to walk. ¹¹When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" ¹²Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. ¹³The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. ¹⁴When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, ¹⁵"Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; ¹⁷yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy." ¹⁸Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/SERMON

Pastor Mary Eide

#379 Hymn of the Day *Spread, O Spread, Almighty Word* Page 8

SENIOR RECOGNITION/BLESSING OF GRADUATE/QUILT *Ryan Bartig, Marcus Barum, AJ Miller, Aidan Schiferl, and Brooklyn Zillmer*

Dear friends: Life presents us with a variety of milestones that designate the end of a phase in our earthly journey. Graduation from high school is one of these milestones. Today we wish to honor Ryan Bartig, Marcus Barum, Alex "AJ" Miller, Aidan Schiferl, and Brooklyn Zillmer, who are moving through this special time of accomplishment, transition, and change; and to show them that we, their community of faith, stand with them and support them in this and other milestones in their lives.

At this time of celebration and transition, hear these words from the Bible. **Proverb 16:9** *⁹The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps.*

Deuteronomy 31:6 *Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord our God who goes with you; he will not fail you nor forsake you.*

EACH SENIOR IS INTRODUCED AND RECEIVE THEIR QUILT.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, grant to Ryan, Marcus, AJ, Aiden, and Brooklyn the awareness of your continued presence as they go forth into the future. Guide their steps. Hold them in the hollow of your hands. Bless them and keep them now and forever. Amen.

For the graduate to respond to God's presence in their lives.

Ryan, Marcus, AJ, Aiden, and Brooklyn, as you consider the next steps of your journey of life, do you acknowledge God going with you, before you, behind you, below you, above you and within you? If so, say "With God's help, I do." **SENIORS: With God's help, I do.**

Please raise a hand toward the graduates and recite this blessing

All: Dear Seniors: We are eager to show you how delighted we are that you've reached this milestone in your life. As fellow members of this community of faith we rejoice with you and want you to know of our pride and excitement as you move from this accomplishment into the next phase of your life. Know also that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength. Amen.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

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**

*Or, He descended to the dead. ** universal

* PRAYERS AND PETITIONS (L: God of Life, **All: hear our prayer.**)¹

The OFFERING PLATE is located at the entrance of the church sanctuary.
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* OFFERING PRAYER Generous God, **you provide all that we need. Give us generous hearts that we might offer ourselves, our efforts, and our resources to your good work in the world. Accept now these gifts for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**¹

* GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise**

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

* INVITATION We are called by God to will and to work for God's holy reign. Come and be strengthened for the task ahead, through the body and blood of our savior, Jesus Christ. The feast is prepared and all are welcome.¹

HOLY COMMUNION – *All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and wine are welcome to commune with us. Gluten-free wafers available and give "thumbs up" for grape juice. Children who do not yet receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing. If you or a family member would like communion brought to them, please tell an usher.*

* POST COMMUNION PRAYER Pour out upon us... **Amen.**

* ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING The empty tomb shouts your love to all of creation. Now may we go forth in joy, and certainty, proclaiming your good news to all people knowing we are empowered by God the Father, the Holy Spirit, ✚ and through Christ Jesus for whom has been raised from the dead and will return. **Amen.**

* 526 SENDING HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Page 9

* CLOSING LITANY/DISMISSAL (*please respond with **bold-faced text***)

The Holy Spirit said, "**Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul**
For the work to which I have called them." **Then after fasting and praying,**
They laid their hands on them **and sent them off.**
So now the Holy Spirit says, **We have been set apart—made holy—**
For the work to which God has called us. **The work of peace and justice.**
The work of caring for all creation. **The work of living the gospel in all we do.**
Lay your hands on us in blessing, O God, **And send us off to do you will.**
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God**

(Seniors will be in the Gathering Place, if you'd like to congratulate them or wish them well.)

BELLS/POSTLUDE

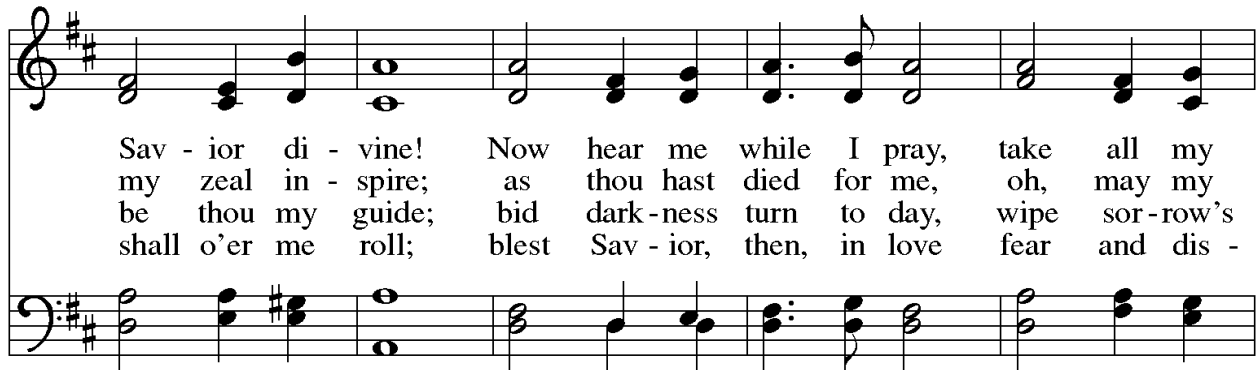
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My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word



1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord;
2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



tell how his own Son he gave, all from sin and death to save.
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.
let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.



Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978
Music: GOTT SEI DANK, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesang-Buch*, 1704

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Almighty Word* was
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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
Music: ST. DENIO. Welsh traditional

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