



**Grace Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

April 21, 2024

Pastor Sean O'Neil

Organist Kathy Painter



Holy Communion

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to the family and friends of Sofia Salas on the day of her baptism.

Happy Birthday Jessica McKeown!

Happy Birthday Debbie Stilson!

Prayer Requests: Carol Anderson (Linda's sister), Calvin and Fleeta Miller, Marshall McKee and family (friends of Eng)

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,
you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
Amen.

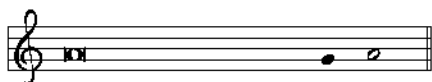
***Gathering Song** Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia -
ELW 369

Greeting

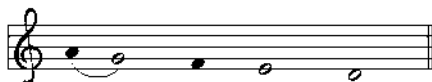
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



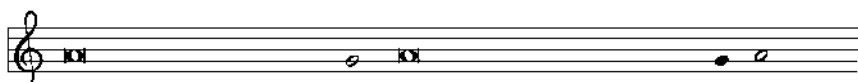
Lord, have mer - cy.



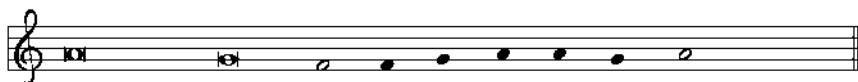
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



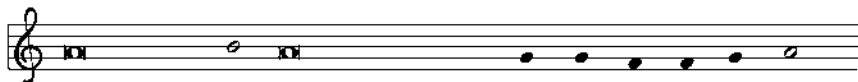
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



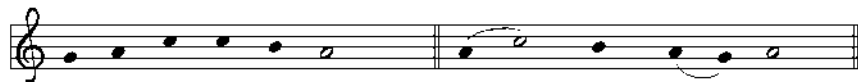
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



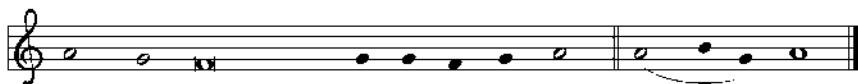
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Canticle of Praise: This is the Feast

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

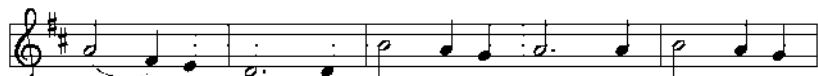


strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

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.

C **Amen.** (*be seated*)

WORD

L **First Reading: Acts 4:5-12**

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 23

¹*The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.*

²*The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.*

³*You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's
sake.*

⁴*Though 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.*

⁵*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.*

⁶*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

L Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (**please stand*)



P The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. John the 10th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: **John 10:11-18**

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

P This is the gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.** (*please be seated*)

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day** Baptized in Water - ELW 456

HOLY BAPTISM



**“Then he took the children in his arms,
placed his hands on each of them,
and blessed them.”**

Mark 10:16

PRESENTATION

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

R I (WE) PRESENT **Sofia Lupita Salas** TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM.

P As you bring **Sofia** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with these responsibilities: to live with **Sofia** among God's faithful people, bringing her to the word of God and the holy supper, teaching her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, placing in her hands the holy scriptures, nurturing her in faith and prayer, so that **Sofia** may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help **Sofia** grow in the Christian faith and life?

R I DO.

P **Chad and Kali**, do you promise to nurture **Sofia** in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, helping her to live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

R I DO.

PROMISE

P People of God, do you promise to support Sofia and pray for her new life in Christ?

C **We do.**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition

A Lord in your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

Concluding with

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

C **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

P By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise.

P Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into **Sofia**. Wash away her sin and bring her forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen**

RENUNCIATION AND PROFESSION

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

R **I RENOUNCE THEM.**

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

R **I RENOUNCE THEM.**

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R **I RENOUNCE THEM.**

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

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C **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.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C **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**

The congregation may be seated

BAPTISM

P **Sofia**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

P O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon **Sofia** the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C **Amen**

P **Sofia**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon **Mary Jo Liza & Daniel Ivan**. Let **them** ever rejoice in the gift you have given **them**. Make **them** a teacher and example of righteousness for **Sofia**. Strengthen **them** in **their** own Baptism so **they** may share eternally with her the salvation you have given her, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P Through Baptism God has made **this new sister a member** of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

Peace:

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.** (*please be seated*)

MEAL

Offering

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray,
Generous God,
in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise
your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer

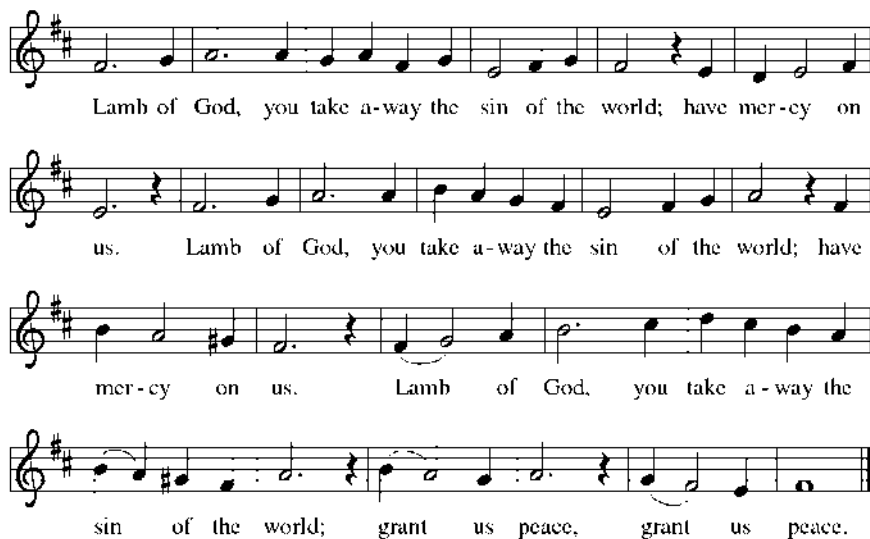
P Remember us in your kingdom, O Lord, and teach us to pray.

The 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.

Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Table Blessing (**please stand*)

P The body and blood... grace.

C Amen.

SENDING

Blessing:

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

***Sending Song** God Be With You Till We Meet Again - ELW 536

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Thank you to all who serve:

Altar Guild: Mary Ann Manning and Lynn Parks

Ushers: Greg Ruff and Malcolm Stephens

Assistant: JoAnn Chambers

Lector: Diane Thompson

Counter: Diane Thompson

Upcoming Commemorations

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109

Sunday, April 21, 2024

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.

Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)

Monday, April 22, 2024

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, died 1960

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

Mark, Evangelist

Thursday, April 25, 2024

He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written.

From sundaysandseasons.com.