

## Sunday, April 25, 2021—Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Instrumental Hymn: “O Worship the King” (adapted)  
vss. 1, 3 & 5

1. O wor-ship the King, all glor-ious a-bove  
O grate-ful-ly sing His won-der-ful love;  
Our Shield and De-fend-er, the An-cient of Days,  
Pa-vil-lioned in spleen-dor and gird-ed with praise.

3. Your boun-ti-ful care, what ton-gue can re-cite?  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light.  
It streams from the hills, it de-scends to the plain,  
And sweet-ly dis-tills in the dew and the rain.

5. All hail to the King in spleen-dor en-throned;  
Glad prais-es we sing, your won-ders make known.  
Re-turn-ing vic-to-rious, great con-quer-or if sin,  
King Je-sus, all glo-rious, our vic-t'ry will win.

Call to Worship

See what love has done—death has been overcome! Let us  
gather with grateful hearts to sing praises to God. Amen!

Prayer of Invocation:

We give you thanks and praise, O God! Join us in this hour of wor-  
ship. Hear our praises; receive our prayers; inspire our minds; and  
equip us for ministry. Then send us into the world to proclaim your  
love and labor for your kingdom. Amen!

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 my no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Epistle Reading:

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he 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 yet sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to 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 him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And his 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. All 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.

Gospel Reading:

John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the

good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No 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.

Here ends this reading of the Gospel.

SOLOIST: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" Heather Hessler

### Prayers of the People and 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!

Sermon: *Randy to provide the title*

Instrumental Hymn: "The Lord's My Shepherd" vss. 1 & 5

1. The Lord's my shep-herd, I'll not want,  
He makes me down to lie  
In pas-tures green, he lead-eth me,  
The qui-et wa-ters by.

He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, the qui-et wa-ters by.

5. Good-ness and mer-cy all my days  
Will sure-ly fol-low me  
And in my Fath-er's house, al-ways  
My dwell-ing place shall be.

And in my heart, for-ev-er-more, thy dwell-ing place shall be.

## Dedication of our Tithes and Offerings

Gracious God, whose love shepherds us along life's journey, we give you thanks and praise for the ministry of Christ that has been entrusted to us. In gratitude we bring our lives and our gifts to sustain what Christ began. Bless our tithes and offerings, and us in your service, that together we may share the good news of Jesus Christ with all people. Amen!

Benediction

Postludes

**Birthday Blessings**  
*Mark Bauernfiend Apr 29*  
*Paul Armstrong May 1*

**Please take your bulletin home with you.**