



**I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.**

**John 10:11**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 21, 2024**

**11:00A**

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, CONOVER**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation with confidence in the Words of our Lord Jesus, who gives not only bread and wine but his true body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1Cor 11:27-29). Reception of Holy Communion here at Concordia is a public confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Those who are not yet baptized, instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We stand.*

**OPENING HYMN “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” 686**

## **INVOCATION**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES** *John 12:26; Eph. 4:15; Ps. 25:1–3, 5, 10; 106:48*

**P** Jesus said: “If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.”

**C Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ.**

**P** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust.

**C Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame.**

**P** Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.**

**P** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

**C** And let all the people say, “Amen!” Praise the LORD!

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

**P** Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

**C** O Lord God Almighty, we confess that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not put You first at all times. We have not followed in the ways You have set forth for us. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of Your creation and have not shared its bounty on all occasions. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds fully pure and honorable. We have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have not honored those in authority and have not without reservation encouraged them. We have not completely put the best construction on all things and on all people. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us all our sins, and finally by Your grace, bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **T** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**      “He Is Arisen! Glorious Word”      488



He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled



is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen.



My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, And Sa - tan's ar -

rows bro - ken lie, De - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.  
 O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing glo - rious,  
 Life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

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**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*We sit.*

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 4:1-12**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

“A Shepherd’s Psalm

Joseph M. Martin

**SECOND READING**

**1 John 3:16-24**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL CANTICLE**

*Sing three times, in parts.*

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 10:11-18**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

*After the Gospel is read:*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

*We sit.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” 709**

*Low voices – stanza 3; Treble voices – stanza 5*

**SERMON**

“Going to the Masters”

Pastor Michael Geml

*We stand.*

## **CATECHISM**

### *The First Article*

P As our Good Shepherd leads us, even so our heavenly Father hears the prayers of His people. Assured of His fatherly care, let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the First Person of the Holy Trinity.

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P What does this mean?

**C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **PREFACE**

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 Him thanks and praise.**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We give thanks to You for the gifts of bread and wine here before us and for Your gracious provision for all Your creatures. Invited by Your grace and supported by Your love, we come to Your Table with thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we receive, with true faith and trust in Your words of promise, the bread and wine, that is, the very body and blood of Christ, as a guarantee of the salvation that He purchased for us through His innocent suffering and death on the cross. Receive our prayers and praises and grant that we may follow You as Your people, in this season of Easter and always. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**

*1 Cor. 11:26; Rev. 22:20*

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**PAX DOMINI**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*We sit.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good” 819

“Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing” 847

*We stand.*

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**BENEDICTION**

CLOSING HYMN “Beautiful Savior” 537

**POSTLUDE**



