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## I KNOW YOU

### FEARS

April 17, 18, and 21, 2021

*“Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil” (Psalm 23:4). Lord, I want that to be me, but more often than not it isn’t. I am anxious and upset about so many things, more often fearful that fearless. Please come and walk beside me. When my fears loom large, pick me up and carry me. You know me. You know I can’t do this alone!*

### MASKS AND SEATING

We continue to recommend the wearing of masks throughout the service if you are able. As attendance increases, it may be difficult to maintain our customary social distancing at all services. If you are comfortable with less social distancing, please sit on the right side of the sanctuary (as you face the altar). If you desire more social distancing, we recommend sitting on the left side of the sanctuary or attending the 7:45 or 10:45 am service, both of which normally have fewer people in attendance.

### BELLS AND WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN 160, vv. 1, 2

### This Joyful Eastertide

**1 This joyful Eastertide  
Away with sin and sorrow!  
My love, the Crucified,  
Has sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, who once was slain,  
Not burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;  
But now is Christ arisen!**

**2 Death's flood has lost its chill  
Since Jesus crossed the river;  
Lover of souls, from ill  
My passing soul deliver.  
Had Christ, who once was slain,  
Not burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;  
But now is Christ arisen**

M In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.



M Brothers and sisters in Christ, no matter who we are, we have all failed to give witness to the love and grace of our God in Christ Jesus.

C **Like Peter, following his denial of the Lord Jesus, we wonder why Jesus would choose to use us to extend his kingdom to the world around us.**

M We miss the point. It is because we ourselves are broken that we can speak into the lives of those around us who are also broken. Remembering this, as we come before God in worship, we freely confess our brokenness and sin, knowing that in Jesus we will find healing.

All **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

#### RESPONSE HYMN 160, v. 3

#### This Joyful Eastertide

My flesh in hope shall rest  
And for a season slumber  
Till trump from east to west  
Shall wake the dead in number.  
Had Christ, who once was slain,  
Not burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;  
But now is Christ arisen!

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, through your death and resurrection you lift up this fallen world from the despair that sin and death bring.

C **Lift us up. Through your forgiving love, fill our hearts with hope and joy.**

M Make us bold to share with others the story of how your love and grace rescue us,

C **that many more may come to know the peace that only you can give.**

M For you live and reign with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON

2 Corinthians 2:12 – 3:6

*We are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved  
and those who are perishing.*

<sup>12</sup>Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me, <sup>13</sup>I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said goodbye to them and went on to Macedonia.

<sup>14</sup>But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. <sup>15</sup>For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. <sup>16</sup>To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life. And who is equal to such a task? <sup>17</sup>Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.

<sup>3</sup>Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you? <sup>2</sup>You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. <sup>3</sup>You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

<sup>4</sup>Such confidence we have through Christ before God. <sup>5</sup>Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. <sup>6</sup>He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 118

*I will not die but live and proclaim what the Lord has done!*

*(Refrain)*

**This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!**

**This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!**

The LORD is my strength and my song;\*  
he has become my salvation.

The LORD'S right hand is lifted high;\*  
the LORD'S right hand has done mighty things!

I will not die but live,\*  
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

*Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;\*  
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;\*  
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;\*  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*



1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!  
 Death no longer can appall me.  
 Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!  
 From the grave Christ will recall me.  
 Brighter scenes will then commence;  
 This shall be my confidence.

2 Jesus lives! To him the throne  
 High o'er heav'n and earth is given.  
 I shall go where he is gone,  
 Live and reign with him in heaven.  
 God is faithful; doubtings, hence!  
 This shall be my confidence.

4 Jesus lives! I know full well  
 Nothing me from him shall sever,  
 Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell  
 Part me now from Christ forever.  
 God will be a sure defense;  
 This shall be my confidence.

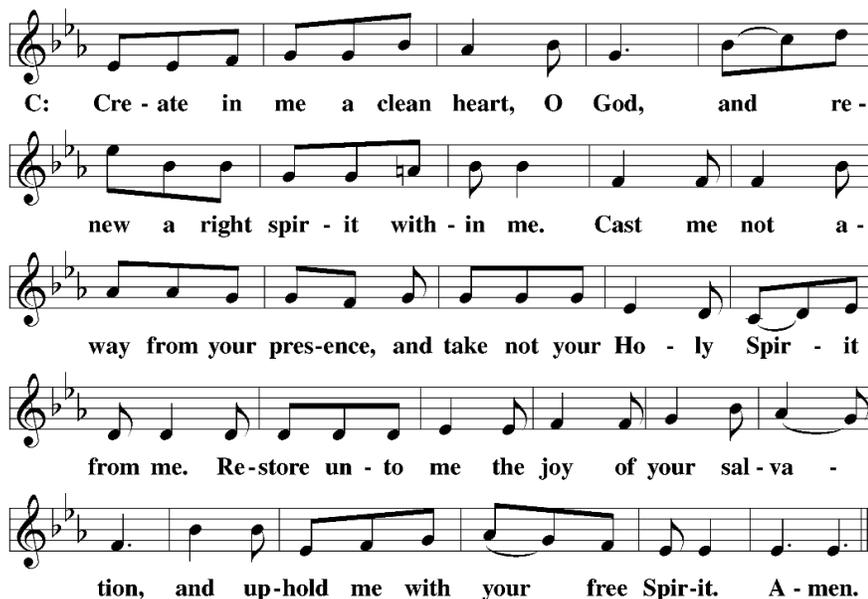
## SERMON

## Psalm 23:4

*Pastor Peter Panitzke*

Even though I walk  
 through the darkest valley,  
 I will fear no evil,  
 for you are with me;  
 your rod and your staff,  
 they comfort me.

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*



C: 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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.
- C **Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- M In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.
- C **Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**
- M Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:
- C **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**
- M Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.
- C **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**
- M Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.
- Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*
- M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.
- Silent prayer.*
- M Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:
- C **Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 360, vv. 1-3

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; he leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

2 My soul he doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for his own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For thou art with me, and thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Lord Jesus Christ,  
C send us out with confidence in your Word,  
M to tell the world of your saving acts,  
C and bring glory to your name.  
M We praise you now and forevermore.  
C Amen.

BLESSING

M The Lord bless and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of April 19, 2021

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| <b>MON</b>   | 10:00 am  | Walking Club (Main Church)  |
| <b>TUE</b>   | 10:00 am<br>4:30 pm<br>7:00 pm  | Walking Club (Main Church)<br>Public School Confirmation Classes<br><i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (In-person and online)   |
| <b>WED</b>   | 6:30 am<br>7:00 pm  | Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)<br>Traditional Worship Service   |
| <b>THURS</b> | 10:00 am<br>7:00 pm   | Walking Club (Main Church)<br>Revelation Bible Class (Online)   |
| <b>SAT</b>   | 8:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>12:00 pm<br>3:00 pm<br>5:00 pm                       | Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)<br>Mary Watts Visitation<br>Mary Watts Funeral<br>Lydia Eiche and Ronald Ross Wedding Rehearsal<br>Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion   |
| <b>SUN</b>   | 7:45 am<br>9:15 am<br>9:15 am<br>9:45 am<br>10:15 am<br>10:45 am<br>1:00 pm | Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion<br>Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion<br>Kids Club<br>The Bridge Communion<br>The Bridge<br>Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion<br>Lydia Eiche and Ronald Ross Wedding |

## Stop By the Welcome Center

- If you are first-time guest, stop by to receive a thank you gift for worshipping with us.
- Pick up the latest news from our Mission Partners.
- Find an update on our Community Counseling and Care Center.
- Take a copy of the message to share with family and friends.
- Learn more about Lutheran Women's Missionary Society.



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

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