



Good Shepherd Lutheran, Reno

Worship for May 3, 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

Pr. Scott Trevithick

Peter Walks on Water

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME TO WORSHIP | GREETING Pr. Scott

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

Please join us in our Call to Worship.
Please speak the portions in bold print on your screen.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Unraveled*

God, you are a God of invitation.

You invited Abraham to follow you.

You invited the disciples to drop their nets.

You invited the children to draw near.

You invited Peter to walk on water.

You invited the tax collector to dinner.

You invited the Samaritan woman into eternal life.

Just the same, you invite us to live lives of faith.

Give us the strength to say yes.

Let us worship good and holy God.

GATHERING SONG 1: Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

you have bought us; we are yours.

- 2 We are yours; in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.
- 3 You have promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
- 4 Early let us seek your favor,
early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
**In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.**

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font,
and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *Unraveled*

Let us pray.

God of the wind and the sea,
You invite us to be brave, but we are more familiar with fear.
You invite us to trust you, but we'd rather trust wind and gravity.
You invite us to believe in ourselves, but we have never been good at that.
You invite us to move—to change and take a risk—
But we stay planted where we are, afraid of the ways growth might hurt.
Forgive us for our self doubt and fear.
We believe, despite our unbelief.
Amen.

WORD <i>God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.</i>
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FIRST READING **Acts 2:42-47**

A reading from Act.

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM **Psalm 23** **Liturgical Dance** *From Seasons of the Spirit*

During a memorial service, John Smith suggested that Psalm 23 could have been written by an older person, reflecting on a long and full life. The first line of verse 6 is adapted from "a New Creed" of the United Church of Canada.

God has walked with me; I could ask nothing more.
God has given me green meadows to laugh in, clear streams to think beside,
untrodden paths to explore.

When I thought the world rested on my shoulders, God put things into perspective.
When I lashed out at an unfair world, God calmed me down.
When I drifted into harmful ways, God straightened me out.
God was with me all the way.

I do not know what lies ahead, but I am not afraid.
I know you will be with me.
Even in death, I will not despair.
You will comfort and support me.
Though my eye dims and my mind dulls,
You will continue to care about me.
Your touch will soothe the tension in my temples;
my fears will fade away.
I am content.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with me.
All through life, I have found goodness in people.
When life ends, I expect to be gathered into the ultimate goodness of God.

--From Everyday Psalms, by James Taylor

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-33

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you O Lord.

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." ²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Peter Sinks in the Water (Unraveled by Uncertainty)

HYMN OF THE DAY **Big Enough to Hold Me**

1 The space in my mind is too small for You.
The space in my heart is too small for You too.
And all of things of the earth that I know,
Are too small for all of the greatness You've shown.
But in all of this I'm still facing my needs
And I'm scared of how big they feel to me.

I know You, You, You
Are big enough to hold me
I know You, You, You
Are big enough to hold me
I know You Lord, yeah You
Will carry me through.

2 The space between stars is billions of miles.
The space for the famous and millions of eyes.
But not all of the stars in the Heavens and Earth
None can compare to Your infinite worth.
And I still get lonely and wonder out loud
If anyone notices me in a crowd CHORUS

How great
How high
How deep
How wide
Is Your love?

3 The space in my mind is too small for You.
The space in my heart is too small for You, too.
And all of things of the earth that I know,
Are too small for all of the greatness You've shown.
But in all of this I'm still facing my needs
And I'm scared of how big they feel to me CHORUS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **Apostles Creed**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Sundays and Seasons*

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational ministries of your church. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering
especially Barbara W., Arlene, Kathryn, Chelise, Joan, Jennie, Dale, Sharon, Michelle, Jack, Ed, Haven, Shirley, and Barbara P. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations (*local ministries may be named*). May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray now for those close to our hearts, **ON THE SCREEN**

For joys/thanksgivings, sorrows/burdens

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called **Chuck and for Shaji** by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER Traditional

**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.**

OFFERINGS We worship God with our offerings.

OFFERTORY **Nocturn in A Minor** by Derek Nance, handbells

OFFERING PRAYER

(Pr. Scott) For the abundance of gifts that are ours,
we give you thanks.
For the chance to send them out into the world and build your reign,
we give you praise.

For the mystery of how all of our gifts –
whether time, love, effort, or treasure –
make a difference to you and to this
world, we say **“Hallelujah!” Amen.**

MEAL *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

(maybe next week)

SENDING *We are sent out to share God's message of love and grace*

BLESSING

SENDING SONG My Life flows on in Endless Song ELW 763

- 1 My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

- 2 Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*
- 3 What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain*
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

POSTLUDE

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