



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 9:30am

Prelude

Connie Stenzel

Welcome and Announcements

**A Blessing for the Baptized**

This is a blessing that remembers your baptism and tells the story even if your memory cannot. It watched a community gather around you. It heard the water poured and felt the love expand.

This blessing will travel every distance with assurance that baptism's promise does not wear thin over time. The gift is hardy and sure. You could not break it if you tried. Life has a firm grip on you, Beloved One. It is more than enough. And so are you.

*Please stand and face the processional cross as it enters*

**Gathering Hymn**

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Red 365

*You may be seated*

**The Baptism of Colton John Ehlert**

Parents: Corey & Makenzie Ehlert

Sponsors: Katlyn Slette, Ben Wigern, Leah & Jared Lamme

*Baptismal Liturgy*

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

C: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

L: 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**

*Holy Baptism*

L: Colton John,

C: **we welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Amen**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Greeting**

L: 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.**

**Hymn of Praise** "Christ Has Arisen. Alleluia" *Brad Heaen on Bonaos*

1 Christ has a - ris - en, the al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.  
Re - jice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.  
For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.  
e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
and in its con - quest his might did show.  
On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

*Refrain*  
C C<sup>7</sup> F

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.  
Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.  
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!  
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

**Prayer of the Day**

L: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you.**

L: God of Resurrection and Life,

**C: We sometimes have differences in our church. We're sorry about that. Help us to work them out. Fill us with whatever is honorable and pleasing and commendable to you. And help us experience the joy of resurrection life.**

**In the strong name of Jesus. Amen.**

*You may be seated*

**Reading** Philippians 3:17-4:9

L: A reading from Philippians

<sup>17</sup>Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and

now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. <sup>1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. <sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. <sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

L: Holy wisdom, holy Word      **C: Thanks be to God**

**Special Music**      “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” Bill Groskreutz, Sandi Hartman

### Children’s Time

*Please stand as you are able*

### Gospel Acclamation



**Gospel**      John 15:1-8

L: The Holy Gospel according to John      **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord      **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*You may be seated*

**Sermon**      “The Joy of Working Out Our Differences” Pastor Vern Christopherson

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn of the Day**      “This Is My Father’s World”      Red 824

### Sharing the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always      **C: And also with you**

*You may be seated*

### Offering

*Please stand as you are able*

### Offertory

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Red 656 vv 1, 2, 4

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
- 4 From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

### Prayers of the People

L: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*After each petition comes the response:*

L: God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

L: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **C: Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

*We are using the contemporary version through the season of Easter*

P: Lord, remember us when you come into your kingdom and teach us to pray

**C: 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Blessing

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **C: Amen**

*Please turn and face the cross as it exits*

### Sending Hymn

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

Red 380 vv1-4

### Sending

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

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## **Summer VBS**

**(Community wide, All are welcome)**

**4 days at Thompson Park**

**June 3-6, 9:30-11:30am**

**Turn your registration forms into the office or  
email them to [shepherd@bevcomm.net](mailto:shepherd@bevcomm.net) or  
[opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net)**

**Student and Parent helpers call or email the office!**

**Senior Recognition Sunday May 19th:** Congratulations 2024  
Graduates! Cards can be mailed or dropped off at the church office.  
(291 1<sup>st</sup> St SW)



**Kadyn Neubauer      Brian Possin**  
**Anna Jo DeLaittre    Chloe Lutteke**

**Looking Ahead:**

**May 1-** New members class- Desert with Pastor Vern!

**May 8-** Pie Sales End

**May 12-** Happy Mother's Day!

**May 19-** Graduate Recognition

**June 3-6-** 9:30-11:30 Community **VBS** at Thompson Park

Pastor Vern will be on an educational trip to Turkey from May 2-15. In case you don't know, much of the biblical story, including most of Paul's letters, come out of Turkey.

Pastor Dick Hegal from Blooming Prairie will be leading worship on May 5 and 8. And Kim Jacobson, our confirmation teacher this winter and spring, will be leading worship on May 12 and 15.

Pastor Vern expects to be back in the office on May 16.

Check out the bulletin board by the office for community information!

**Throw Back to the 70's- Nostalgic Church Basement Ladies Luncheon (May 8)**

First Lutheran Church 301 W Clarke St Albert Lea (Advanced tickets required)

**Preaching:** Pastor Vern Christopherson

**Head Usher:** Kent Stern

**Pastor's Email:** pastorGSLC@bevcomm.net

Crucifer: Jaelyn Stangler

*Pastor Vern will generally be in the office Tues-Sat mornings and many afternoons!*

**Assist. Worship Leader:** Linda Hagen

**Recorder:** Brad Heggen

**Administrative Secretary:** Amy Schroeder

**Treasurer:** Jackie Huper

**Broadcast Bevcomm Cable TV Channel 990:** Tues. -11:00am & Wed. -7:30pm & Sat. -11:00am

**Web Site (Live Stream):** <http://www.goodshepherdwells.org> E-mail: [shepherd@bevcomm.net](mailto:shepherd@bevcomm.net)

**Technical Advisor & Social Media:** Pat Ojanen can be reached at [goodshepherd@bevcomm.net](mailto:goodshepherd@bevcomm.net)

**Church office hours:** M-F 8:30-3:00 (Friday by appointment only)    **Church Phone:** 507-553-3513