



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Easter – May 8, 2022

+ Service of Word & Prayer + 10:30 am

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study – 9:00 am

Rev. Herbert C. Dolich, Pastor

One Pastor, Many Ministers

Lenna Harris- Music Director/Organist

Mike Riedinger – Assisting Minister

Marissa Reed – Lector

Introduction

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

+ GATHERING +

Welcome & Announcements (see the last page for additional announcements)

Choral Prelude “Good Shepherd of My Soul” arr. by L. Larson

Please Stand

Gathering Hymn “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!” ELW 385

Greeting

P For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

P 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.

P In the beginning was the Word,

C and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P In the Word was life,

C and the life was the light of all people.

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C and we have seen His glory, full of grace and truth.

Kyrie – page 203

Canticle of Praise – page 204 (Glory be to God in heaven...)

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

P O God of peace, You brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of Your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do Your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in Your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated

+ WORD +

First Reading – Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

L The first reading is from the 9th Chapter of Acts

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm – 23 (Read responsively by full verse)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading – Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

L The second reading is from Revelation the 7th Chapter

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation – page 205 (Alleluia! Lord and Savior...)

Holy Gospel – John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th Chapter

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon - Rev. Herbert C. Dolich

Time for reflection

Please stand

Hymn of the Day "Have No Fear, Little Flock" ELW 764

Apostles Creed – Confession and Forgiveness

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
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**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C Pray in the Holy Spirit.

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

A Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A Gentle Shepherd, enable Your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unflinching trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Feed Your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper Your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive Your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives (*especially*). God, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation *especially all those we name before You now*. Set people in their path who can provide the care they need and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding (*as did Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today*). Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in Your saving grace every day, guiding us to Your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Ukrainian Prayer – Choir by John Rutter

P In Your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

Peace

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please share our Lord's Peace with one another

Please be seated

Responding to God's Faithfulness with Giving

Offertory "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Bradbury / Ray

Choir Anthem "I Am His Lamb" J. P. Williams / L. Larson

Please stand

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray.

A Blessed are You, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day You shower us with blessings. As You have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise You and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer – Page 208

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father, who art in Heaven.....

C Amen.

+ *SENDING* +

Blessing

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator strengthen you;

Jesus the beloved fill you;

and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" ELW 502

Extinguishing of candles

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" arr. by V. C. Johnson

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Welcome to All Visitors who worship with us this morning. Jesus came to make God's love known to our world. May your worship with us make God's love known in your heart and in your life this day and always. We invite you to sign our Guest Register and introduce yourselves to the pastor after worship.

Flowers are given to the Glory of God in Honor our granddaughters, daughters and mothers by Deb and Brian Frace.

Bulletins are given to the Glory of God

~Please keep the following people in your daily prayers~

Rosie Lichner, Rhonda (Millheim) Fries, Dani Doll (father-in-law to Audra Doll), Bernadette Roeder (Anna Herb's sister), Cindy Rissmiller (friend of congregation), Gretchen Corcoran (Kama Mengel's sister), Ginny Siegfried, and Dave and Beth Meredith.

Please, take a few minutes to read through the prayer list and let Diane in the office know if any names should be added or removed.

This Week at Hope

Today - 05/08 -

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day
Service of Word and Prayer - 10:30 AM
Council Meeting**

05/09 – Monday -

Al-A-Non group 11:00 AM - Social Hall

05/10 - Tuesday -

WELCA Mother's Day Luncheon – 11:30 AM

AA 8:00 PM Social Hall

05/11 – Wednesday-

Sr. Choir – 7:00 PM

05/12 – Thursday -

AA 10:00 AM – Social Hall

AA Tatamy Women's Group 6:30 PM

Forks of the Delaware Bottlers Club 6:30 PM

AA, Al-A-Non 7:30 PM

05/13 – Friday -

05/14 – Saturday -

05/15 – Sunday -

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Service of Holy Communion - 10:30 AM

Birthdays this week

05/08 – Delbert Cressman
05/09 – Cody Houck, Pat Pritchard
05/12 – Karen Mellwig, Amanda Schomaker
05/13 – Tara Semos
05/15 – Maya Riffert, Denne Werkheiser

Anniversaries this week

05/08 – Deborah & Chris Kravatz
05/13 – Rebekah & Casey Schardt

“Hope -- An Anchor for the Soul”

Hebrews 6:19

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Aligned by Grace

As a group corners Jesus in the portico at the time of the festival of the Dedication, they are intent on determining whether he is the Messiah. Jesus’ response points to two things: the words he has spoken and the testimony of his works. Jesus’ words and works are aligned, and this integrity is grounded in the unity of Jesus and the Father.

People are complicated. We have an ability to justify ourselves when our speech and our actions do not align. We have a capacity to hold together contradictory ideas, some of which can be full of love, others of which can be harmful to our neighbors. We are not sometimes good and sometimes sinful, but both at once.

How does this paradox impact our integrity and our witness? Our words and actions matter in that they affect other people. To the extent that we can put effort into aligning our speech and our deeds in faithful ways, we should do so, but ultimately it is Jesus who draws us into alignment. The voice of Jesus is like the magnetic force that brings the compass needle to point north, or like the mechanic who adjusts the alignment on a car so it will steer straight.

We will inevitably get out of alignment with our values and our faith from time to time, but the voice of the Shepherd is always there to invite us back into alignment with grace and love. As we seek to live with faithful integrity, we do so with the promise that we cannot be snatched away from God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WELCA** will be having their annual **Mother’s Day luncheon** on Tuesday, May 10th. This year the luncheon will be held at Tony’s Pizza at their new location on Sullivan Trail (across from Braden’s airport) at 11:30 am. Please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board. All women of Hope are invited to attend.
- **The Nazareth Area Food Bank** has begun taking food donations again. In May the food bank will need baked beans, tuna, hamburger helper, mac & cheese, and pasta. Please place food in the box in the Narthex.

- A “**Congregational Challenge**” – The Evangelism Committee has come up with a challenge for every church member – ask a non-member friend, family member, or a neighbor to come to church with you. Each member who brings a (non-member) visitor, will be eligible to a quarterly drawing in our “**Each One – Reach One**”. Place your name and the visitor’s name in the fishbowl located on the table in the Narthex. Prizes will be gift certificates for Giant Food Store. Each One – Reach One slips are located by the fishbowl. For more information, see Brenda Knowles.
- We need volunteers to sign up for **Safe Harbor in Easton** – pick up food donations at Wegman’s on the first Saturday of each month and deliver to Safe Harbor. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board – for more information, see Bill Kiefer. **There is no one signed up after the month of May.**
- **FREE Organ** – A home Allen Organ including 2 manuals and full pedal board. May need some work. Currently located in the social hall. For more information, see or call Carol Frace 610-258-0289.
- **Vacation Bible School Information:**

**Vacation Bible School
July 25 – July 29, 2022
9:00 – 11:30**

Registration will begin May 15

**Register at:
hopetatamy.org**

We are in need of volunteers

Contact Tracy 484-695-7843



Food Truck Party VBS meeting for volunteers following church service on Sunday, May 22nd. Light lunch will be served.

Mothers Plant the Seeds of Love

A Mother's Prayer

*Thank you, Lord,
for bringing my children into my life.
Help me guide them
and teach them through example
to lead lives of wisdom
and strong, loving faith.
Please let them learn to serve you always
in thought and deed.
And remind me, Lord,
to always be there for my family
as you are always there for me.*

