

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
4th Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday
Sunday, April 30th 10:30AM
Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's Radio Broadcast is sponsored by Jim and Glenys Kraft
In memory of Jim's parents, Jim and Jan Kraft

Opening Litany

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**
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Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. **Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.** Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation. Wash away our sin and all that separates us from

you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need **through this living water.**

Where drought dries the earth, **bring refreshment.**

Where despair prevails, **grant hope.** Where chaos reigns, **bring peace.**

We ask this through Christ, **who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Lamb of God ELW 336

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died. The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

O God, **your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Message

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²The baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day 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, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm

Psalm 23

Phil Wickham Songs From Home

<https://youtu.be/29vHO57fcFY>

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth; Jesus has died and has risen

Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

Jesus said, ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Children of the Heavenly Father LBW 474

Children of the heav'nly Father, Safely in His bosom gather
Nestling bird or star in Heaven, Such a refuge e'er was given

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord, His children sever
Unto them His grace He showeth and their sorrows all He knoweth

Though He giveth or He taketh God His children ne'er forsaketh
His, the loving purpose solely to preserve them, pure and holy

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Peace

Offering

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, **our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Use them for your glory and strengthen us in the risen Christ. Amen.**

Offertory Response

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious God, **in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Blessing

The God of all, who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Have No Fear Little Flock LBW 476

Have no fear little flock; have no fear little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom have no fear little flock.

Have good cheer little flock, have good cheer little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock.

Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above

Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.