

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you show the light of your truth to those in darkness, to lead them into the way of righteousness. Give strength to all who are joined in the family of the church, so that they will resolutely reject what erodes their faith and firmly follow what faith requires; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:1-12

While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them, ²much annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there is the resurrection of the dead. ³So they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who heard the word believed; and they numbered about five thousand. ⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under

heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

⁴**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I 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; my cup overflows.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Joh 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him

²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

¹⁴“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: April 21st	Sunday: April 28th
Fourth Sunday of Easter	Fifth Sunday of Easter
9:15-Adult SS	9:15-Adult SS
9:30-Youth SS	9:30-Youth SS
9:30-Coffee Fellowship	9:30-Coffee Fellowship
10:30- Worship w/Communion & SS Sing	10:30- Worship
11:30-Potluck	Growth & Sharing Mtg following Worship
5:00-6:30-Youth Group @ FCC	4:00-Laurens Care Center Svc
Tuesday: April 23rd	
7:30AM-Prayer Group	
9:30-Morning Coffee	
Thursday: April 25th	
2:30-5:30-Blood Drive @ UMC	
Saturday: April 27th	
9:00-IMD Council Mtg @ Mason City	
11:00-Women of Bethany NALC Spring Mtg	

Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Velma Woodke, Gina Ehlers, Pete Runneberg, Myra Walstead, Elizabeth Dunbar, Bob Winkelmann, Linda Booth, Monica Isom, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Rodolfo Rezarin, Ely Kleszczelski, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

Lector: Jim Hodgell
 Ushers: April 21st-The Julian Johnsen Family
 April 28th-Myles & Shirley Pedersen
 Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Faith Promise \$1178.44 Worship 38
 Sunday School \$ 13.00 Adult SS 4 Youth SS 13
 Easter \$100.00

Birthdays: April 23-Scott Baker
Anniversary: April 24-Ken & Donna Sindergard

***Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.**

Altar Flowers:

An asterisk () indicates when to stand (for those who are able)*

ORDER OF THE SERVICE
 PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL
 WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION
 *CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56
 *HYMN *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* **CH 688**
 *GREETING P.57
 *KYRIE P.57
 *HYMN OF PRAISE P.60
 *PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)

MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD
FIRST READING: Acts 4:1-12
PSALM: Psalm 23 (bulletin – responsively)
SECOND READING: 1 Joh 3:16-24
 *ALLELUIA VERSE P.62
 ***THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**
 *GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
 CHILDREN’S SERMON SS SING
 SERMON **Pastor David Klappenbach**
 HYMN *The King of Love My Shepherd is* **LBW 456**
 NICENE CREED P.64
 *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Leader: “...Lord, in your mercy.”
Response: “hear our prayer.”

*THE PEACE
OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD
 OFFERING / *OFFERTORY P.66
 *OFFERTORY HYMN *We Who Were Once Dead* **LBW 207**
 *THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.67
 *WORDS OF INSTITUTION P.69
 *THE LORD’S PRAYER P.71
 *LAMB OF GOD P.72
 DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION
 *BLESSING P.72
 *POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE P.72
 ***BENEDICTION** P.76
 *HYMN *Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* **LBW 559**
 *DISMISSAL



April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter
WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT
TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME

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To our visitors! Welcome to our Sunday Service. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the visitor card in front of you. Please come again!

Welcome to our Communion Sunday Service.
All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the Communion/Visitor card in front of you. Please come again!