

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

309 Second Street North, PO Box 21, Pine River, MN 56474

Church Office: 587-2316

www.1stluth.org

Pastor Hans Anderson

Fourth Sunday in Easter

April 21, 2024

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements *(Please pass the attendance pad along the pew. If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address.)*

Sharing the Peace

Opening Hymn: "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is" (ELW 502)

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, And on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my

I am his And he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Look, here is water!

People: Here is our water of life! Alleluia

Pastor: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

People: Here is our water of life! Alleluia

People: Amen.

***Prayer of the Day:**

Pastor: Let us pray

People: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

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 being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being 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.'

¹²"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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;**

³ he 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.**

⁵ You 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: I John 3:16-24

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ How 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?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And 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. ²⁴ All 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 Announcement**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***Gospel:** John 10:11-18

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The 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. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I 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. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No 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."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is seated.

Song of the Day: "We Are All One in Mission" (ELW 576)

1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

***Statement of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

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.

***Prayers of Intercession:**

Pastor: 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.

A brief silence.

Pastor: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.



Offering



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*Offertory Prayer

People: Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer

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;
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.

Our
Father

† Communion †

All who believe in the death and resurrection as given in this bread and wine are welcome to the table today.

Please follow usher's guidance to come forward to receive communion and then return to your seat.

Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available from the communion server upon request.

You are welcome to this Table of our Lord.

Holy Communion Distribution

***Post Communion Prayer**

**People: Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.**

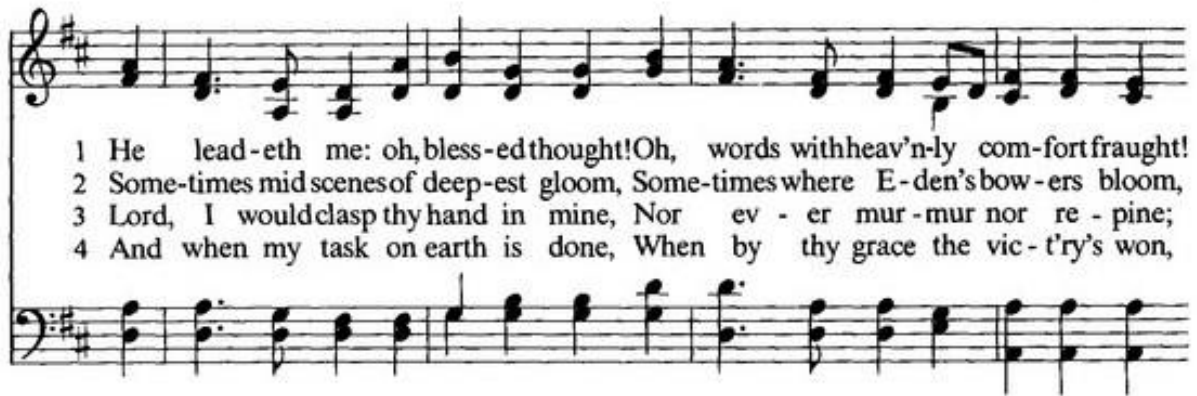
***Blessing:**

Pastor: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

People: Amen.



*Sending Hymn: "He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought" (LBW 501)

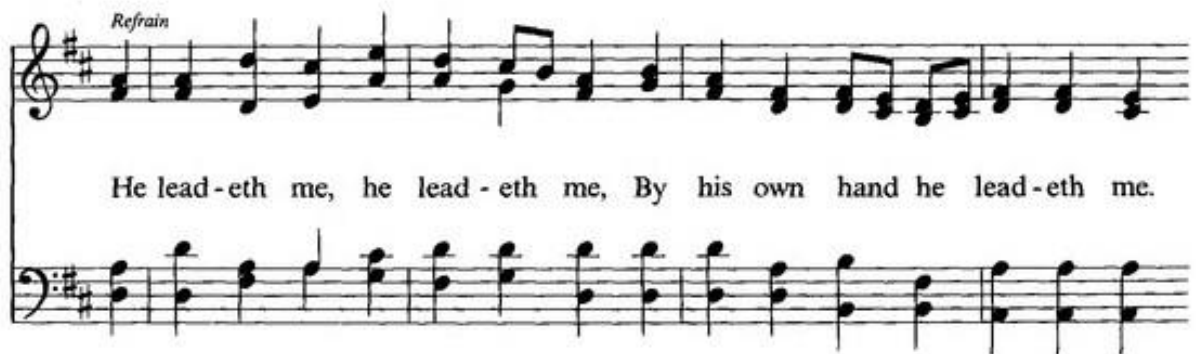


1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, Some-times where E-den's bow-ers bloom,
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, Nor ev-er mur-mur nor re-pine;
4 And when my task on earth is done, When by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,

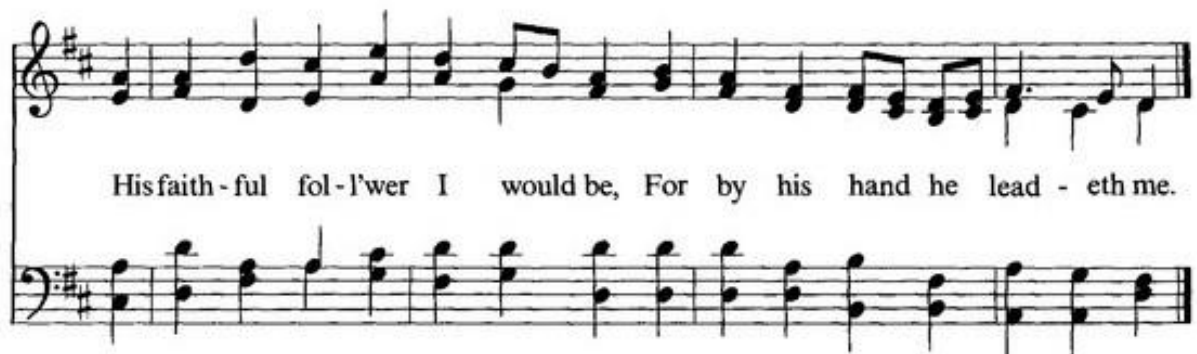


What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, Still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
By wa-ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, Still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
Con-tent, what-ev-er lot I see, Since 'tis my God that lead-eth me.
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God through Jor-dan lead-eth me.

Refrain



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, By his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, For by his hand he lead-eth me.

*Dismissal:

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Reader:	Rene Frigaard
Communion Assistants:	
Zoom:	Tyler Hoplin
Sound:	Denice Smith
Ushers:	Paul Pearson & Sanchez Guerrero
Altar Guild:	Irene Gearey, Penny Siewert & JoAnn Nelson
Counter:	Irene Gearey
Coffee	Gary & Colleen Moser

The Week Ahead

Sunday, April 21, 2024

4th Sunday in Easter

Worship Service (<i>in-person & Zoom</i>)	9:00 AM
Coffee & Fellowship,	10:00 AM
Sunday School	10:15 AM
Church Council	10:15 AM

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

Chosen Video

Supper	5:00 PM
Video	6:00 PM

Sunday, April 28, 2024

5th Sunday in Easter/Noisy Offering

Worship Service (<i>in-person & Zoom</i>)	9:00 AM
New Member Potluck	10:00 AM



Announcements

To view **Sunday Services** via Zoom, go to www.zoom.us and select the blue “Join a Meeting” link at the top center of your screen. Type in the following Meeting ID number and click the blue “Join” button.

Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m. – Meeting ID 818 0653 9643 Passcode 428158.

Bulletins can be sponsored for \$25.00 per week. The sign-up sheet is on the *Called to Serve* bulletin board in the Narthex.

April 28 is New Member Sunday. Please wear your name tags. We will be having a potluck following the service. Sunday School students and families will be setting up, serving, and cleaning up for this meal.

This morning, we welcome Julie Lepisto, Mission Interpreter Ministry NE MN Synod.

Next week’s **Noisy Offering** will be going to Lutheran Disaster Response. Lutheran Disaster Response share God’s hope, healing, and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

“Quiet Activity Bags” are available for children’s use during worship. They are at the back of the sanctuary on the right-hand side.



Community Events

Timber Bay will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at the Pine River American Legion. Suggested donations are \$10 per adult, \$5 for kids under age 12 and \$30 for the whole family. Funds help send Timber Bay students to camp and help pay for extracurricular activities. Timber Bay is a nonprofit, faith-based organization for area youth.

Come enjoy an Evening in Tuscany — a spaghetti dinner for **Faith in Action** for Cass County April 25 at Union Church Fellowship Hall in Hackensack. The meal is served at table, so plan to come and linger over dessert and live music with Larry Kimball and Friends. The meal is free and open to the public. Guests are welcome to give a free will offering at the door to support Faith in Action’s program of
“Neighbors Helping Neighbors.”



Prayers of Healing, Care and Joy

Those with medical concerns...

Caleb Prushek, great nephew of Jane Orth

Cleone Hoplin

Barb Richards

Lars Larson

Clifford, great grandson of Leonard and Jan Nelson

Bonnie Bandy, sister of Shirley Schmidt

Andy Anderson

Denny Aleckson

Harvey and Marion Kelley

Penny Siewert

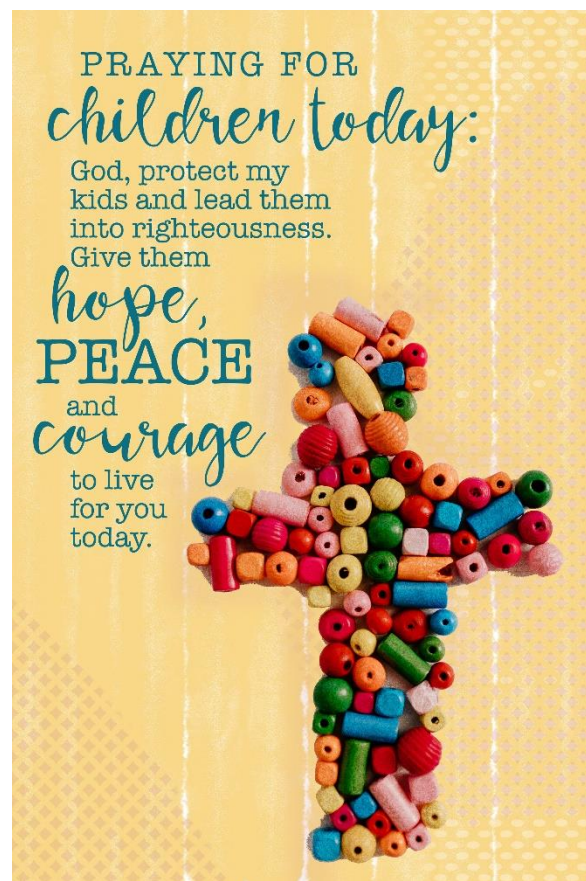
Gordon Greenwald, friend of Cora Hohnstadt

Vera Wahl, Sister of Ethel Hopper

Those in the service...

SMSgt Bradford, son of Bill & Kaye Schroeder

Captain A.J. Depman, nephew of Bill & Kaye Schroeder



The Chosen

April 24, 2024

5:00 PM Meal

6:00 PM Video

Episode 2 “I Saw You”

