

Prelude

Temple Talk (8:30 a.m.)

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

(Pastor) Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

(People) Amen.

Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Faithful and just God,

we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”

Hymn No. 385

Greeting

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

Hymn of Praise

“Now the Feast and Celebration”

Hymn No. 167

Prayer of the Day

(Together) **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.**

Teaching Moment

Children’s Sermon

(2)
WORD

First Lesson

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 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."

(After the reading:) The word of the Lord. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 (*Responsively*, Lector and People)

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.

⁴**Though 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.

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

Second Lesson

1 John 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

(Continues on next page)

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.

(After the reading:) The word of the Lord. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the worlds of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia,
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

John 10:11–18

(Spoken after the announcement) **R/ Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹¹I 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."

(Spoken after the reading) **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Christine Thomas-Echelbarger

Hymn of the Day

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Hymn No. 389

Nicene Creed

(Together) We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Confident that the resurrection of Christ has defeated sin and death, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

(After each petition:) Let us pray..... **Have mercy, O God.**

Hear our prayers for the sake of the one who has set us free, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R/ And also with you.

MEAL

Choir Anthem

"Savior, Keep Me Close to Thee"

Arr. Brad Nix (8:30)

Sue Cawley, Coral Director Connie Syslack, Flute

Offering

Offering Prayer

(Together) **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. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

R/ And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

R/ We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, living, and loving God...

Through him all glory is yours Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

(Together) **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; and 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.**

Invitation

Jesus said, "I am the true vine. Abide in me as I abide in you." All our welcome.

Lamb of God

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Distribution

We invite all baptized Christians and visitors of all denominations, even the youngest, to the table of the Lord. Children who desire a blessing rather than receiving the bread and the wine should stand with folded hands to indicate their preference. Please follow the ushers' directions to one of several communion stations in the sanctuary. If you need to have the sacrament brought to your pew, please inform an usher. Receive the wine or indicate a preference for grape juice by asking the server or pointing to the center of the tray.

Distribution Hymns

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Hymn No. 789

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Hymn No. 502

Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

R/ Amen.

Prayer after Communion

(Together) **Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us with the bread of heaven and the wine of love, Jesus our risen Savior. As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil, keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify to your grace in our words and actions; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction

Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death,
lift you up and restore you to wholeness.

Amen.

Jesus Christ, the Word of life,
bless you and send you to be his witnesses.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth,
refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Hymn No. 547

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. Serve the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude



The image of the Good Shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sister or brother in need.