Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024



St Andrew's & Unity Lutheran Church

San Mateo & South San Francisco, CA

www.unityssf.org

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GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Pastor John Kuehner

C: Amen

Call to Worship

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



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

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Apostolic Greeting

- 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.





Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

Prayer of the Day

Dearest 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 Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

WORD

First Reading: Acts 4: 5 - 12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day [the] 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."

Call and Response Reading: Psalm 23

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- ²The 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: 1 John 3: 16 - 24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] 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 Acclamation





Let it burn like fire with -in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Gospel Verse

P: The Gospel according to John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel – John 10: 11 - 18

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor John Kuehner



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.

Response to each petition

Prayers of Intercession

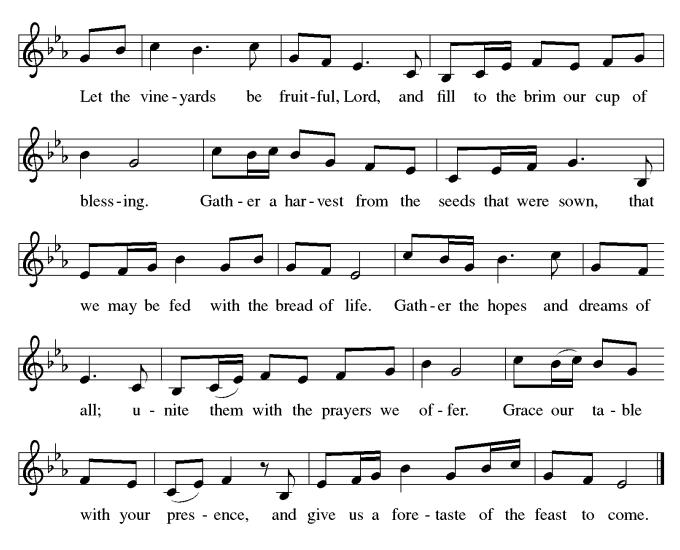
A: God in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Offering Time and Reflection

We believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

How do we respond to God's call to serve and love our neighbors? We faithfully steward the gifts God has so abundantly given to us. It is about how we use all that God has entrusted to our care — our time, our talents and our treasures — to love God and our neighbors, both inside and outside of the church walls and our homes.



MEAL

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

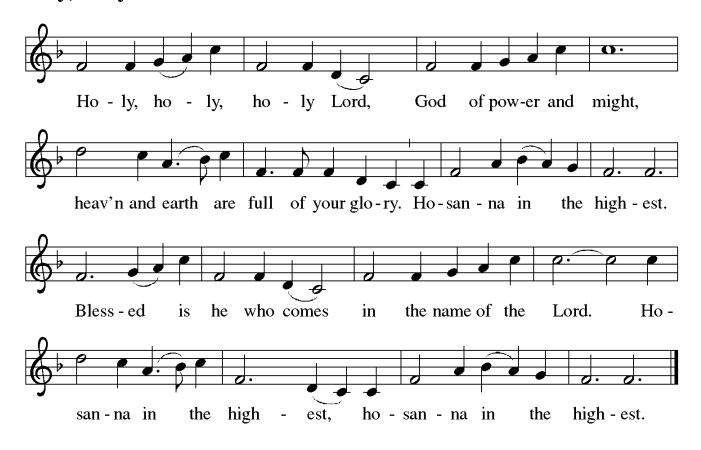
P: God be with you. P: Lift up your hearts.

C: And also with you. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy



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;
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.

SENDING

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Blest Be the Tie that Bonds

ELW 656

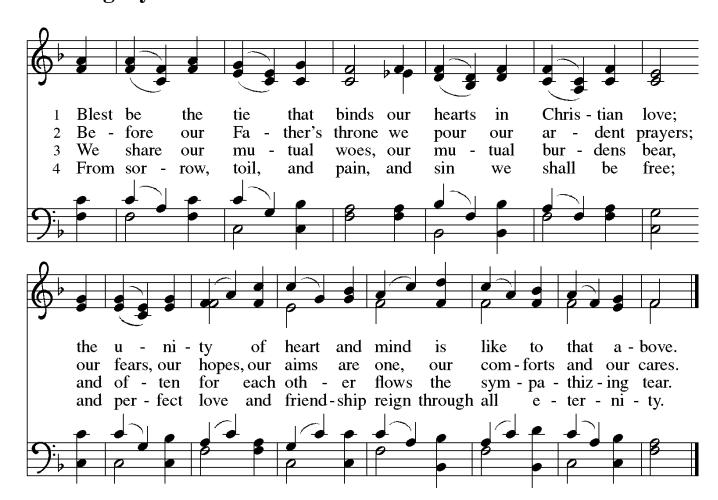
(Turn to final page)

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773-1836, adapt.