

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**May 8, 2022**

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska  
Rev. Jonathan Jensen, Transitional Minister, 402-768-3665

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

We gather together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 23)

P: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;

**C: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters;**

P: he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**C: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.**

P: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows.

**C: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

GATHERING HYMN: "The Lord's My Shepherd" #451 (LBW)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thought of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

**C: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat

up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (*Noisy offering is taken at this time.*)

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Jensen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Have No Fear, Little Flock" #476 (LBW)  
*Offerings will be received at this time.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

**C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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 THE PEOPLE

P: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

P: Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation. Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding (*as did Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today*). Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## THE 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.**

## BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" #183 (OSB)

## SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** It's wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here! If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book and feel welcome to come again. You are invited to come downstairs for refreshments and fellowship following worship.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Ann Lenners, and our shut-ins.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Jill Sasse, Rylynn Fritch (May 8), Cydney Howell (May 9), Sophia Pobanz, Callen Shufeldt (May 11), Courtney Hill (May 12), Myron Lienemann (May 14).

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to Adam & Kenya Keedy (May 8, 2013), Dustin & Amanda Fritch (May 9, 2009), Kellee & Kristen Remmenga (May 14, 2016).

**COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY** is in need of noodles of any kind. They are also requesting cereal. With school getting out soon there will be a need for the summer. Leave in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall and we will deliver to the pantry.

**SYNOD ASSEMBLY** is in Kearney June 2-4. Our delegates Pat and Virgil Jobman along with Pastor Jensen will be attending. The big item on the agenda is the election of a new Bishop. Candidates are listed on the Nebraska Synod website. The website is [www.nebraskasynod.org](http://www.nebraskasynod.org) and in the search box type bishop candidates 2022 and it should bring up the candidates for election. Let one of your assembly attendees know your feelings on the candidates.

**THANK YOU** to all who helped with donations to the April Thrivent project for CASA. We had a table full!!! Was delivered last week and Amber was appreciative. Please remember May Thrivent project to Ronald McDonald house and give with a cheerful heart to help others.

**THANK YOU** to Melvin Dorf and Brie Rehms for completing the roadside cleanup south of Filley.

**ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH** are invited to the Spring Gathering, Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the University of Nebraska Campus Lutheran ELCA, 535 N 16<sup>th</sup> St. Registration is from 8:45-9:15 a.m. Benediction at 2:00 p.m. Preregistration form available at [tinyurl.com/nebraskawelca](http://tinyurl.com/nebraskawelca). Parking \$5.00 all day lot parking or 2 hour metered street parking. No free parking available. In kind offering small items for kitchen, or cash donation. Cost is \$20.00 and preregistration is preferred.

**THANK YOU** to all the teachers, helpers, musicians, and cooks who help make BeLOVED possible. Your many volunteer hours have planted many seeds in our youth. Looking forward to seeing everyone next fall. Brenda.

**POP/CAN TABS AND ITEMS NEEDED FOR RONALD MCDONALD'S HOUSE IN OMAHA. LET'S HELP LIGHT THE WAY FOR FAMILIES STAYING AT THE HOUSE:** We continue to collect can tabs for the Ronald McDonald house in Omaha. This project will help families with costs to stay when their child is in a hospital in Omaha. Container for tabs is downstairs in the fellowship hall. Along with the tabs we are collecting other items the house is in need of. Ideas: Granola/breakfast bars, bottled water, canned pasta, baking cookie/brownie/cake mixes, black pepper, non-stick cooking spray/veg oil, tea, heavy duty paper plates, ranch dressing, bed pillows, gift cards, laundry detergent, hamburger helper, mac & cheese, on the go snacks such as fruit cups, crackers, cereal, children's books, hand soap, trash bags (13-35 gal.). **There will be a more complete list on a flyer in the back of church.** Please bring your items to church by May 29. This Thrivent Action Project is sponsored by Virgil Jobman.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** You are invited to enjoy an informational evening **Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Zion Lutheran Pickrell** with guest speaker, Amber Lovitt, Executive Director CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Gage County for abused and neglected children hosted by Zion's WELCA. Amber recruits, trains and mentors volunteers who are appointed by the County Judge to gather information. These children are in the court system of no fault of their own but due to abuse and neglect. They offer training services and supplies to the community to help children and families thrive together. Area churches have been invited as well, so please bring a friend. Refreshments will also be served.

**COMING UP:**

June 2-4 – Synod Assembly in Kearney

**SUNMART RECEIPTS:** Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called "Support Our Schools and Churches." All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall (or give to a council person). When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached our goal of \$150,000 three times so far and are starting over again with a balance of about \$32,000.00. You can also ask your check-out person if they have any extra receipts. They save the ones that people don't want and give them out – first come, first serve. Thank you to everyone who is helping with this ministry!

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** If anyone would like something published in the monthly newsletter email Dave Norton at [norton\\_dan@yahoo.com](mailto:norton_dan@yahoo.com) by the third Sunday of the month.

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE:** You can find our church website at [www.filleylutheranchurch.com](http://www.filleylutheranchurch.com) or by scanning this QR code:



**BULLETIN ITEMS** are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call Brenda Hippen or email her at [filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com)

**BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND** on our website, [filleylutheranchurch.com](http://filleylutheranchurch.com). Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Brenda at [filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com) with your email address.

#### **WORSHIP HELPERS**

Transitional Minister – Pastor Jonathan Jensen, 402-768-3665

Council – Virgil Jobman – President (402-310-6339), Stanley Fritzen – Vice President (402-239-2254), Linda Searcey – (402-223-8237), Brenda Hippen- Treasurer (402-688-4466), Ross Kaufman – at large (402-239-7845).

Reader: MaryAnn Harms Next Week: Kierstin Rehrs

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen Next Week: Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video: Norm Flesner Next Week: Dave Norton

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler Next Week: Contemporary Group

Fellowship: Jim & Carol Frerichs Next Week: Kevin Weiss