

The Peace

By dying, Christ destroyed our death; in rising, he restores our life; in giving us his Spirit, he grants us peace.

In that peace we affirm, with joy:

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

So we can say to one another: the peace of the Lord be with you!

And also with you.

Let us take a few moments to greet one another with signs of peace and reconciliation.

Doxology

Communion

Pewback Insert

Prayer After Communion

God of mercy, God of grace, we bless and praise you for nourishing us with this Easter feast of redemption. Fill us with your Spirit, and make us living signs of your love; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

Reception of Ministerial Candidate

Community Sharing

Offering

Hymn Of Response We Give Thee But Thine Own *lyrics 360*
(gospel rhythm, clapping on beats 2 and 4)

Affirmation Of Baptism

Hymn Of Dismissal Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 390

Dismissal With Blessing

Go in the peace and power of the Risen Christ, to love and serve God and your neighbor.

We are sent in the power of Christ's resurrection. Alleluia!

Next Week's Readings: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Preaching This Week: Lexi Baysinger
Celebrant: Niquita Hohm

Preaching Next Week: Rick McPeak
Acolytes: Emma Nord, Claire Amundson

St. Paul's Free Methodist Church

Fourth Sunday Of Easter

Call To Worship Sing Alleluia To The Lord URW 404

Greeting

The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

He goes ahead of them,

And the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

Opening Hymn Praise, My Soul, The God Of Heaven URW 75

Prayer

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Acts 9:36-43

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. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. 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." 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. 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. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 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.

Hymn My Shepherd, You Supply My Need URW 244

Second Lesson

Revelation 7:9-17

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. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 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, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" 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. 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. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; 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."

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Alleluia

URW p. 36

Gospel

John 10:22-30

R: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. 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." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

R: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Confession And Prayers Of The People

Scripture invites us: "Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us ... approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Dearly beloved, so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind for worship at the Lord's Table, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.