

Bulletin and Order of Service

May 3, 2020

4th Sunday in Easter

Notes on the Worship Service

+ Bishop Aitken has given all our Rostered Ministers the week-end of May 1-3 off in honor of their faithful work and tireless efforts at ingenuity during the “Stay at home” period. The attached liturgy and sermon is for use in congregations across the Northeastern Minnesota Synod. It was videoed at Knife River Lutheran Church, Knife River, Minnesota. Preacher is +Bishop Tom Aitken, Assisting Minister is Pr. Susan Berge (Pastor at Knife River Lutheran) and pianist is Carol Carlson. Staff Administrative Assistant Sarah Roe videoed and put together the service. The following bulleting is provided for your use and you are encouraged to sing along with the music, read the Psalm together, sing the responses to the prayers of the church, and provide an offering for the ongoing ministries of your congregation. Bishop Aitken reminds us all to continue to stay in place, and worship with our congregation’s online worship services until further notice. God’s peace to all of you during this continued pandemic.

Announcements

Prelude

Invocation Confession/Absolution

Bishop: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, +One God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Amen. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts 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. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we are captive 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.

Bishop: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

All: Amen.

All: Glory to God (sung together)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most high Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Bishop: O God our Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 23

A Psalm of David.

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.

The Holy Gospel:

John 10:1-10

¹⁰‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Sermon Bishop Thomas Aitken (See attachment)

Hymn Children of the Heavenly Father # 781 (verses 1,2)

Children of the heav’nly Father Safely in His bosom gather; Nestling bird nor star in
heaven Such a refuge e’er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish; From all evil
things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.

Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,

And he will come 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 Church

Note: After each petition, all sing together “Shepherd me O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life”

In our separate homes, but gathered together in the Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. After each petition ends with the words, “Hear us, gracious Lord” , we will sing the refrain, “Shepherd me O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.”

Shepherding God, draw us closer to You as our Good Shepherd, trusting in Your guidance and following Your lead. Give us hearts to love you, minds to know you, and wills to serve you. Draw us daily into closer communion with you and into closer community with those around us. Hear us, gracious Lord...

God of resurrection, from the very beginning you give the church the gift of witnesses, as preachers, teachers, and pastors. Bless all who proclaim the good news at this time, especially our local pastors, our Bishop, Tom Aitkin, and our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton. Hear us, gracious Lord ...

We give thanks for the technology by which we stay connected; for the food we have; for support of our community of faith. Bless the creativity of worship leaders during this time, especially for all who are assisting the digital sharing of worship, that the faithful be nourished. Hear us, gracious Lord ...

Lord’s Prayer

Offering *Please send your offering to KRLC, PO Box 218, Knife River, MN 55609*

Hymn: Now the Green Blade Rises ELW #731 (verses 1,4)

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, Your touch can call us back to life again;
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

Benediction

Bishop The God of all grace, +Bless you now and forever, Amen.

Closing Hymn: “God be with you till we meet again” ELW #536 (verse 1,2)

God be with you till we meet again,

By His counsels guide, uphold you, With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, Till we meet at Jesus’ feet; Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again,

’Neath His wings protecting hide you, Daily manna still provide you,
God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]

Dismissal

Bishop: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord

ALL: “Thanks be to God”