

4th Sunday of Easter – ELW 8  
April 26, 2026 – 8:15 & 10:45 am

Accompanist  
Liturgist

Dave Vagts  
8:15 - Jen & Vickie/10:45 - Lois

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*ELW = the red hymn book underneath your seat. Hymns are located in the back of the book.*

† *indicates stand as able*

### Gathering

***Prelude:***

***Welcome***

***† Confession and Forgiveness***

We confess our sins before God and one another.

**Merciful God, Give us the willingness to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you about the ways in which we have caused harm in this world. Give us the openness to see where our actions or failures to act have led to pain in those closest to us and in those far away. Do not let us sink further into self-harm through self-blame and hatred, but give us the courage to set right our wrongs, and to return to you again and again for forgiveness.**

The risen God has raised you to newness of life in Jesus' name. You are in Christ a new creation, and God forgives you every wrong. **Amen.**

***† Gathering Hymn: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!***

**ELW 377**

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

*Refrain*

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way, Christ in the center  
telling the story to open our eyes;  
breaking our bread, giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*

Jesus the vine, we are the branches;  
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,  
gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain*

Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:  
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain*

City of God, Easter forever,  
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
river of life, saints and archangels,  
sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain*

### **Liturgy of the Word**

**† Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;

that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

*† Prayer of the Day*

God of radical welcome, challenge us to hear your gospel in new and different ways, that our faith might be enriched and deepened as we struggle to find its meaning for us today. In the name of Jesus, who crossed boundaries and ministered to the marginalized, even to his own condemnation, we pray. **Amen.**

**Reading: Acts 16: 16-34**

<sup>16</sup>One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” <sup>18</sup>She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. <sup>19</sup>But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup>When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup>and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” <sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup>After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup>Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. <sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup>When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all

here.” <sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” <sup>31</sup>They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” <sup>32</sup>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup>He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**† Gospel Acclamation**

**ELW p. 188**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**† GOSPEL: Luke 6: 18-19, 22-23**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 6th chapter.

**Glory, to you, O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup>They had come to hear Jesus and to be healed of their

diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. <sup>22</sup>“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children's Sermon*

**Jen Christy**

*Sermon*

**Pastor Beth Wartick**

*Hymn of the Day: Hold On*

Paul and Silas bound in jail,  
Had nobody for to go their bail.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on.

*Refrain:*

Hold on, hold on.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on.

Paul and Silas began to shout,  
Jail door opened and they walked out.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on. *Refrain*

God gave Noah the rainbow sign,  
No more water, the fire next time.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on. *Refrain*

The only chain a man can stand  
Is the chain from hand to hand.  
Keep your eyes on that prize, hold on.

Hold on, hold on.

Keep your eyes on that prize, hold on.

### ***† Apostles' 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 Intercession***

With renewed confidence in your power and love, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

You have seen your servants through every trial. Stir up today the power of your Gospel to transform, renew and lead new believers to your community. God of new life, **Hear our prayer.**

Free us from our bondage to fossil fuels, single-use plastics, and other practices that cause harm to your beautiful creation.

Sustain the hope and hard work of those who labor to find new ways to live in harmony with all that you have made for the good

of those yet to come. God of new life, **Hear our prayer.**

Teach us and our leaders to use our gifts for good and not for dishonest gain. Make us to focus our efforts on behalf of those in need instead of exploiting others for our own benefit. May honesty, integrity, and love prevail over greed and manipulation. God of new life, **Hear our prayer.**

Your resurrection gives hope to all who despair of ever feeling whole again. Strengthen all who are in recovery, rehabilitation, or chronic treatment, and show them what hope looks like in the face of Christ especially Janet and Mary Ann. God of new life, **Hear our prayer.**

Sometimes we feel unworthy to stand in the company of great sufferers for the faith. Remind us that they, like us, were imperfect, yet empowered by your spirit. Gladden our hearts with the power we have through you. God of new life, **Hear our prayer.**

Hear all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, and gather them into your loving arms, for the sake of our risen savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*† Peace*

### **Liturgy of the Meal**

***Offering:** RLC Ministry relies on your generosity. You can make a gift in support of our ministry by placing it in the offering plates as they are passed, or by scanning the QR to give securely online. Thanks!*



### ***Offering Prayer***

Gracious God, you have gifted us with skills and abilities of every kind, along with the means to satisfy our material needs. We offer now a portion of these gifts that you would use them for

the work of helping your just and holy reign to break through into our suffering world. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

***† Great Thanksgiving***

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

***† Thanksgiving at the Table***

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

***† Holy Holy Holy***

**ELW p.190**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

***† Eucharistic Prayer***

***† Lord's Prayer***

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial

***Padrenuestro***

***Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre.  
Venga tu reino.  
Hágase tu voluntad  
en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas  
como también nosotros  
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación***

and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

*y líbranos del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es  
el poder y tuya es la gloria,  
ahora y siempre. Amén.*

### ***Communion***

*If you are communing at home, receive the bread with the words  
“The Body of Christ given for you,” and the cup with “The blood  
of Christ shed for you.”*

### ***Lamb of God***

**ELW p. 191**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

### ***Communion Hymn: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound***

**ELW 779**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;

his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

## Sending

### *Announcements*

#### *† Blessing*

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit † bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

*† Sending Song: Take My Life, That I May Be*

**ELW 583**

#### *Refrain:*

Take my life, that I may be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

Take my silver and my gold,  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use  
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

Take my voice and let me sing

always, only for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*

Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

### **† *Dismissal***

**Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. Thanks be to God.**

### ***Postlude***

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