

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Dove of Peace Lutheran Church May 8, 2022 9:30 a.m.

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Sunday, May 8, 2022

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PROLOGUE

Pamela Decker, pipe organ

Concerto I in G Major, BWV 592 Johann Ernst (1696-1715) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

I. Allegro

J.S. Bach transcribed five violin concerto works by colleagues to make them available as organ solo works: Two of them were composed originally by Duke Johann Ernst of Saxe-Weimar, who died not long after his 19th birthday, after a long illness. The remaining three transcribed concerto items were composed by Antonio Vivaldi. Johann Ernst had studied with Johann Gottfried Walther, a contemporary, cousin, and friend to J. S. Bach. It is a loss in the history of music that this gifted composer had such an untimely passing. Both of the works by Ernst that Bach honored with organ transcriptions are full of energy and elegant writing.

Pastor Stephen Springer

*GATHERING HYMN



Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt. Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

***G**REETING

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

Setting Three

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.







*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

A reading from Acts.

³⁶Now 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. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since 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." ³⁹So 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. ⁴⁰Peter 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. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

ELW 502



Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

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SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

A reading from Revelation.

⁹After 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. ¹⁰They 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, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I 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.

¹⁵For 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.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for 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."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. The acclamation is sung. After the cantor sings the gospel verse for the day, the assembly repeats the Acclamation.



John 10:14 Jesus says, I am ¹ the good shepherd.* I know my own and my ¹ own know me.

*GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

The Holy Gospel According to John. **Glory to you, O Lord**.

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

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

SERMON

Rev. Stephen Springer



Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes, "Lord in your, mercy," and the assembly responds, "Hear our prayer."

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

After the assembly and the presiding minster exchange the peace, you are welcome to share the peace with others. Please do not presume that shaking hands or other touch is suitable for everyone. There is no physical exchange of peace in the extra precautions (NE) quadrant of the sanctuary.

OFFERING

(In-person worshipers may place their contributions in the offering plate in the church foyer before or after worship.) www.doveofpeacetucson.org/donate Sheep May Safely Graze (from Cantata No. 208) J.S. Bach (1685-1750); Arr. Katherine Davis (1892-1980)

Originally scored for soprano soloist, two recorders and continuo, this famous aria from Bach's earliest surviving secular cantata has been transcribed here for choir and organ. Numerous other transcriptions of the pastoral music for various instruments and ensemble combinations have made the music some of Bach's most well-known. Arranger Katherine Davis translated and used the original first line of text and added sacred English words, which are fitting for this Good Shepherd Sunday.

Sheep may safely graze and pasture in a watchful shepherd's sight.

Though the valley dark is growing, clouds are gath'ring, winds are blowing, Night and death are drawing near,

Yet no danger shall alarm me, death and darkness ne'er can harm me In his arms I feel no fear.

Like a shepherd God doth guide us into pastures calm and blest; Safe we lie by peaceful waters, and like sheep securely rest.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



*PREFACE (Easter)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Setting Three



*PRAYER AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:



With this bread and cup we remember your Son,

the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.



*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please do not join hands with others unless you have prior consent.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.



*INVITATION TO THE MEAL

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. The gifts of God for the people of God.

The assembly sits.

Worshipers may stand or kneel at the altar rail, and then may lower their mask to receive communion. The bread wafer will be placed in your hand by the pastor. When the chalice is offered, you may dip the tip of the wafer into the wine, and then consume the wafer.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Pamela Decker, pipe organ

Concerto I in G Major, BWV 592 Johann Ernst & Johann Sebastian Bach

II. Grave

This is the continuation of a work that that began with our prologue. See the notes on page 2.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

COMMISSION

The Lord sends us forth into his world.

*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.



Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt. Music: ALLES ISTAN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt. Text © Oxford University Press.

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Concerto I in G Major, BWV 592 Johann Ernst & Johann Sebastian Bach

III. Presto

This is the conclusion of a work that that began with our prologue and continued during the distribution of communion. See the notes on page 2.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Dianne Huston, assisting minister John Hoelter, lector Eric Holtan, cantor Pamela Decker, organist

> The altar flowers are given today by Ed and Onita Davis to the glory of God and in memory of Ed's mother, Dorothy Davis, and Onita's mother, Queen Vashti Johnson.

Join our email prayer chain by going to doveofpeacetucson.org/emails







Seeking Worship Volunteers and Leaders

a time to revitalize May-June 2022

We are seeking individuals to join the team of volunteers that are essential to our worship service. We are seeking altar guild members, ushers, greeters, lectors, acolytes, communion servers, and assisting ministers. Training is provided.

Note that we now have two separate roles: "greeter" who welcomes people to worship; and "communion server" who distributes wine or bread. In the past these were both required of the same individual on the same Sunday. A "greeter" can be someone with mobility challenges, so long as they have a big smile and a warm welcome. A "communion server" needs to be able to move around the altar area carrying a chalice of wine.

Call 520-887-5127 or sign up online: www.doveofpeacetucson.org/worshipleaders/



May 8, 2022 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Aligned by Grace

As a group corners Jesus in the portico at the time of the festival of the Dedication, they are intent on determining whether he is the Messiah. Jesus' response points to two things: the words he has spoken and the testimony of his works. Jesus' words and works are aligned, and this integrity is grounded in the unity of Jesus and the Father.

People are complicated. We have an ability to justify ourselves when our speech and our actions do not align. We have a capacity to hold together contradictory ideas, some of which can be full of love, others of which can be harmful to our neighbors. We are not sometimes good and sometimes sinful, but both at once.

How does this paradox impact our integrity and our witness? Our words and actions matter in that they affect other people. To the extent that we can put effort into aligning our speech and our deeds in faithful ways, we should do so, but ultimately it is Jesus who draws us into alignment. The voice of Jesus is like the magnetic force that brings the compass needle to point north, or like the mechanic who adjusts the alignment on a car so it will steer straight.

We will inevitably get out of alignment with our values and our faith from time to time, but the voice of the Shepherd is always there to invite us back into alignment with grace and love. As we seek to live with faithful integrity, we do so with the promise that we cannot be snatched away from God.

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Dove of Peace Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

Rev. Stephen A. Springer, Pastor

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