

† SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION †
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Youth Sunday
April 25, 2021

PRELUDE

The King of Love

Don Freudenburg

INVOCATION and CONFESSION (*Congregation rising*)

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

C Almighty God, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, move us to serve You faithfully. Amen.

P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING VERSICLES

A Worship the Lord with gladness;

C come before Him with joyful songs.

A Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His.

C We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

A Give thanks to Him and praise His name.

C For the Lord is good and His love endures forever.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Almighty God, You called from death our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep. Lead us to the place of abundant life, that we may live together in love for You and one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

He Has Done Marvelous Things

Recorded by Youth Singers

Joshua & Zachary Gleason

Audrey & Lorelei Heath

Henry & Nora Podoll

FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus] laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE & PSALM (*Congregation rising*)

Psalm 23

P Alleluia. "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me."

C The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

YOUTH MESSAGE I

MUSICAL REFLECTION My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Mark Patterson

YOUTH MESSAGE II

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Alive in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers to God, who promises to hear and answer in steadfast love.

P Loving Shepherd, You call us to be Your own. Strengthen Your people wherever they are found, that we may all witness to Your great love and faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Gracious Shepherd, You provide green pastures and still waters to sustain us. Restore the goodness of creation so that it may abound with life. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Good Shepherd, You have called all nations to be part of Your flock. Fill our leaders and rulers with the passion to serve, and give them joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Abiding Shepherd, You teach us how to live as Your children. We give You thanks for the blessing of our young people, for the families that have nurtured them, and for the wonders that You have in store. Help us love one another and grow continually in faith and wisdom. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Shepherd of Life, You restore us to wholeness. Comfort those who are in distress. We pray especially for all on our prayer line and those we remember before You now...(PAUSE). In the midst of challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with Your Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Eternal Shepherd, in the assurance of resurrection hope we remember our loved ones who have died in faith. Bring us, with them, to dwell in Your house forever. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P These and all our prayers we lift up to You, O Lord, trusting in Your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the priceless grace You have bestowed upon us through Jesus Christ, who died upon the cross and rose again to make us living branches, drawing our life from Him and bearing fruit in all the world. Send Your Holy Spirit to renew our faith as we receive our crucified and risen Lord, who comes to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

C Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

P Take and eat, the body of Christ given for you...
(*We eat the bread*)

P Take and drink, the blood of Christ, shed for you...
(*We drink the cup*)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A O God, as You have fed Your children with true manna, the living bread from heaven, we pray that the body and blood of Your Son may be our support throughout our earthly pilgrimage, until we reach the land where there is neither hunger nor thirst; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

Keith Kolander

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Special thanks to our youth participants in the services this weekend:

	Youth Message	Youth Assistant
5:30	Lily Bennett Brendan Ortiz	Ingrid Krawiec
9:00	Lily Bennett Marco Renzo	Claire Story
10:45	Lorelei Heath Brendan Ortiz	Audrey Heath

All worshippers should continue wearing face coverings during the service and maintain social distancing. We also ask that worshippers exit the church in a timely fashion and fellowship outside on the great porch after services. This provides a safer environment and allows the sanctuary to be cleaned promptly.

News and Notes:

If you have any prayer requests or wish to submit information to the church office, please fill out the back side of the Attendance Form or contact Kim Rapillo, Church Office Administrative Assistant, at 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org.

Prayer Conference call continues each week on **Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.** Join Pastor Hartwell and Minister of Music Deb Reiss for quiet reflective prayer as we thank God for the blessings He provides and lift up the needs of world during the pandemic. The call-in number is (1) 732-434-3982.

SOUP KITCHEN MEALS: Our next date will be **Wednesday, April 28**. Please sign up in advance to choose your volunteer date and food item, pick up an aluminum tray (back of church or Reception Area), prepare food at home, and drop off at church between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. For more info, contact Nelly Palumbo at 347-538-2909 or NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org.

VLC is Ready to Live Stream Worship! Beginning **May 1**, we will live-stream all of our worship services. The live stream can be accessed through our website (VLC-NY.ORG) or Facebook Live. Tune in live (Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 9:00 & 10:45 am) or view an archived copy at a later time. As we emerge from the pandemic, this system provides an ongoing in-home option for those who cannot attend church in person. It will also allow anyone who is not in the area to take part virtually in our worship and special events such as First Communion, Confirmation and holiday services.

A Memorial Service for Bob Roberts will be held at VLC on **Saturday, May 1, at 2:00 p.m.** We will include music that Bob wished to have in his memory, and give thanks for his life in our community of faith. For those who cannot attend, the service may be viewed online by going to <https://boxcast.tv/view/memorial-service-for-bob-roberts--saturday-may-1-at-200-pm-yz3bdbqijq5i8jqvhx0>

1st Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 2, at the 10:45 service.** Please note that our new live-streaming capability allows family and friends to view the service remotely if they are unable to attend.

New Member Open House - If you are interested in joining VLC or finding out more about the Lutheran faith, join Pastor Geminn in a Zoom session on **Wednesday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m.** To sign up, call the church office at 914-337-0207, x1003 or email Pastor Geminn at SGeminn@VLC-NY.org.

Bronxville Interfaith Prayer Service - In honor of the National Day of Prayer, all are welcome to assemble at Bronxville Village Hall on **Thursday, May 6, at 9:00 a.m.** Hosted and led by Bronxville area clergy.

GATHERING OF FRIENDS 2021: Tickets are now on sale for our outdoor, socially distanced Spring Festival to be held right here at our campus on **Saturday, May 15, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.** Activities and treats for every age, including delicious food, a circus show, games and more. To purchase tickets or find out more information, go to www.Gathering-of-Friends.org or call Kim Zwisdak in the Development Office at 914-337-0207 x1040.

Singing in Church - We have missed singing together in worship, but considered it best to wait through the worst of the pandemic. We are now ready to start including hymns in our live worship services. **Beginning the weekend of May 15/16**, Ascension Day observed, we will sing a Hymn of the Day. As we progress towards summer, we intend to add more and more music to the service. *Sing to the Lord a new song!*

Women's Bible Study/LWML Group will hold its final meeting before the summer break on **Saturday, May 15, at 9:00 a.m.** in the MPR. Remote participants will also be able to join via Zoom. We will be discussing chapters 20-21 of the Stormie Omartian book and looking at options for next year's study. For more information, contact Deacon Wendy Krolides (914-391-9356) or Terry Vidal (terry.n.vidal@gmail.com).

Blessing Basket/Food for ECAP: Drop off items in the Blessing Baskets in the Friendship Room on weekends or leave them with the receptionist during the week. Outdoor drop-off in the Concordia parking lot is available on the third Thursday of the month. The next date is **May 20**.

Pentecost Piano Recital - A benefit concert for the Chapel School by Matthew Martinez. Hear live music in our beautiful sanctuary as Middle School teacher Mr. Martinez plays piano favorites on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23**. There will be two performances, **at 3:00 & 6:00 p.m.**, with limited seating to accommodate social distancing. Tickets are \$20/adult and \$10/child (18 and under), with all proceeds going to support our school. Pick up an order form at the Reception table and submit with your payment or go online to <https://tinyurl.com/May23Piano>. If space is still open, tickets will be available at the door for \$25. Order now!

Baccalaureate Sunday will be June 6. If you have a graduate you would like to celebrate, please provide the following information: (1) Name of graduate; (2) Name of school; (3) Plans for fall, if known. Use the back of the Attendance Form or contact Kim Rapillo in the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org. The deadline to receive information for printing in the bulletin is **Sunday, May 30**.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Frank Clark, Rev. Rudy DeRosa, Annabella Hansen, Tiffany Ramos Meneres, Amy Alfonsi Moll, Norah Murphy, Barbara Norman, Sylvia Puig, Lila Slattery, Ben Tashoff

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Rev. Dr. Frazier Odom**, father of Monique Nunes, who passed away on April 20, 2021
- † **Andres (Andy) Romero**, step-father of Lisa Stelzer, who passed away on April 13, 2021
- † **Rev. Henry Koepchen**, member of the Concordia Class of 1952 and pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church in Setauket, NY for his entire ministry, who passed away on April 12, 2021
- † **Kevin Warnken**, husband of Mindy Warnken, Associate Organist and Receptionist at VLC, and beloved member of our community, who passed away on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021
- † **Virginia Giunti**, sister of Louis Martucci and sister-in-law of Carol Martucci, who passed away on March 19, 2021

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
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914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG