

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

The First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let 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. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How 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?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And 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. All 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.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

John 10:11-18

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No 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."

After the Gospel, the Priest says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

2nd: Kara Smith
 4th: Rose Feazell
 7th: Meg Cammack
 12th: Barbara McClellan
 16th: Melinda Smith
 23rd: Laura Buckner

Longview Community Ministries

They are the principal organization in Longview that helps people with all sorts of emergency services, including food. They have asked us to help by donating canned fruits and vegetables during this season when food bank donations are down, and the need for services has increased. We will have a basket in the Narthex for ongoing donations. Please donate if you are able.

NEXT Sunday's Servers (05/02)

Cameras & Streaming: Danielle Martin
Danny's Team: Susan Kuhlman
Greeter: Roxanne Brink
Lector: Mary Lynn Dawes
Sound Board: Jonathan Roberts
Ushers: David Brown
Vestry People: Laura Buckner, Andy Sanders
Worship Tech: Amy Brown

This Sunday's Servers

Cameras & Streaming: Danielle Martin
Danny's Team: Susan Kuhlman
Greeter: Catherine White
Lector: Robyn Murphy
Sound Board: Harrison Brown
Ushers: Bryan White
Vestry People: Amy Brown, Roxanne Brink
Worship Tech: Amy Brown

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Cathy
- Aaron, Roni, & Tom
- Lorraine
- Pete & Margie

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
03/28/21	\$3,110	\$2,946	\$164
04/04/21	\$2,285	\$2,946	-\$661
04/11/21	\$940	\$2,946	-\$2,006
04/18/21	\$1,570	\$2,946	-\$1,376
YTD TOTALS	\$37,532	\$47,143	-\$9,611

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