

Vasa Lutheran Church
Church at Thessalonica!

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

Sunday, April 21, 2024

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN

COME THOU ALMIGHTY KING

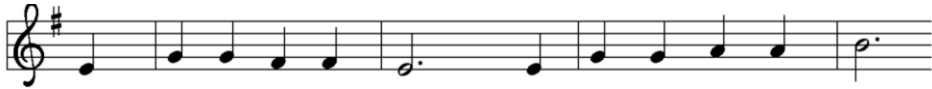
ELW 408

GREETING

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

C: and also with you.

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol-emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer-cy on us, Christ, and wash a-way our sin.
- 3 Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de-part.



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be-gin.
Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for-ev-er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a-lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre-a-tion, Fa-ther of sur-pass-ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav-ior, you have come from heav'n a-bove;
Ho-ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex-alt you, we a-dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir-it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an-gels bow be-fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re-store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in-her-it, glo-ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Messiah Jesus, **your followers established churches in communities near and far. Take us outside of ourselves and teach us to give away what you have given to us. Show us how to witness to your presence in places near and far. Amen**

HYMN

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

ELW 512

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Acts 17:1-9 After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." 4 Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. 5 But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. 6 When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, 7 and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." 8 The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, 9 and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9 For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

ELW 512

We will sing this twice.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

ELW 619

CONFESSION OF FAITH using the words of the 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 THE CONGREGATION: Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

CONSECRATION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS: *After the consecration of the communion elements you will be invited to partake in the body and blood of Christ. We believe that God is present with us whether we are kneeling at a railing, sitting in a pew or participating in worship in our homes.*

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness

to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Communion will be distributed by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER Shepherding God, **you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and savior. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:

GOD WHOSE GIVING KNOWS

ELW 678

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Paul Mikaelson, Jay Mikaelson,
Scott Sorenson, Max Tilderquist,
Anne Rathman, Wendy Anderson,
Dale Anderson and Lorrie
Samuelson.

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Marvin Fredrickson
Reader: Melanie Carlson
Hospitality: Gail Strusz-Klein
Comm. Asst.: Megan Carlson

**Worship Assistants Next Week
(April 28th)**

Usher: Duane Hanson
Reader: Jessica Anderson
Hospitality: Marilyn Hanson

MUSIC FOR APRIL 21st, 2024

COME THOU ALMIGHTY KING

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.

Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace
Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

**GOD WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO
ENDING**

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Offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary and by the east door. They are there to receive your offering as you enter the sanctuary for worship.

Parish Pulse:

APR 14th, 2024

Participating in Worship: 45

10 live-streams

Total Offerings:

\$3,065.00



In preparation for next winter, Vasa will gladly accept donations to the fuel fund. Just note your intent on the memo line of the check. Thrivent Choice \$\$ can also be used, but you must let Kathy T. know so she can make the transfer out of the general fund.



Rummage Sale

THIS WEEK!

DROP-OFF TIMES

TODAY: 10-1

MON: NOON-7

TUES: NOON-7

WED: 9-7 **BAKE SALE ITEMS ONLY**

THURS: **SALE OPEN 9-7**

FRI: **SALE OPEN 9-4**



BAKE SALE ITEMS NEEDED!!

**pies, cakes, coffee cakes,
bars, rolls, cookies, breads,
buns...**

**Please package items on
paper plates with clear
wrapping.**

DROP OFF WED ONLY by 7pm



DONATE YOUR OLD EYEGASSES OR HEARING AIDS!

If you have old hearing aids or eye-glasses lying around, remember that they can be donated to the local Lion's club! If you want to bring them to church or to the Lutheran Center, someone will make sure they are delivered.