

Vasa Lutheran Church

You Shall Be My Witnesses

Worship led by Bill Peterson

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

Sunday, April 7, 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

A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING!

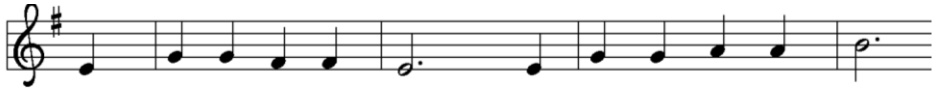
ELW 393

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-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: Lord Jesus, **after your death and resurrection you sent your followers into the world to proclaim your resurrection to the entire world. Send us into the world to bear witness to all you have done in our lives. Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 1:1-14 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning 2 until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." 9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11 They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. 13 When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14 All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

THE KING SHALL COME

ELW 260

SERMON

HYMN and CONFESSION OF FAITH

"I Believe"

Sung to the tune of "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

I believe in God the Father, the Almighty God above,
Maker of the earth and heaven which were formed in God's great love.
And in Jesus, loving Jesus, God's own Son, who makes us new.
This, the creed of generations, is the faith for our church, too.

Jesus, by God's Holy Spirit, was so wondrously conceived,
Born unto the Virgin Mary, who your promises believed.
Jesus suffering under Pilate, on a cross was crucified.
Soldiers mocked him, friends denied him; he hung there until he died.

So it was, our Lord was buried, in a borrowed tomb he lay.
To the dead he then descended, where was joy on earth that day?
There is more to God's great story: In three days he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and he sits at God's right hand.

I believe what God has promised: Christ will come as he has said.
He will judge the nations' peoples, both the living and the dead.
I believe God's Holy Spirit makes the church one family.
We're surrounded by God's people, saints who in our Lord believe.

I believe that God forgives us for the times we turn away,
And that God will raise our bodies on that resurrection day.
We rejoice we'll live forever, singing praise to God's great name.
This, the creed of generations, is the faith that we proclaim.

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

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

SENDING HYMN:

O ZION, HASTE

ELW 668

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, Geri Lindholm, and Dale Anderson, and Lorrie Samuelson.

Parish Pulse:

MAR. 28, 29, 31

Participating in Worship: 253

17 live-streams

Total Offerings:

\$4,365.00

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Tanner Carlson

Reader: Tim Carlson

Hospitality: Kent Volz

Worship Assistants Next Week (April 14th)

Usher: Steve Hyllengren

Reader: Mark Hagen

Hospitality: B-J Norman

REMINDER:

VASA TEAMS MEET Monday Night!

It's not too early to sign up for Good Earth Village Summer Bible Camp for Summer 2024. Sessions begin on June 23rd, and go through August 7th.

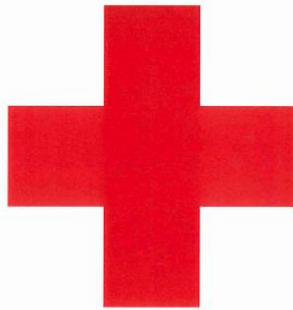
For more information, visit

www.goodearthvillage.org/summer

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



**Vasa Lutheran Center
Blood Drive**

15235 Norelius Rd
Welch, MN 55089

**Monday, April 8, 2024
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 9, 2024
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: vasa.lutheran to schedule an appointment.



Make an impact: Come give blood 4/8 to 4/28 for a \$10 gift card by email to a merchant of choice!



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App
©2018 The American National Red Cross

1/24/2024 10:00:00 AM 15235 Norelius Rd, Welch, MN 55089

Vasa Family Night

Wednesday, April 10th
5:30-7:00pm
Vasa Lutheran Center

Light Meal
Activities & Crafts
Dragonfly Devotional

All Are Welcome!



**APRIL 25TH & 26TH
DOORS OPEN AT 9AM EACH DAY.**

The 2024 Vasa/Welch Area Rummage Sale is coming up soon and it's never too early to start sorting!

SEE THE APRIL VASA VOICE FOR MORE SALE DETAILS!

MUSIC FOR APRIL 7, 2024

MUSIC FOR APRIL 7, 2024
A HYMN OF GLORY, LET US SING!

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

THE KING SHALL COME

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O ZION, HASTE

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923

Music: James Walch, 1837-1901

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*We, the Vasa Congregation,
Called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together,
Growing in faith
Serving others, and
Welcoming and loving all!*