

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2021

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Peace Website: www.peacelutheranrr.com

English Website: elc-cl.faithlifesites.com

IN OUR PRAYERS we remember: Marcia Neelly, Kirk Aeilts, Walt Dibbern, Dennis Reuvers, Beverly Baker

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Order of Service Hymns English 904 709 700
Peace 411 In Christ Alone 700

THIS WEEK AT PEACE AND ENGLISH:

TODAY 11:15 a.m. Voters Meeting

April 25 8:30 a.m. Worship at English

April 25 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Studies

April 25 10:15 a.m. Worship at Peace

April 27 10:00 Bible Study

April 27 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at English

April 28 2:30 p.m. Confirmation

April 29 Noon Bible Study

HYMN OF THE DAY: The readings for this Sunday highlight God's love for his people. John writes in our epistle lesson, "By this we know love, that Christ laid down his life for us." Our sermon hymn, *In Christ Alone*, shows us the magnitude of Christ's love. In verse 1, Christ is our cornerstone, whose "heights of love and depths of peace" still our fears. In verse 2, Christ takes on flesh. He is God's gift of love and righteousness, carrying all our sins to the cross. Verse three celebrates the resurrection. Sin has lost its grip on us because we have been bought from sin with the precious blood of Christ. That is love. Finally, verse four shows our reaction, the only possible reaction, to such great love. "From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny." Here in the love of Christ we stand.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER: With patient and loving care, Christ looks upon each and every sheep in His flock. Such care above all else is demonstrated in that He laid down His life for us and took it up again three days later. Since He was willing to die for us upon the cross and lives today, surely He daily cares and tends to our needs as our shepherd in order to guide us into life everlasting.

BIBLE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 8:26-40 1John 4:1-11 John 15:1-8

FROM PASTOR ALEX: Spring is here. The fellowship hall is reopened, and I am looking forward to getting to know every family in the parish. If you would like a visit, you can sign up in the fellowship hall or call the church office. My goal is to visit every family once this year. I look forward to seeing you soon.

PEACE LUTHERAN LIBRARY A list of books that are missing from the Church Library is on the bulletin board by the office. Please check at home to see if you have any of these books.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR IS BACK!!! Peace has opened the fellowship hall for after service coffee and fellowship. There is a sign-up sheet in the back if you would like to provide snacks and beverages.

NORTHWEST ZONE LWML RALLY The Spring Rally will be April 28th at St. John Lutheran in May City. Registration at 1:00 p.m. and Rally at 1:30 p.m. Daughters will be collecting new men's, women's, and children's underwear, bras and socks for Orphan Grain Train to take to the Rally. There is a box in the Fellowship Hall for donations until Tuesday, April 27th.

MAY BREAKFAST Due to the COVID restrictions in place at Holy Name Catholic Church, Rock Rapids, they are **not** able to host the May Breakfast this year.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Hello Everyone! Rainforest Explorers will be our VBS theme this year. We are very excited for this summer's program! VBS will be Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 11 from 8:30-12:00. To register, please go to vbsmate.com/peacelutheranchurch. VBS is in need of volunteers for the kitchen, crafts, and also teachers! What a great opportunity to connect with our youth! We are also accepting snack donations! Please let Natalie Larson know asap if you are able to help out, her number is 719-641-7547. Thank you in advance!

DAUGHTERS OF PEACE will have a Spring Rummage and Bake Sale on May 7th. Please start accumulating your good, clean, used items for the sale. Children's clothes up to size 12 will be accepted-no adult clothes. If you have any special items that you are donating, please let a member of Daughters know so it can be advertised to bring more people to the sale. Please bring baked goods Thursday, May 6th after 4 p.m. or Friday morning. Anyone willing to help with set up at 4:00 p.m. Thursday is very welcome. Thank you for your support.

THIS MONTH Daughters of Peace will collect canned fruit for Atlas. Thank you all for your support in our monthly projects.

ACOLYTE TODAY is Kari Huygens. Next Sunday will be Amber Langholdt.

USHERING TODAY is Team 3; Next Sunday is Team 4: Wayne Ranschau, Brad Vogel, Gary Delfs, Marv Flier, Wayne Jepsen, John Schulte

+ HOLY BAPTISM +

HYMN 411: I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

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

C Amen.

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

P How are you named?

R Akeyla Rose Marie Pourier

P Akeyla, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Akeyla according to Your boundless mercy and bless her with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in her, which has been inherited from Adam and which she committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that she be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, she would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

P Is it your intention to serve Akeyla as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R Yes, *with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C Amen.

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to Jesus that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LORD'S PRAYER

P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even ✠ forevermore.

C Amen.

P Akeyla, do you renounce the devil?

R Yes, *I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R Yes, *I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you believe 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?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you 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?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Akeyla, do you desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Akeyla, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

C **Amen.**

P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Akeyla the new birth in Holy Baptism and made her a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as she has now become Your child, You would keep her in her baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure she may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Heavenly Father, You sent Your own Son into this world as the child of the virgin Mary. We thank You for the life of this child entrusted to our care. Help us remember that we are all Your children and so love and nurture her that she may attain to the full stature intended for her in Your eternal kingdom, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 4:1–12

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

God has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:16–24

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

Romans 6:9; John 10:14

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11–18

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

After the Reading

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: IN CHRIST ALONE

See Insert

SERMON

OFFERTORY

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.
C Amen.

HYMN 700: LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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