



Epiphany Lutheran Church
 2375 GA Hwy 20 SE, Conyers, GA 30013
 (770) 483-6222
 www.conyerselc.org

April 21, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome all who believe in Jesus Christ to the Lord’s Supper as we partake in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. For those who would prefer, grape juice is available in the center ring of each serving tray. If you do not wish to receive communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing. God’s forgiveness and love is for everyone.

We are honored that you are with us today and we ask everyone to please sign the *Friendship Register* in each pew. Visitors are asked to also complete a *Visitors Card* from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Again, Welcome!

***Invites the Congregation to stand.**

HOLY COMMUNION

“Now the Feast and Celebration” - Musical Setting by Marty Haugen

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

[P] Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

[C] Amen.

[P] Look, here is water!

[C] **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

[P] 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!

[C] **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

[P] 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.

[C] Amen.

[P] Look, here is water!

[C] **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

***Gathering Hymn:** *“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! Alleluia!”* ELW #369

As the hymn begins, the congregation turns toward the entrance to face the processional cross.

*Greeting

[P] 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**

Leader



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have



For the reign of God, and for



mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the



(continued on page 4)



Lord. For your



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your



word, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have



Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.



mer - cy. A - men.



***Hymn of Praise**

“Now the Feast”

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has
Refrain
freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and
Refrain
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of
Refrain
God; to make all things new.

***The Prayer of the Day**

[P] The Lord be with you.
[C] **And also with you.**
[P] Let us pray...
[C] **Amen**

Insert

Children’s Message

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

Children’s Church (*Children are invited to the Fellowship Hall for further worship/education.*)

The First Lesson: Acts 4:5-12

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.
[C] **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 23; refrain, Ps. 23:1

Insert

(*Congregation sings verses in **bold** print only.*)

The Second Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.
[C] **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we
go? _____ You have the words of e - ter - nal
life: Al - le - lu - ia! _____

Repeat

***The Gospel:** [P] The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 10th chapter.

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 10:11-18

Insert

[P] The Gospel of the Lord.

[C] **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

***The Hymn of the Day:**

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

ELW #764

***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 into hell. 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

***The Prayers**

Insert

After each portion of the prayers:

[A] God of grace,

[C] **hear our prayer.**

***The Peace** is shared by all.

[P] The peace of the Lord be with you always.

[C] **And also with you.**

*The minister and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

The Offering

Offertory:

“Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing”

Gordon Young

***Offertory Hymn**

“As the Grains of Wheat”



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

***Offering Prayer**

[A] Let us pray together,

[C] **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Presider: Congregation: Presider: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Congregation:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

[P] It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you God of po - wer and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

[P] 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.

[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.

The Communion *Please follow the instructions of the ushers in coming to receive communion.*

The Congregation is invited to sing “Lamb of God”.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
 you are God's word of pro-mise made flesh:
 you are the way of jus-tice and peace:
 you are the way of mer-cy and love:
 mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us,
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns: (1) “*Let Us Break Bread Together*” ELW #471
 (2) “*I Am the Bread of Life*” ELW #485

***Post-Communion Blessing**

[P] Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus’ name.

[C] Amen.

***Praise to You, O God of Mercy**



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b’ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

***Post-Communion Prayer**

[A] 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 friend.

[C] Amen.

***Benediction (Blessing)**

[P] God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.

God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

[C] Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** “*God Be With You Till We Meet Again*” ELW #536

As the cross is carried out during the singing of the hymn, the congregation turns to face the cross.

***Dismissal**

[All] Follow Christ, Live Faithfully, Serve All. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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