



ST. GEORGE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

Website: www.stgeorgelutheran.org

April 21, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Phone 810-229-6670

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Welcome! We are glad you're here!

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.

Prepare Hearts for Worship

Welcome and announcements

Sharing of the Peace

Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

Confession and Forgiveness

Saving Lord...

We often love in what we say, but not in truth and action.

We often take instead of give,

**and we try to fill our physical and spiritual needs
instead of the needs of others.**

Often, our living is not centered on you.

Our Lord Jesus gives us the greatest gift:

he lays down his life for us, and takes it up again,

but we desire lesser gifts

and we are unwilling followers of our Shepherd, Jesus.

Lord you know the truth in our hearts, better than we do,

Forgive us for the sins we can name, save us from the sins we hide.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God reassure our hearts: The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Jesus Christ lays down his life for us, and takes it up again.

For Christ's sake our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Entrance Hymn:

Christ Be Our Light

#715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness

Longing for truth, we turn to You.

Make us Your own, Your holy people

Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

Longing for food, many are hungry

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us Your bread, broken for others

Shared until all are fed.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us Your building, sheltering others

Walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

Many the gifts, many the people

Many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another

signs of Your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

Bernadette Farrell, 1957

Apostolic 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

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day:

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Youth Message

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

The next day their 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 being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being 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.”

L: The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff-- they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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 the brothers and sisters. 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 deed and. 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. L: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

All: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

“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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

Have No Fear, Little Flock

#764

Have no fear, little flock; have no fear,
little flock, for the Father has chosen to
give you the kingdom; have no fear, little
flock!

Praise the Lord high above; praise the
Lord high above, for he stoops down to
heal you, uplift and restore you; praise
the Lord high above!

Have good cheer, little flock; have good
cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep
you in his love forever; have good cheer,
little flock!

Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful
hearts raise to God, for he stays close
beside you, in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4

Apostle’s 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, and 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.

**catholic here meaning "universal"*

Prayers of Intercession:

A Lord, in your mercy.... C Hear our Prayer

Offertory:

Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer:

As we offer our gifts to you, Good Shepherd, may we lay down our prejudices towards others, so they might find a welcome in our hearts; may we set aside our fears of the future, so you might lead us into your future, may we become the goodness and mercy for which others have been looking all their lives. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Words of Institution

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn *Love Divine, All Love Excelling*

#631

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us
with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling
heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive; suddenly return,
and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and
praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy
perfect love.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in
thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its
beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and
spotless let us be; let us see thy great
salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in
heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost
in wonder, love, and praise! Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-
1748, alt

***When Peace like a River (It is Well with My Soul)* #785**

When peace, like a river, attendeth my
way; when sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to
say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials
should come, let this blest assurance
control, that Christ hath regarded my
helpless estate, and hath shed his own
blood for my soul. *Refrain.*

He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious
thought; my sin, not in part, but the
whole, is nailed to his cross and I bear it
no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
O my soul! *Refrain.*

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall
be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a
scroll, the trumpet shall sound and the
Lord shall descend; even so it is well
with my soul. *Refrain.*

Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888; Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

Post Communion Blessing:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen

Post Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord and sing his praise, tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction (based on Psalm 23, John 10, 1 John 3:16-24)

Go now with your trust in the Good Shepherd,
and let us love, not just in words,
but in truth and action.
Believe in the name of Jesus Christ,
and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

And may God be at your side, through dark valleys and mountain peaks.
May Christ Jesus be the cornerstone of your life.
And may the Holy Spirit abide in you and tend you with love and mercy all the days of your life.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Sending Hymn *Will You Come and Follow Me* **#798**

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me. John L. Bell 1949; Scottish Traditional

Dismissal A: Go in peace, serve the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

Current Budget Report: as of 4/14/2024

Last week's giving: \$4,934.65

Needed to meet budget: \$5,425.96

Year to Date: \$88,174.85

Ahead (Behind) Budget: \$6,785.43

Announcements

Birthday Celebration: Today at 10:00 AM.

Farewell to Pastor Sharon: Today at 4:00 PM.

Adult Sunday School: Today at 10 AM.

Bible Study: Thursdays at 10 AM.

Needleworks: Friday, May 3rd & 17th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome!

Mother's Day Brunch: Tuesday, May 7th at 11:00 AM in the lower level. This free, flower-arranging event is open to all.

Friends and Family Breakfast: Sunday, May 12th at 10 AM.

Love Inc, Buckets of Blessings: We are asking for mops this month.

Sunday 04/21	9 AM Traditional Worship, 10 AM Birthday Celebration; 11 AM Contemporary Worship; 4 PM Farewell Dinner for Pastor Sharon
Monday 04/22	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM
Tuesday 04/23	7:30 PM AA
Wednesday 04/24	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM; 8 AM Men's Club; Board and Brush 6 PM
Thursday 04/25	Bible Study 10 AM; 7:00 PM AA
Friday 04/26	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM
Saturday 04/27	

	April 21	April 28
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Kevin K.	Joan V.
Lay Reader	Kevin K.	Joan V.
Greeter		
Usher	Michele	Bob S.
Media	Prieskorn	Prieskorn
Fellowship	Birthday Celebration	
Altar Care	Linda F.	Linda G.

Prayers of Grace & Support

For Our Church Members, especially:

The family of Al Voss, following his passing.

Greg Gottfried and family, following the passing of his mother.

Cindy, John, and Jon Brach, with health concerns.

Kathy Boyes with health challenges.

Barb Gienapp with health concerns.

Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.

For Friends and Family of our Church Members:

Carol Pacheco, in hospice.

Dan Herbst's and Ann Dilloway's, and Linda Fox's sister Karen, who lost her son.

Wyatt, Gail's student who broke his wrist.

Karla Shaffer, best friend of the Petersburg's daughter, diagnosed with stage 4 lung and brain cancer.

Keegan, 18-year-old with recurring cancer.

Karin, heart valve replacement surgery.

Juanita Fox, George's mom, for healing.

Hudson Bennett, George Fox's nephew, for healing.

Kimberlie Gilbertson, Jeanie Petersburg's cousin, dealing with eye damage/temporary blindness from an interocular lens removal.

Carl Loerwald, friend of Joanne Bellmard, recovering from back surgery and other medical issues.

Dian Kolis, friend of Linda Fox, with Parkinson's and scheduled for brain surgery.

Nick Hodgin, Jim Hartman's friend's 12-year-old son, following brain cancer surgery.

Matt B., Linda Walton's son's best friend, diagnosed with stage 4 liver disease.

Nathan, friend of the Petersburg's, paralyzed in a diving accident.

Lydia, Gail's adult piano student, recovering from brain surgery.

Norma Topp, Michele Hirschman's friend, as she prepares for upcoming surgery.

Victor, Gail's 82-year-old student's wife, in hospice.

Alicia Gardner, Linda Walton's niece, awaiting a liver transplant.

Trey Martin, cousin of Bryan Rush, in Europe in the military. Pray for his safety.

John D., friend of Bryan Rush, suffering from Diabetes Type II.

Melissa Aloffalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue.

Margaret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.

Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.

Ethan and his mom, Marianne, friends of Linda Walton, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles.

Jackie, Gail's piano student, diagnosed with throat cancer.

Theresa Knight, spouse of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.

Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother-in-law, with auto-immune disease.

Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.

Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.

For Our Community and Beyond:

Help the weak and bold in Jesus' name.

Cats and dogs that do not have a home.

Prayers for peace in Ukraine

Prayers for peace in the Middle East

Calling all cooks!

As part of St. George's 180th anniversary celebration, we are creating a cookbook. It will include recipes from every St. George family member and/or friend who wants to contribute. Share your favorites or honor a loved one with theirs.

There are three options for submitting your recipes. The preferred option involves going to typensave.com and creating a free account. Username: stgeorge180. Password: seasalt454. Log in and enter your recipes online, please proofread for accuracy.

Choice two involves emailing your recipes to the church office at stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com

The third option is using the pre-printed Recipe Collection Sheet and copying your recipe accurately. Submit to the collection box in the fellowship area.

The first two options ensure that your recipes will be recorded with complete accuracy.

The deadline for submission is May 1, 2024.