

# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**May 8, 2022**

Blessed Mothers' Day to all...whether blessed with the birth of your own child, an adopted child or even if you are "mother at heart!" Truly, we remain grateful to our Lord for His precious gift of our mothers. After all, through a miracle worked by the Holy Spirit on Mary, Jesus came in human flesh. In fact, at such a blessed gift to be the birth mother of Jesus, Mary exclaimed, "My spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior" (Luke 1:47).

Yes, through a mother, Jesus was born into this world as Mary's Savior and ours. Unlike any other human "born of a woman," Jesus came in the flesh as the "Holy One" (Luke 1:37). Born without sin as the "Son of the Most High" (Luke 1:32) Jesus would never sin, die for our sins and rise victoriously demonstrating He conquered our sin and defeated our death.

Isaiah wrote these words of comfort and confidence concerning God's saving promise to us because of His Son using this picture of a mother's love for her child: "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has born? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands" (49:15-16). How grateful we remain to God for our Christian mother's love; how thankful we remain for the LORD's unfailing love to us!

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60, The Divine Service, *Rite Two*.

Hymns: 177, 379, 568, 340 (5-6)

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

**First Lesson: Acts 13:15, 16a, 26-39.** On a Sabbath, Paul preached to the people in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch. He instructs them in the "Law and Prophets," a phrase representative of the entire teaching of the Old Testament. His message to these Jews? Jesus is God's promised Messiah, whom the leaders of Jerusalem crucified. Jesus, however, true God from eternity, took on flesh and blood so He could die for sin and rise to assure victory over sin and death.

**Psalm of the Day: Psalm 23.** Through the Holy Spirit, David writes of the blessings our Good Shepherd brings His people. (*Supplement*).

**Second Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17.** John writes of the saints in heaven. Saved by the work of Jesus, they praise Him as they enjoy paradise's perfection.

**Verse of the Day:** Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia. (John 10:14, EHV)

**Gospel: John 10:22-30.** As the Good Shepherd, Jesus speaks of His sheep who keep listening to His voice, and as they...He will let nothing snatch them from His loving hands.

**Sermon Text: John 10:22-30**

**Theme - "Be Faithful Sheep Of The Good Shepherd"**

Points to ponder from the day's Scripture readings:

- First lesson: Summarize Paul's message of encouragement.
- First lesson: What's Paul's point in quoting Psalm 2?
- Epistle: From where did these heavenly saints come?
- Epistle: How does this section demonstrate Jesus' promise to "gather disciples from all nations?"
- Epistle: If someone asked you to describe heaven, what would you say based on these verses?
- Gospel: What's Jesus' ironic point in answer to whether He is the Christ?
- Gospel: What does Jesus mean, when He stated? "*I and the Father are one.*"

## **Announcements:**

+ Please join us for Bible class on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m.

+ Confirmation class: 3:15-5:00 p.m. at the church on Monday.

+ Sunday school on Sunday mornings from 8-8:30 a.m.

**Acts 13:15, 16a, 26-39** – After the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Gentlemen, brothers, if you have a word of encouragement for the people, say it." Then Paul stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Gentlemen, brothers, sons of Abraham's family, and those among you who fear God, this message of salvation has been sent to you. The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize him, and by condemning him they fulfilled the statements of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. Though they found no grounds for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. When they carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead, and for many days he was seen by those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. These same individuals are now his witnesses to the people. "We are preaching to you the good news about the promise that was made to our fathers. God has fulfilled this promise for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: You are my Son. Today I have begotten you." (EHV™)

**Revelation 7:9-17** – After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. They called out with a loud voice and said: Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb. All the angels

stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen. One of the elders spoke to me and said, “These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?” And I answered him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me: These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Because of this they are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again. The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat, for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. (EHV™)

**John 10:22-30** – Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple area in Solomon’s Colonnade. So the Jews gathered around Jesus, asking, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered them, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I am doing in my Father’s name testify about me. But you do not believe, because you are not my sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.” (EHV™)

\*Our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine are in need of our support. First and foremost, they need our prayers to God for peace, protection and security. There is also a very great need for humanitarian assistance as the war continues to destroy lives and property. The ELS Board for Christian Service has established the Ukraine Crisis fund to aid our brothers and sisters in the Ukrainian Lutheran Church and the Gift of Life program as well as other Ukrainians in need. To contribute to this fund, go to [els.org/donate](http://els.org/donate). Please use one of the “Other” options and enter “Ukraine Crisis Fund.” Or, checks may be sent to ELS Ukraine Crisis Fund, 6 Browns Ct., Mankato, MN 56001. Jesus bless us all with His saving grace!