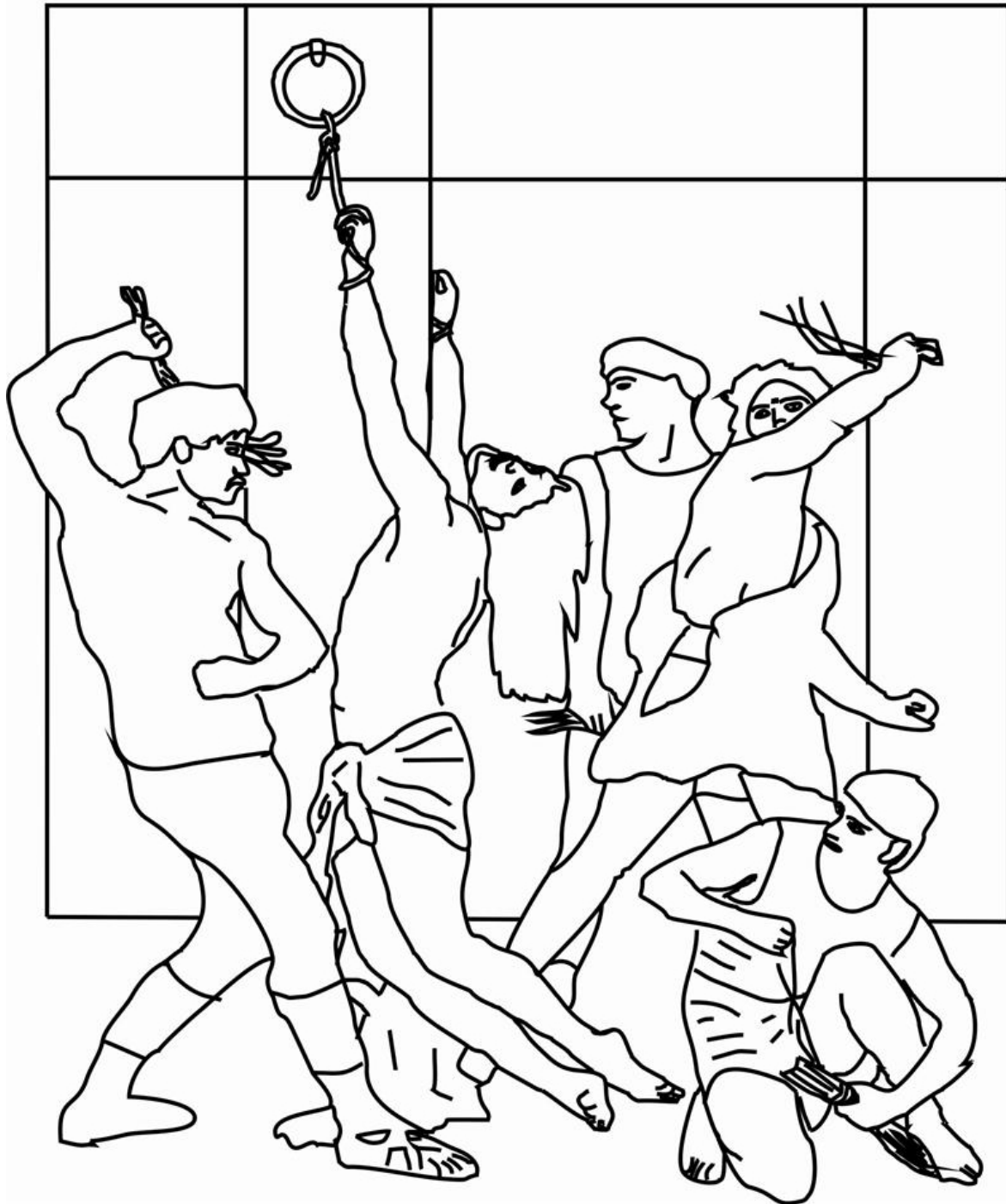


† Resurrection IV †

“The Passover Victory”



“An Example to Follow”

1 Peter 2:1—3:7

✠ The Divine Liturgy ✠

“Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus”

Saint Luke Lutheran Church | April 30, 2023

Invocation

Father, Creator of all heaven and earth, ✠ **you save us from our selfishness and make us your children through Baptism, Repentance, and Communion.** ✠ Through your Son Jesus, who is your Word embodied in flesh, ✠ **we die to Civilization's Way of arrogance, fear, and violence.** ✠ Through your Holy Spirit, who dwells among us and within us, ✠ **we are reborn in Jesus's Way of faith, hope, and love.**

Processional Song ✠ *LSB 474 “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”*

♫ *Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!* ♪

REFRAIN: ♪ *Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!* ♪

♫ *Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the story to open our eyes; Breaking our bread, Giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.* ♪

♫ *Jesus the vine, We are the branches; Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree; Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, Gift of the future now flowing to me.* ♪

♫ *Weeping be gone; Sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is bright; Cherubim sing: “O grave, be open!” Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.* ♪

Resurrection Litany

Jesus is risen! ✠ **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The tomb is empty! ✠ **Jesus has been raised from the dead!**

Death could not hold him! ✠ **Our Father is more powerful than death!**

Jesus is the first of many! ✠ **We too will be raised from the dead!**

Our bodies will live again! ✠ **And all creation will be restored and made new!**

Christ is risen! ✠ **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

† Baptism — The Way of Faith †

Surrendering to the Creator

Jesus says, “You must be born again through water and the Spirit ✠ **to enter the Creator's Kingdom.**” ✠ Father, Son, & Holy Spirit ✠ **I surrender to you all of my mind, all of my heart, and all of my body and soul.**

(we make the sign of the cross—touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

Jesus says, “If you love your self, family, or nation more than me, ✠ **you cannot be my disciple.** ✠ If you hold onto your life, you will destroy it, ✠ **but if you let go of your life, you will save it.**” ✠ Father, into your hands ✠ **I commit my spirit.** ✠ Father, not my will, ✠ **but your will be done.** ♪ *Take my life and all my heart, take my whole soul ev'ry part. Take my mouth and let it be, filled with your truth and mercy. ♪ Take my hands and let them love, with compassion from above. Take my feet and let them go, on the Way that Jesus showed. ♪ Take my money and fam'ly, give me faith and set me free. Take my life and teach me how to love all creation now.* ♪ (LSB 783)

Prayer of the Day

Jesus says, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there with them.”

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is coming among us)

♩ *This is my Father’s world, O let me ne’er forget, That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father’s world, the healing is not done, The dead will rise to the earth’s surprise, And earth and heav’n be one.* ♪ (LSB 856)

The Lord Jesus be with you. ✠ **And also with you.** ✠ Let us pray. Heavenly Father, help us to follow the example of Jesus in everything we do. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Listening to the Creator

Jesus says, “Come to me, all of you who are tired and burdened. Learn from me and practice my teachings and you will find rest for your souls. Those who listen will live.” ♩ *Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.* ♪ (LSB 770)

Remembering the Saints & Martyrs ✠ Theodora & Didymus

Father, we give you thanks for the great cloud of saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we remember Theodora who, after refusing to pledge allegiance to the Roman Empire, was forced to live in a brothel in order to be defiled. A fellow Christian, Didymus, rescued her by secretly entering and giving her his clothes as a disguise, but both were eventually captured and beheaded in 304 AD. Help us learn from their faith and example, **Amen.**

Chanted Psalm ✠ *Psalm 24*



♩ *The earth is the Lord’s and everything | within it,
* the world, and all who | live in it.*

Who may ascend the mountain | of the Lord?

** Who may stand in | his presence?*

The one who has clean hands and | a pure heart,

** who does not swear allegiance | to others.*

These will receive blessing | from the Lord

** and vindication from God | their Savior.* ♪

Law & Prophets ✠ Isaiah 31:1-6

The Prophets reading comes from Isaiah 31. ✠ **Blessed are the ears that listen.**
We do not live on bread alone, ✠ **but on every word from the Lord.**

Epistle ✠ 1 Peter 2:1—3:7

The Epistle reading comes from 1 Peter 2. ✠ **Blessed are the ears that listen.**
We do not live on bread alone, ✠ **but on every word from the Lord.**

† Holy Gospel † Matthew 5:27-37

We stand for the word of Jesus. ♪ *Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the*

words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia. ♪ (LSB 156)

The holy Gospel comes from Matthew 5. ✠ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ✠ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

Message

† Repentance — The Way of Hope †

Confronting Our Past

Jesus says, “I know everything you do. Pay attention and remove the log from your own eye. I have called you out of Civilization. Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!”

(silence for reflection)

For placing our self, family, and nation above you, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For trusting the technology and works of human hands, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For being hypocrites who misrepresent your name, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not living in restful peace with land, animals, and each other, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not respecting our fathers and mothers in Christ, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For being violent to our bodies and your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not keeping our sexuality within marriage, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For trying to possess and control your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not being vulnerable and truthful with others, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For competing with others and not being content with our lives, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ ***Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.*** ♪ (LSB 449)

Jesus says, “I discipline those I love. Come out of Civilization, my people, so you will not share in its sins and plagues. Not one stone will be left standing, it will all be torn down.” Will you turn away from Civilization’s Way of arrogance, fear, and violence and reaffirm your Baptism into Jesus’s Way of faith, hope, and love? ✠ **Yes, I renounce Civilization’s Way and pledge to follow Jesus.** ✠ Jesus says, “Put your sword away. If you live by the sword, you will die by the sword. But if you forgive others, your heavenly Father will forgive you.” Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including yourself and every member of this church? ✠ **Yes, I forgive all those who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything.** ✠ Jesus says, “Your sins are forgiven. Get up and walk. Go and sin no more.” ✠ **Amen.**

Song of the Day ✠ ***“O Christ, You Did No Violence”*** (tune: LSB 684)

♪ ***O Christ, you did no violence yet you were crushed with pain; you suffered great injustice to make us whole again. As lambs are led to slaughter and sheep in silence wait, you gave your life to offer a love that conquers hate.*** ♪

♪ ***You gave your life to save us, yet, Lord, we now confess: Forgetting that you love us, we live in hatefulness. You gave us an example, to follow in your Way. But when we face hate and hurt, we often go astray.*** ♪

♫ *Lord bring us back to your Way, so we may follow you. So we may live like you do, so we may be made new. So we may respond to hate, with nothing but your love. So we may conquer evil, by rising up above.* ♫

♫ *Lord fill us with your Spirit, and give us strength today. Turn our eyes to Lord Jesus, and help us always pray. By your wounds you did heal us, from death you made us live. Now send us out to follow, and always to forgive.* ♫

Waiting on the Creator

♫ *Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do.*

♫ *Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen.* ♫ (LSB 637)

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

Jesus says, “Learn from the birds. They do not store up for tomorrow and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Do not fear or worry about tomorrow. Not a hair from your head will be destroyed. Seek only your Father’s Kingdom and he will give you everything you need.” *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy.* ♫

Father, set us apart from Civilization in all our thoughts, words, and deeds. Take charge of our lives and all those in authority. Use everything that happens to bring your good judgment and healing upon all creation. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy.* ♫ Father, provide for us, protect us, and heal our brokenness. Especially this day we remember Charlene Sargent, Jan & Paul Zugelder, Carolyn Davis, Celise Sims, Dale Bridge, the birthday of Todd Deines, and those we name in our hearts... Father, give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy.* ♫ Father, forgive us and free us from all that enslaves us. Help us to walk away from our anxieties, traumas, and addictions to Civilization’s Way, so we may walk in Jesus’s Way. Empower us to love and forgive everyone, even our enemies, in the same way you have loved and forgiven us. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy.* ♫ Father, humble us and remind us that we have no strength apart from you. Stay with us in times of difficulty and save us from our selfishness. Comfort us in the certain hope that all your creation and children will be renewed and raised from the dead. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy.* ♫

Father, help us to let go and surrender everything into your loving hands, trusting that you are working all things to the good of those who love you. ✠ **Our Father in heaven, may your name be holy, may your Kingdom come, and may your will be done—on earth as in heaven. Give us this day what we need for today. Forgive us in the same way that we forgive others. Do not abandon us when we are tempted, but pull us away from what is evil. For all authority, power, and glory are yours—now and forever. Amen.**

† Communion — The Way of Love †

Sharing the Lord's Peace

Jesus says, “Make peace with each other ☩ **before you come to the Lord's altar.**
By this all people will know that you are my disciples: ☩ **if you love each other.**”

Offering

Jesus says, “Do not store up things on earth. To be my disciple you must give up everything you own. Sell your possessions and give to the poor.” We offer all we have to the Lord, while also offering gifts to support this communion.

Musical Offering

Pledge of Allegiance

☩ *We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us!* ☩ (LSB 816) Jesus says, “If you pledge your allegiance to me before others, then I will pledge my allegiance to you before my heavenly Father.”

I pledge allegiance to one God, the all-powerful Father, who is the Creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I pledge allegiance to one Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God's only Son. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He loved and he suffered. Under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day he was raised from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. He is coming to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will not end.

I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of life, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the baptism for forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life in the age to come. Amen.

Thanksgiving

The Lord Jesus be with you. ☩ **And also with you.** ☩ Lift up your hearts! ☩ **We lift them to the Lord!** ☩ Let us give thanks to our Creator! ☩ **It is right to give him thanks and praise!** ☩ Praise and thanks are due to you, Father, ☩ **for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation!** ☩ We are grateful that you bring heaven and earth together through Jesus's love for all creation!

☩ *Joyful, joyful we adore you, Creator of all that lives! Earth and heaven praise and thank you, for your love and all you give! Fields and forests, fruit trees and birds, thunderstorms and starry skies, seas and mountains, and grazing herds, praising you who never dies!* ☩ (LSB 803)

† Words of Our Lord Jesus †

On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he revealed his Way of rescuing all creation from the Way of Civilization. Before supper, Jesus humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. Jesus said, ☩ **“Follow my example. Love each other, even your enemies, in the same way I have loved you.”** ☩ During supper, Jesus then took

the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is being given for you. Do the same for each other in my memory.” After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said, “This is my blood which is being shed for you, for the forgiveness of all of your sin. Do the same for each other in my memory.”

♫ When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death Lord Jesus. So as we share this feast may we, remember your love for us. Help us now to follow your Way, and to walk in your goodness. Always make us one in you. ♪ (LSB 384)

Invitation to the Table

Jesus says, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood is united with me and will be raised from the dead.” We gather around Jesus’s table, **✠ trusting that he is truly giving his whole self to us through this bread, wine, and communion.** **✠** As we receive the Lord’s gifts, **✠ we commit to laying down our lives for each member of this church in the Way that Jesus has laid down his life for us.** **✠** We invite all Baptized members of the holy universal Church, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us in this mysterious communion between the Creator and his creation.

REFRAIN: ♪ 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. (REFRAIN) ♪ Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. (REFRAIN) ♪ 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. (REFRAIN) ♪ For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (REFRAIN) ♪ (LSB 155)

Sharing the Bread & Wine

Sent to “Do the Same in My Memory”

Christ Jesus, as we feed on you **✠ we are made members of your Body.** **✠** We no longer live for ourselves **✠ but you, Lord Christ, live within us.** **✠** As you have laid down your body and blood for us, **✠ help us to do the same for each other in your memory.** **✠** Jesus says, “Go and live this truth: **✠ The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!** **✠** Heal the sick, raise the dead, **✠ cleanse the unclean, and cast out evil spirits.** **✠** Freely you have received from the Lord, **✠ now freely you must give.** **✠** I am sending you like sheep among wolves, **✠ but do not fear, take up your cross and follow me.”**

♪ If Christ still lay within the tomb then death would be the end, and we should face our final doom with neither guide nor friend. But now the Savior is raised up, so when a Christian dies we mourn, yet look to God in hope—in Christ the saints arise!
♪ (LSB 444)

Blessing

Jesus says, “Blessed are you in your poverty and suffering, for you are in the Creator’s Kingdom. Blessed are you in your humility, for you will inherit the earth. Blessed are you when you are merciful and peaceful, for you will find mercy and peace.” **✠ Amen.**

Recessional Song **✠ “We Do Not Proclaim Ourselves” (tune: LSB 419)**

♪ We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim that Christ is Lord. Hear what the

Apostle tells: Hear the truth and share the word! Let the light of love now shine; in the darkness make it bright! Glory in this light divine! Glory in the face of Christ! ♪

- ♪ *We cry: “How much can we bear?” — yet we won’t be crushed by sin. We’re perplexed yet won’t despair! Christ is Lord and love will win! We’re worn down and we’re oppressed, yet, O God, you’re always near. Given up in Jesus’ death, we are raised to serve you here. ♪*
- ♪ *When we’re facing troubles, Lord, When we wonder how to cope, May we learn this all the more: In Christ’s death, you give us hope. Others’ actions can’t destroy All the love and life you bring. We choose to be filled with joy; Now in Christ, our spirits sing. ♪*
- ♪ *We have treasure in clay jars — treasure no one can remove. For your gift of life is ours; we choose to forgive and love. Lord, your Holy Spirit dwells In each one who shares your life. We do not proclaim ourselves; We proclaim our hope in Christ. ♪*

- * Faith & Film: “**The Shawshank Redemption**” May 1, 8 @ DG
- * Faith & Film: “**First Reformed**” May 15, 22 @ DG
- * Faith & Film: “**Pan’s Labyrinth**” May 29, Jun 5 @ DG
- * Scripture Study: “The Shepherd of Hermas” Wed, 6 pm @ DG

Weekly Calendar | April 30 - May 7, 2023

Sun, Apr 30	9:30 am	Divine Liturgy “An Example to Follow” 1 Peter 2:1—3:7
	10:45 am	Food & Fellowship Text of the Day Study
Mon, May 1	6:00 pm	Faith & Film: “The Shawshank Redemption” @ DG
Wed, May 3	4:30 pm	Jesus Time @ DG
	6:00 pm	Scripture Study: “The Shepherd of Hermas” @ DG
Thur, May 4	6:00 pm	Choir
Sat, May 6	7-9 am	Breakfast & Devotion
Sun, May 7	9:30 am	Divine Liturgy “Don’t Return Evil with Evil” 1 Peter 3:8—4:11
	10:45 am	Food & Fellowship Text of the Day Study

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