**Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

**A Ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**Living and trusting in god’s amazing grace we welcome all to worship, learn and serve in celebration of Christ’s love.**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**May 8, 2022 9:00 AM**

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** **“Jesus Shall Reign” ELW #434**

 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

 does its successive journeys run;

 his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,

 till moons shall wax and wane no more.

 2 To him shall endless prayer be made,

 and praises throng to crown his head;

 his name like sweet perfume shall rise

 with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

 3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue

 dwell on his love with sweetest song;

 and infant voices shall proclaim

 their early blessings on his name.

 4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:

 the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,

 the weary find eternal rest,

 and all who suffer want are blest.

 5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring

 peculiar honors to our king;

 angels descend with songs again,

 and earth repeat the loud amen.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

**GREETING**

L: Out of the Darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Christ is Risen!
C: **Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen Indeed!**
L: We are inspired by the Holy Spirit. Christ is Risen!
C: **Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen Indeed!**
L: We have not seen and yet believe. Christ is Risen!
C: **Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen indeed! Thanks be to God!**

L: 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 “In Peace Let us Pray…” ELW p. 138**



 **CANTICLE OF PRAISE “Glory to God” ELW p. 139**



**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of peace, **you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

### **First Reading: Acts 9:36-43**

### 36Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. 37At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. 38Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." 39So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. 40Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. 41He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. 42This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. 43Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm** **23 Reading Responsively**

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
  my whole life long.**

*Here ends the Psalm*

### **Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17**

### 9After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"11And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."13Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" 14I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal ;they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. 16They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; 17for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” ELW p. 142**

### Chart  Description automatically generated

### **Gospel:   John 10:22-30**

The Holy Gospel **… Glory to you, O Lord.**

### 22At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, 23and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. 24So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." 25Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; 26but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. 27My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. 28I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. 29What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. 30The Father and I are one."

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Michael Buller**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song” ELW # 808**

1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;

I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:

you alone are our life and our peace and our love.

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

 May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.

May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant, to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.

 For you saved me by giving your body and blood.

 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;

 but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

 And with all of the family you saved by your love,

 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

**aFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ELW p.234**

**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 to the dead.\***

**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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each portion of the prayers ends with “God in your mercy”. Congregation response: “**hear our prayer”.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you**.

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING/NOISY OFFERING Special Music**

**OFFERTORY**  **“We Are an Offering”** **ELW #692**

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

 Lord use our voices

 Lord use our hands

 Lord use our [lives](https://www.definitions.net/definition/lives) they are Yours

 We are an offering

 We are an offering

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**  **“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” ELW #503**

1 A mighty fortress is our God,

 a sword and shield victorious;

 he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod

 and wins salvation glorious.

 The old evil foe,

 Sworn to work us woe,

 With dread craft and might

 he arms himself to fight.

 On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might!

 We would be lost, rejected.

 But now a champion comes to fight,

 whom God himself elected.

 Ask who this may be:

 Lord of hosts is he!

 Christ Jesus our Lord,

 God's only Son, adored.

 He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land

 all threat'ning to devour us,

 we tremble not, unmoved we stand;

 they cannot overpow'r us.

 This world's prince may rage,

 in fierce war engage.

 He is doomed to fail;

 God's judgment must prevail!

 One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,

 no thanks to foes, who fear it;

 for God himself fights by our side

 with weapons of the Spirit.

 If they take our house,

 goods, fame, child, or spouse,

 wrench our life away,

 they cannot win the day.

 The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

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**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor –Pastor Michael Buller

Musicians – Steven Friedlein

Lector – Scott Doering Family

Ushers – Scott Doering Family

Acolytes – Stella and Cora Doering

Greeter – Ann Hanson

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** Phyllis Loven, Woody Nelson, Henry Arends,Gene Halverson, Dennis Doering, Calvin Carls

**Welcome:** We welcome all visitors to KLC this morning. We extend to you an invitation to join us for a reception welcoming our new members in the fellowship hall immediately following the worship service.

**New Members:** Today we are welcoming the following new members into the KLC family:

James and Lynn Dykema – transfers from Vinje Lutheran in Willmar

Kristin Stivers – transfer from Crown of Glory Lutheran Church in Chaska

Jeff and Dawn Armstrong

Pastor Michael Buller, Henry, Ben and Eliza – transfers from Kindred Lutheran in Kindred, ND and Bethel Lutheran in Wahpeton, ND.

**Contemplating Stewardship: Making a Difference**

May 8th, 2022 (Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year C)
*"Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good words and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died… and when [Peter] arrived, they took him to the room upstairs [where they laid her body]. All the widows stood by him, weeping and showing tunics and others clothing that Dorcas has made while she was with them." -Acts 9:36-37a, 39*
Tabitha was a good steward. And do notice, money was not mentioned once. Rather, Tabitha, who is described as one of Jesus’s disciples, used her hands to create tunics and clothing, and God used her creativity to make a significant impact on the lives of many. Stewardship is about taking what we have and using it to make a difference in the lives of others to bring glory back to God, out of gratitude for all that God does for us in and through the name of Jesus the Christ. Money is only one of the many ‘things’ we have, and very often is the least valuable treasure we steward.

**Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming KLC Events**

May 15, 2022 Quilt Sunday and graduating seniors pick their quilts. The quilt display will be set up on Saturday, May 14.

May 22, 2022 Graduation recognition of KLC graduating seniors and

also recognition of Sunday School teachers and students. Last Sunday of Sunday School. WELCA will begin serving the treats for the fellowship coffee hour through the summer.

**This Week . . . May 9-15, 2022**

**Tuesday, May 10, 2022**

11:00 am Food truck unloading and NAPS food distribution

**Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

6:00 pm 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Confirmation

**Thursday, May 12, 2022**

8:30 pm Pack KMS food bags

**Saturday, May 14, 2022**

9:30 am WELCA places quilts in sanctuary

**Next Sunday, May 15, 2022**: **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship

**Confirmation Schedule for April and May**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | May 2022 |  |
| May-11-2022 | 6th, 7th, & 8th grades | 6:00 – 7:30 pm |
| May -18 -2022 | 9th & 10th grades | 6:00 – 7:30 pm |
| May - 25-2022 | 6th, 7th, & 8th grades | 6:00 – 7:30 pm |

**Service Opportunity:** On Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at approximately 11:00 am the Second Heartland Food Truck will arrive at KLC with the ordered food for the KMS backpack program and also the boxes of food that will be delivered to the senior citizens of Kerkhoven. We appreciate everyone who has helped with the unpacking and the putting away of the food in the backpack storage room. We could again use some help with the unpacking and putting away the food the truck will be bringing for the backpack program. If you are available to help please

come to the church at this time. Thank you.

**Last Day of Sunday School Celebration:** To celebrate a year of learning, the Board of Christian Education is hosting a picnic for the entire congregation. The last day of Sunday School is May, 22, 2022 and will be filled with yard games, sidewalk chalk, a bouncy house and a meal. Please join us for games after church service, followed by a meal to celebrate and honor our Sunday School Teachers.

**At the Lake This Summer:** KLC is very appreciative of the generosity of everyone who has been so faithfully supporting our ministry and mission at this church. We had a rocky financial road during the pandemic but we are so grateful that we have been able to gather again in person and to again, in earnest continue the work of KLC. We are now back on a more stable financial foundation and have been able to restore to our savings funds monies that were “borrowed” from them during this challenging period. We are so excited about the continued attendance at worship and involvement in the programs and ministries of this congregation. We are moving into the summer months and traditionally a time of fewer members attending worship as this is the time to enjoy God’s creation and the beautiful Minnesota summer. As your church council is looking forward we do recognize there are some necessary maintenance items that will need to be addressed. So we would like to remind everyone that we continue to need your financial support during the upcoming months.

Supporting our summer ministries and mission is only a click away. We offer convenient online giving, so you never have to worry about not attending worship at home. You can make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts – a great option if you will be traveling during the summer months. Get started by visiting our online donation page at <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> or the KLC website at <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/> where you can keep up on all the news and events happening at KLC.

We also have the option of a direct deposit of funds directly from your banking account. There is a simple form that will get this option put in place. These forms are available from the church office and are usually can be found on the table between the offices.