

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

04-21-2023

Greg Fetzner, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

**GATHERING HYMN:** [ELW#515 – Break Now the Bread of Life](#)

## 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.

**A READING FROM ACTS:** Acts 17:1-9

[The Uproar in Thessalonica](#)

17 After Paul and Silas<sup>[a]</sup> had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. <sup>2</sup> And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah<sup>[b]</sup> to suffer and to rise from the dead and saying, “This is the Messiah,<sup>[c]</sup> Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you.” <sup>4</sup> Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. <sup>5</sup> But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason’s house. <sup>6</sup> When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some brothers and sisters before the city authorities, shouting, “These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, <sup>7</sup> and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus.” <sup>8</sup> The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, <sup>9</sup> and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

**THE READING:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

[Salutation](#)

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

## The Thessalonians' Faith and Example

<sup>2</sup> We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup> remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup> because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup> For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup> For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** [ELW#723 –Canticle of Turning](#)

**SERMON:** [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

**OFFERING\*:** [\(On-Line giving Link\)](#)

We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

### PRAYERS

Healing God, we pray for Heidi Brackbill, Parker Brennan, Rebecca Brennan, Michelle Drayson, the Elshafei family, Alexis Erdman, Samantha Erdman, Jeff Fultz, Mary Goehring, Bob Hardy, Mark Hughes, the Johnson family, Robert Karner, Charles Larsen, Charlotte Leer, the McNamara family, Donna Mayhew, Wendy Neumann, Julie Obie, Peter Olsen, Dottie Reitz, Robert Reitz, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, MaKenzie Snyder, the Spiegler family, Chuck Trautwein, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack.

Gracious God, help this an all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to love more deeply and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of Grace, hear our prayer.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face shine upon you;

The Lord lift up His presence upon you and give you peace. Amen

And now my brothers and sisters  
Live on knowing God's love,  
The joy of living this life of love,  
And the peace which only comes through the power of His presence within you.  
So live on in Love, Joy, Peace, and Power.

**SENDING HYMN:** [ELW#654 – The Church's One Foundation](#)

**Announcements**

- May 8, 2024 at 7 pm - [Estate Planning Lecture](#)
- Sunday, 16 June 2024, Outdoor Worship
- Sunday, 14 July 2024, Outdoor Worship
- Sunday, 11 August 2024, Outdoor Worship

May 5	6 Easter	1 Cor 13:1-13
May 12	7 Easter	1 Cor 15:1-26, 51-57
May 19	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-4; 1 Cor 12:1-13

\*Offering to be sent to  
Robert Brackbill  
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church  
9122 Sybert Drive  
Columbia Hills  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291)