

**Offering Hymn:** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* ELW #502

**Offertory Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. Help us to use these gifts to do your work in the world. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Blessing**

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, bless you now and forever.

**C: (Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* ELW #789

**Dismissal:** P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Beaver Valley Lutheran Church**

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**Welcome! We are glad you are with us today!**

*"If you do not have a church home, you are welcome here. If you would like to become a member, contact any member, or the church office."*

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026; 9:30 am**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Prelude**

**Welcome/Announcements**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism:**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to the springs of the water of life.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to the springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to the springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn:** *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

ELW #807

**Call to Worship:**

**Psalm 23**

P: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

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

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

**C: 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.**

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

**C: 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.**

### Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray.

**C: Holy Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, where we celebrate with you forever. Amen.**

### Sharing of the Peace

#### First Reading:

**Acts 2:42-47**

**Kathy Reisenweber**

*(Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.)*

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

#### Second Reading:

**1 Peter 1:3-9**

*(Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.)*

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." <sup>23</sup> When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

### Gospel Acclamation:

*Alleluia*

Alleluia.

To whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

To whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

### Gospel Reading:

**John 10:1-10**

*(After the reading is announced: C: Glory to you, O Lord.)*

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

*(After the reading is completed: P: The Gospel of the Lord C: Praise to you, O Christ.)*

### Children's Message

Pastor Josh Schunk

### Sermon

Pastor Josh Schunk

### Hymn of the Day:

*Have No Fear, Little Flock*

ELW #764

### 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, 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

### Offering