

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church-E.L.C.A.



The Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 14th, 2024

Wandering Heart: "Here's my heart"

Though Peter's story does not end with the conclusion of the Gospels, we finish our series with Peter's encounter with the risen Christ. In this final week, we come full circle with Peter. He has dropped his nets, walked on water, professed his faith, been rebuked, received footwashing, denied Jesus, and run to the tomb. And now, Jesus once again meets him at the shoreline where Peter is casting his nets. Jesus offers abundant nourishment and also a new command: "Feed my sheep." Then he turns to Peter and asks three times, "Do you love me?" It's as if Jesus says, "Here's my heart," which washes over Peter's three denials like a healing balm. No matter how far we wander, may we entrust our hearts to God. No matter if our faith is strong or weak, what we can give is our love.

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.

Ministers:

You, All Members of G.A.

Pastor:

Jaime Decker

Prelude Music

Welcome/Announcements

Gathering

Call to Worship

L: Jesus said, **C: "Follow me."**

L: Jesus said, **C: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."**

L: Jesus said, **C: "Forgive seventy times seven."**

L: Jesus said, **C: "Feed my sheep."**

L: In response, we say: **C: "Here's my heart. Take and seal it. Seal it for thy courts above."**

L: Let us worship God with all our hearts.

Call to Confession

L: For the last seven weeks we have been following the life and faith of Peter. Despite being one of Jesus' most loyal disciples, Peter still made mistakes. He was faithful and messy, humble and afraid, loving and cautious. Friends, we're a lot like Peter. Despite our faith, we make mistakes. Despite our belief, we carry unbelief. Despite our love, we can cause hurt. So like Peter, let us return to God in prayer, confessing the truth of our lives. God's grace does not stop with that humble yet fearful disciple. God's grace reaches all the way to us. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

L: Gracious God, **C: Like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink. You tell us your truth and we push it away. We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance. We profess our faith and deny it three times. We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence. Over and over again, we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith. Tether us to your heart. Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination. Call us out of the boat once more. We are eager to return to you. With humble hearts we pray, amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

L: Friends, the first time that Peter saw Jesus after the crucifixion, Jesus asked him three times, "Do you love me?" This repetition was not because Jesus doubted Peter's word. This repetition was Jesus offering Peter grace. You see, the last time Jesus and Peter were together, Peter said three times, "I do not know that man." So when Jesus returned, he asked Peter, "Do you love me?" And in that moment, he allowed Peter to turn his denials into love. Friends, the grace of our God knows no end. When we stumble, when we fall, when we deny God or cause harm, Jesus meets us where we are and offers us a second chance. So rest in this good news. Does God love you? Yes, yes, yes. God loves you. We are forgiven. **C: Thanks be to God for a love that never ends.**

*Gathering Hymn

Now All The Vault Of Heaven Resounds (Verse 1)

ELW #367

*Greeting

P: 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.

*Prayer For Illumination

L: God of second chances and God of new life, **C: we have spent our days wandering. Like Peter, we have had milled about through nearly every state of faith. We have had courageous days and convicted days, learning days and questioning days. We have had days where we run to you, days for diving out of the boat, days for deep joy, and days where the pain of the world feels too close to bear. So as we bring our wandering hearts to you, we ask that you draw us in. Allow this story to spark something new in us. Allow this story of grace to give us pause and pull us in. We are listening. Amen.**

Word

Reading

Psalm 30

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, **and did not let my foes rejoice over me.**

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, **and you have healed me.**

O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, **restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.**

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, **and give thanks to his holy name.**

For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. **Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

As for me, I said in my prosperity, **"I shall never be moved."**

By your favor, O LORD, **you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.**

To you, O LORD, I cried, **and to the LORD I made supplication:**

"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? **Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?**

Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! **O LORD, be my helper!"**

You have turned my mourning into dancing; **you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,**

so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. **O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.**

Gospel Reading

John 21:1-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to _____ **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went

aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day

Now All The Vault Of Heaven Resounds (Verse 2&3)

ELW #367

Baptism: Amelia Rose Hejtmanek

pg. 227

Hymn

Jesus Love Me (Verse 1)

ELW #595

Affirmation of Faith

C: We believe in a God who shows up in our lives— surprising and catching us off-guard in the best of ways. We believe in a God who cares for God’s people— a shepherd who longs for her sheep to be fed and tended. We believe in a God who took on flesh— a God whose love changed the world as we know it. We believe that this here-and-now God invites us out of the boat, calling ordinary people like Peter, like us, into a life of service and community. And so we give our hearts. We give our whole hearts and nothing less. Amen.

Prayer of the People

L: God of Grace, **C: Hear Our Prayer.**

Offering

Offering Hymn

Give Thanks

Gray #170

Offering Prayer

L: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **C: Amen.**

Meal

The Institution of the Lord's Supper: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

L: ²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,

ALL: "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

L: ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying,

ALL: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*Lord's Prayer

Pg. 208

*Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*Lamb of God

Pg. 208

Communion Distribution (All Are Welcome to Receive Communion Here at GA Church)

*Post Communion Blessing

* Post Communion Prayer

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

Sending

*Benediction

Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve. May you look for God in every face. May you find the courage to get out of the boat, to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith. And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid." You are called. You are blessed. In both your ups and your downs, you always belong to God. Go now in peace. Go trusting that good news. Amen.

*Sending Hymn

Now All The Vault Of Heaven Resounds (Verse 4)

ELW #367

*Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: To Share the Good News of God's Word and to serve the community and the world. Thanks be to God.

*Postlude

Bulletin Donated: Happy Birthday Shawn!!

Mission Statement of Gustaf Lutheran Church (Adopted in 2022)

To share the Good News of God's Word and to serve the community and the world.

Matthew 22:39 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

We celebrate weekly Holy Communion. We welcome all who believe in the Risen Christ and who find in the sacrament our Lord's real presence for the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life. If you receive communion in your home congregation, you are invited to receive it here at G.A. Red wine and white grape juice will be offered to you in Christ's name. You may choose your preference. If you are unable to receive wheat bread, or wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament.

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