



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday April 21, 2024

Fourth & Alby Streets, Alton, Illinois
(618) 465-3592 Email: firstpres1831@gmail.com



GATHERING

PRELUDE: *"He Leadeth Me "*

Welcome and Announcements

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our faith depends upon the grace of God. Praise the Lord, who give life to the dead. Jesus calls us to be his disciples. We take up the cross to follow him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: Give us faith to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✦ **Hymn:** *"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"*No. 106

CALL TO CONFESSION

We have all sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

✦ **Gloria Patri**.....No. 579

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Acts of the Apostles

Acts 4:5-12
(Pg 121)

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 23
(Pg 501)

EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 3:16-24
(Pg 240)

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John
Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:11-18
Pg 103)

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Message.....Reverend Kyle Armentrout-Steward

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Choral Anthem: "Psalm 23".....H. Goodall

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)
(Pg 14)

EUCCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

....Who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus.....Trisagion *(Paul Schmidt)*

....lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again...

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

✦ **Hymn of Reflection: “ We Come as Guest Invited”**No. 517
After receiving Communion please remain standing and join in song

The Lord’s Prayer *(DEBTS, DEBTORS)*

SENDING

OFFERING

✦ **DOXOLOGY**.....No. 592 *(Lyrics only)*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great abundance. In offering these gifts, may we be strengthened to proclaim your faithfulness and your salvation this day and always. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

✦ **Hymn: “Jesus, Draw Me Close”**No. 2159
Text on back

✦ CHARGE and BLESSING

✦ POSTLUDE

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### PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE TODAY:

Message.....Reverend Kyle Armentrout-Steward  
Liturgist.....Mike Wilson  
Music Director.....Mark Brooks  
Guest Organist.....Joyce Kittle  
Audio/Streaming technician.....David Oates

**NOTE: Where you see the “ + ” symbol, please stand if you are able.**

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## The Weeks Ahead

“Saturday Café” - Meals are served from 11:30am until food is gone.

Tuesday’s “Soups On” - Meals are served in the Fellowship Hall every Tuesday at 11:30am.

Adult Bible Study—Thursdays at 9:30am The Thursday Bible Study Group meets in the Flota Conference Room. Everyone is welcome to join this faith journey.

## Volunteer Opportunities

If you need a ride to Sunday’s service, please call the office at 618-465-3592. Thank you.

The deacons will be offering communion for homebound members. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, please contact the office.

“Over 55” is back running thanks to our church. For more information please reach out to Jaqueline Wiseman.

### Jesus Draw Me Close

Jesus, draw me close,  
Closer, Lord, to You  
Let the world around me fade away.  
Jesus, draw me close  
Closer, Lord, to You  
For I desire to worship and obey.

