

Order of Service – Mission Possible - Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 21, 2024 10 AM

**Preaching: Guest Pastor Roland Syens
Presiding: Pastor Paul Knudtson**

Music Team: Tim's Team

Welcome to worship!

If you are a visitor today, please pick up a gift bag and learn more about our programs at the Welcome Table at the back of the narthex. Grab a coffee and mingle following the service. A family friendly area is available in the Gateway to sit with other parents or to allow your children to enjoy some snacks following the worship service and Sunday school. If your children require a quiet place during the service, feel free to take them to the narthex near the fireplace area where we have few quiet toys for them to enjoy.

If you are a visitor, we welcome you to come forward for communion. If your children have gone through communion instruction, they are welcome as well. If they are not taking communion, please bring them forward for a blessing. If you would like personal prayer this morning, you are invited to meet with our prayer team in the narthex either before or after you have taken communion. Individual prayer is also available following the service.

OPENING HYMN: Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Chorus

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst at my sight:
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love,

Chorus

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Chorus

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LIGHTING THE CANDLES • WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (All) – Lord God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit we invite your presence into our worship this morning and consecrate this time to you. Be glorified in the preaching, in the singing, our praying and our meditation on your word. We ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, beseeching Him, in the name of our Lord Jesus, to forgive the iniquity of our sin.

P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection)

P: Most merciful God.

C: We confess that we are in bondage 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. Amen

THE GRACE (LBW, p. 57)

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 OF THE DAY – O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Elaine Knudtson

CHILDREN'S SONG: He's Got The Whole World In His Hands

He's got the whole world in His hands. (x3)

He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the little tiny baby in His hands (x3)

He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got sisters and brothers in His hands (x3)

He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the wind and the rain in His hands (x3)

He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the whole world in His hands (x4)

FIRST READING: Acts 4:1-12 NIV

4 The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. **2** They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. **3** They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. **4** But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand. **5** The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. **6** Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. **7** They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" **8** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! **9** If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, **10** then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. **11** Jesus is
"the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone."

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

PSALM 23 NIV

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,
3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of
the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24 NIV

16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. **17** If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? **18** Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. **19** This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: **20** If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. **21** Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God **22** and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. **23** And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. **24** The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

GOSPEL LESSON – John 10:11-18 NIV

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

PRE-SERMON HYMN: Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart: Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father and I thy true son, Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; be thou my armour and be thou my might.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nwards, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou, and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when battle is done, Grant heaven's joy, to me bright heaven's sun.
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

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SERMON: Pastor Roland

OFFERTORY HYMN: 10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

Chorus

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger, Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing, Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Chorus

And on that day, when my strength is failing, The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Chorus

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

Worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Ending

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name,
Worship Your holy name, Worship Your holy name.

Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman
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OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW, p. 68)

P: Blessed are you.

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your Goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of Him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always

C: And also with you

PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF GOD

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (p. 110 LBW)

LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father, who art in Heaven...

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION Hymns:

As The Deer

As the deer panteth, for the water, so my soul longeth after Thee.
You alone are my heart's desire, And I long to worship Thee.

Chorus

You alone are my strength, my shield, to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee.

You're my friend and You are my brother even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other, so much more than anything.

Chorus

You alone are my strength, my shield, to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee.

I want You more than gold or silver. Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver and the apple of my eye.

Chorus

Martin Nystrom
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Draw Me Close

Draw me close to You. Never let me go. I lay it all down again to hear You say that I'm Your friend.
You are my desire. No one else will do, 'cause nothing else could take Your place
To feel the warmth of Your embrace. Help me find the way. Bring me back to You.

You're all I want. You're all I've ever needed.
You're all I want. Help me know You are near.

Help me know You are here.

Kelly Carpenter
CCLI Song #1459484
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Above All - Extra communion if needed:

Above all powers, above all kings, Above all nature and all created things;
Above all wisdom, and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, Above all wonders the world has ever known;
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, There's no way to measure what You're worth

Chorus

Crucified, laid behind the stone; You lived to die, rejected and alone;
Like a rose, trampled on the ground, You took the fall, and thought of me, Above all.

Lenny LeBlanc, Paul Baloche
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COMMUNION BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Please see sheet attached

CLOSING HYMN: Shine Jesus Shine

Lord the light of Your love is shining, In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness, Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness, So our faces display Your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory, Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

Graham Kendrick
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P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week-at-a-Glance:

April 23 - Tues, 7 PM: Council and Missions committee meet with Pastor Roland and Anita

April 24 - Wed, 9 AM: Staff Meeting

April 25 - Thur, 10 AM: Bible Study (Pastor Paul)

Apr 26 & 27 – Fri / Sat: *Behold Him – The One Who Transforms* (see below for details)

April 27- Saturday 8 AM: Men's Breakfast

April 28- 10:00 AM Worship, and Sunday School

Month in Advance:

May 1 - Wed, 9 AM: Staff Meeting

May 5 – Sun, 10:00 AM: Worship, and Sunday School – (Mother's Day)

May 8 - Wed, 9 AM: Staff Meeting

May 8 - Wed, 7 PM: Grandparenting and the Faith

May 8 - Wed, 7 PM: Small Group Roundup

May 11 - Sat, 7 PM: The Tabernacle

May 12 - Sun, 10:00 AM: Worship, and Sunday School

May 14 – Tues, 7:00 PM: Getting to Know You at the Bergh's

May 15 - Wed, 9 AM: Staff Meeting

May 18 - Sat, 9:00AM: Annual church clean up

May 19- Sun, 10:00 AM: Worship, and Sunday School – Pentecost Sunday

May 22 – Wed, 10:00 AM: - Staff Meeting

May 26 –Sun, 10:00 AM: Worship, and Sunday School – Trinity Sunday

May 28 – Tues, 7:00 PM: Getting to Know You at the Bergh's

Mission Possible - Today

We are very thankful to have Pastor Roland Syens and his wife Anita join us this morning speaking about the importance of missions and sharing their extensive experience. Please join us following today's worship for a light lunch and further conversation about missions.

About Pastor Roland Syens

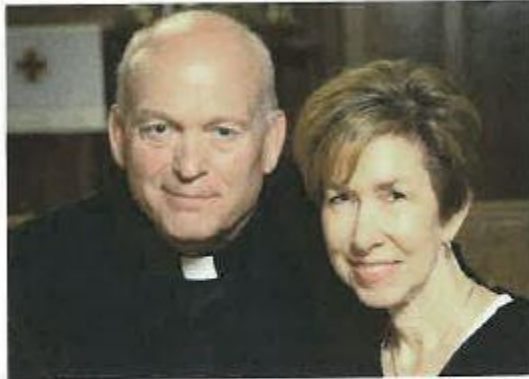
Pastor Roland Syens was born in Westlock, Alberta. After significant education, his first missions trip was to the east coast of Africa and India in 1990.

After being ordained in June 1990, he was the pastor of Walnut Grove Lutheran in Langley, until called to Ukraine in 1993, where he served until 2005. While in Ukraine, he married his longtime friend Anita, in 2001.

Returning to Canada, Pastor Syens was the assistant pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Kitchener from 2005 to 2020. During those years, Roland and Anita lead teams to Kenya, Mexico, New Orleans, Russia, Israel, England, and Nicaragua. In 2020 he he retired and they moved to Vancouver.

Currently he coordinates the monthly transfer of relief funds to Ukraine through a Rotary club.

In July 2023, he and his wife Anita travelled to Kenya and Tanzania to share the gospel and distribute solar audio Bibles. To this day, they continue to serve our amazing and gracious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



Pray for St. Peter's

Please remember to keep praying for the church, our pastors, leaders, members and their families.

Behold Him – The One Who Transforms is coming to St. Peter's on Friday, April 26 (7 PM) and Saturday, April 27 (10 AM-3 PM). This exciting 40-piece art collection is an immersive experience of our King Jesus, the one true Monarch; to behold Him from birth to the cross, resurrection to the throne, in anticipation of His immanent return. Mindi Oaten, the artist, will display the whole collection for the first time with a hope that viewers are inspired to reflect upon their own spiritual journey. Mark your calendars for this spiritually enriching collection of art. Please invite your friends and neighbours.

The Tabernacle - May 11, 7PM

Make sure you put The Tabernacle evening worship service on your calendar and invite a friend!

Small Group Round-Up - May 8, 7 PM – 9PM An evening to explore our first year of small groups. We share what we have learned, and hear stories of why small groups are important in our faith journey. Come and see if joining a small group might be a good opportunity to grow your faith, meet new friends and draw closer to Jesus. All those who enjoyed the study on Pilgrims Progress, please come and share you experience.

Church Spring Clean-up - May 18

Please put this on your calendar. More information to how you might help is forth coming.

Getting to Know You

Last year, Erica and Pastor Rick invited people to their home to get to know them and hear their stories. We have so many new people in the church. They would love to open up their home again on Tuesday evenings. One of the side benefits is that you get to know each other as well! There are sheets on the welcoming table where you can sign up for one of the following Tuesday evenings:

May 21 or 28 / June 4 or 18

Bible Camps

Don't miss out on registering for one of our church Bible camps! Please find information on the bulletin board. You can also check them out directly:

- Hasting Lake Lutheran Bible Camp (www.hastinglake.com)
- Mulhurst Lutheran Bible Camp (<https://www.mulhurstcamp.ca/>)
- Wilderness Ranch Camp (<https://www.wildernessranchalberta.com/>)

Learn Guitar – Every Sunday after Worship

Starting at very beginner level and aiming at grade 4 children and up to and including adults. This is a group class, not private lessons, and we just learn basic chords and strumming, but it's free. Some kids can have troubles playing guitar, others have no troubles. But if you are interested, talk to Pastor Bart.

Men's Ministry

Now that Pastor Rick's call has been confirmed, he will be working hard to develop a strong and vibrant men's ministry for all ages. He is looking for committed men to help him design, construct and implement a strategy to encourage men in their faith. Interested? Our first big event is a men's retreat scheduled for the weekend of November 1-3 at Rivers Edge Bible Camp. Please speak with him or email him rick@rickbergh.com

Steve Bell Workshop at St. Peter's – February 2025

This amazing opportunity will take place in early February (Friday evening and all-day Saturday workshop, date TBC). Come and explore the depth and mystery of the Trinity with musician and liturgist, Steve Bell. Join Pastor Rick and Mike Gawryletz to be part of the planning and implementation of this important event. This is rare opportunity to have Steve Bell come to a small venue and to have him all to ourselves. You won't want to miss out on this!