

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

8:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

This Sunday in the Church Year is often called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” The appointed Psalm for the day is Psalm 23, which is among the most well-known psalms. The Gospel from John 10 records Jesus revealing Himself as the Good Shepherd. While fewer and fewer people are familiar with what it is like to take care of sheep, this metaphor of God’s protection and provision has become a great source of comfort and hope. God grant that you find such blessed comfort as you dwell securely here in the house of the Lord.

PRELUDE

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”

Albert Travis

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

(continued on next page)

Leader: "I am the Good Shepherd," says the Lord.
People: **The Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep.**

Leader: "I am the Good Shepherd," says the Lord.
People: **"I know My sheep and My sheep know Me."**

Leader: Everyone who hopes in Christ, the Good Shepherd,
People: **cleanses himself in Him who died and rose again.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God our Holy Father.
People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a (called and ordained) servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Glory to God in the Highest"



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shi - ped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Acts 4:1–12

(Peter proclaims Jesus as the stone that was rejected and has become the cornerstone.)

¹ 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 and 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, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

⁵ The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶ Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men 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 cripple and are 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 He is "'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.' ¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Love one another as Christ has loved us.)

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. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹ This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us. For 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 obey 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 Those who obey his commands live 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

“Psalm 23: The Lord’s My Shepherd”

setting by John A. Behnke

Refrain



The Lord's my Shep - herd, I shall not want. He



leads me. He leads me.

Cantor: Refrain

All: **Refrain**

Choir: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me by still waters.

Cantor: Refrain

All: **Refrain**

Choir: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Cantor: Refrain

All: **Refrain**

Choir: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

Cantor: Refrain

All: **Refrain**

Choir: You prepare a table in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Cantor: Refrain

All: **Refrain**

Choir: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever and ever.

Cantor: Refrain

All: **Refrain**

Choir: He leads me, he leads me.

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Please stand

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11–18

(Jesus is our Good Shepherd.)

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns 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."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE WORD

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

John A. Behnke

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+++ Special Intercessions +++

Each concluding: L: Lord, in Your mercy, P: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

POSTLUDE

“Andante et Allegro”

Guy Ropartz

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Acts 8:26-40; 1 John 4:1-11; John 15:1-8

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Theodore Laesch
	8:30 a.m.	Clifford Bischoff
	11:00 a.m.	David Shudy
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Carla Rainey
	11:00 a.m.	Ken Kreitner
Acolytes:	5:00 p.m.	Courtnee Martin
	8:30 a.m.	Jacob Laesch
	11:00 a.m.	Darius Johnson
Duet:	8:30 a.m.	Lynda Christian & Denise Koch
Choir:	11:00 a.m.	Choral Singers
Instrumentalist:	Ted Laesch, trumpet	
Director:	Ryan Meyer	
Organist & Accompanist:	Carolyn Rusnak	
Radio Announcer:	Mike Powell	
Elder of the Week:	Jay Zvirgzdins	