

# Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

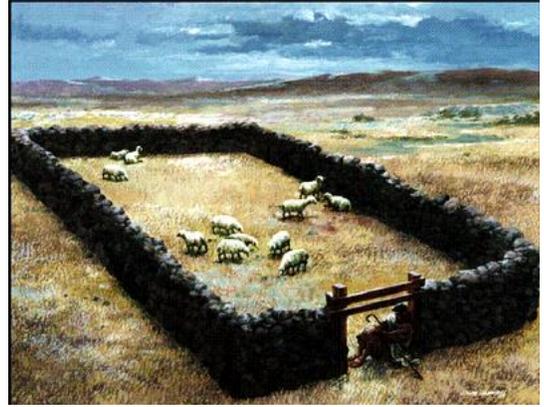
May 3, 2020

Worship Service

Print = Pastor or Worship Leader

**Bold** = Congregation

🎵 = Sing



Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

GATHERING

LIGHT CANDLE

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. (silence)

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for water in the baptismal font and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen**

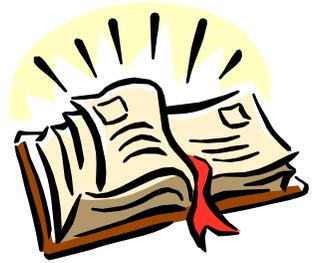
## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together the prayer of the day:

**O God our 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, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



# WORD



The First Lesson is from Acts in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**Acts 2:42-47** NT Page #124

*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.*

42[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. 44All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46Day 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, 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The psalm for today is **Psalm 23** will you please read it responsively with me.

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD I is my shepherd;

I shall not I be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down I in green pastures  
and leads me be- I side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my I soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways I for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they I comfort me. R**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence I of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is I running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days I of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the I LORD forever.**

The Second Lesson is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of **I Peter**.

**I Peter 2:19-25** NT Page #251

*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.*

19It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 20If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. 21For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 22"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23When 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. 24He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**Alleluia**  
**Lord, to whom shall we go?**  
**You have the words of eternal life.**  
**Alleluia**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**John 10:1-10** NT Page #107

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

[Jesus said:] 1 "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. 2The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." 6Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. 7So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **MESSAGE**

### **OFFERING**

*We also encourage those who are able to continue to make their faithful, generous offerings to FAITH. We know that some will be unable to do this, especially if they lose their jobs or work hourly in an industry that has been hard-hit by this situation. If you are able those offerings can be mailed to the church.*

### **PRAYER**

*Then enter into a time of prayer, sharing in prayer requests that you have received and praying for those specifically.*

## CLOSING

## **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**

May God who has claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the † Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **PEACE**

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## EXTINGUISH CANDLE

