
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 5, 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

"I am the gate for the sheep."

[John 10:7]



WELCOME

We're glad you chose to worship with us this morning.

9:30 A.M. Evangelical Lutheran Worship

The image of the Good Shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep; one of mutual knowledge and love that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. The gospel writer John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sister or brother in need.

PRELUDE

M. Searle Wright

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

BELL

GATHERING PRAYER

Inviting God, we want to feel your presence.

We trust that we can find you here, even if we forget you are always with us.

Comforting God, we want to feel your assurance.

We want to be strong, but we need to be reminded of your unconditional love.

Challenging God, we want to share your vision.

We often tend to our own ideas, without thinking that yours may be different.

Empowering God, we want to serve your purpose.

We can be self-centered and narrowly focused. We need your guidance.

Let us open our hearts and minds.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WHOLENESS

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

God of peace, **we confess that we are not at peace with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us.**

Reconnect us with one another and with you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of Peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence for reflection

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow and courage to continue the journey.

In Christ, we are forgiven! Hallelujah Amen!

Stand as you are able

GATHERING HYMN

Earth and All the Stars



1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class-rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl-edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound - ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Hail, wind,	and	rain!	Loud	blow - ing	snow - storm!
Harp, lute,	and	lyre!	Loud	hum - ming	cel - los!
Lime - stone	and	beams!	Loud	build - ing	work - ers!
Ath - lete	and	band!	Loud	cheer - ing	peo - ple!
Daugh - ter	and	son!	Loud	pray - ing	mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

GREETING

The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And
 also with you.**

SONG OF PRAISE

The Lord's My Shepherd



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vail, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres-ence of my foes;
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

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.

Sit

PSALM 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. ²The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. ³You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake. ⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

A The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

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.

A The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand as you are able



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

John 20: 19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

A The grass withers and the flower fades but the word of God endures forever.

C Thanks be to God.

Sit

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Bishop Mark Holmerud

SERMON

Bishop Mark Holmerud

Time for reflection

Stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Stand as you are able

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and
born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection,
we join the people of God in all times and places in praying
for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational
ministries of your church. Enrich the work of teachers,
professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges,
seminaries, and learning sites (*local colleges and seminaries
may be named*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and
operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest
crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in
agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed
the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations (*local ministries may be named*). May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

Stand as you are able

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE FOR EASTER SEASON

God 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.

This is the day that in joy and delight we join with all the angels of heaven and all the creatures on earth to sing our praise and thanksgiving to you, all holy and mighty and glorious God, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed!**

This is the day that you gave light to the earth. You saved the Israelites through the sea and with your pillar of fire led them to freedom. Now every night is as bright as day, and that light is Christ: **Thanks be to God!**

This is the day that you broke the chains of death. This is the day that, marrying heaven to earth, you washed away sin, rescued us from evil, and brought us your peace. The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed!**

THE 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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Sit

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Stand as you are able

SENDING PRAYERS

We thank you, living God for your Son, who sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. **As Christ has loved us, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors.**


Let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick from the coronavirus. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. **May God console them and grant them peace.**

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. **May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good. Amen.**


BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

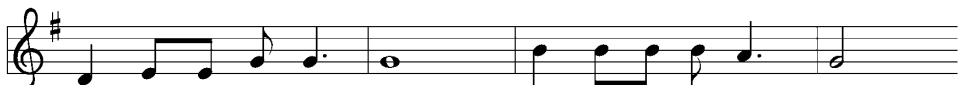
This Little Light of Mine




1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

Charles Callahan