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#### **PEOPLE OF HIS PASTURE**

#### **AS WE GATHER**

Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. This Sunday is traditionally filled with themes of Christ's roles as King and Judge. But consider these words from Psalm 95: "We are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand." We are God's chosen sheep. He is our Shepherd. We follow Him as He goes to seek the lost, bring back the stray, and bind up the injured.

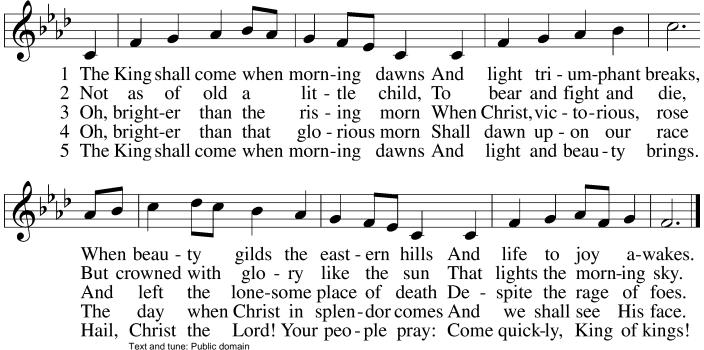
#### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 95:1–3a, 6–7

- P Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
- **C** let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- P Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving!
- G For the Lord is a great God.
- P Oh come, let us worship and bow down.
- For He is our God,
- **P** and we are the people of His pasture,
- **G** and the sheep of His hand.

# + PREPARATION +

## 348 THE KING SHALL COME WHEN MORNING DAWNS



#### INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Indeed, our heavenly Father has called us to be His people. He has led us to green pastures and still waters. Yet, there have been times when we have treated our fellow sheep with disdain, when we have wandered away from our Shepherd. But our Good Shepherd does not abandon us, and we confess our sins before Him and one another.

#### Silence for reflection

- P Heavenly Father,
- We confess that we have wandered away from You. We confess that we have acted shamefully toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might follow You to the green pastures and still waters of everlasting life.
- Our heavenly Father has heard Your confession and sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus searches for each one of His sheep. He brings back those who have strayed. He binds up the injured. He even lays down His life for the sheep. By Christ's death and resurrection, God 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.
- **C** Amen. We are sought by our Shepherd. We are forgiven in Christ.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

# + WORD +

## **KYRIE**

- A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

## SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LSB 168

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

#### Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

<sup>11</sup>"For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

<sup>20</sup>"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### VENITE

LSB 220

 O come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. The deep places of the earth are in His hand; the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, for He made it, and His hand formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### EPISTLE

#### 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup>When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Amber King, Interim Preschool Director

#### HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

#### Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup>And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup>And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' <sup>40</sup>And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

<sup>41</sup>"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **O** Praise to You, O Christ.

394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE 1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise. Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King 2 Man - i - fest at su-preme; mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul; 3 Man - i - fest in 4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee; see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word— 5 Grant us grace to Man - i - fest - ed by the To the sa - ges from a - far, star at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest; And Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all dev - il's might; the Christ will then like light - ning shine, All His glo-rious sign; will see Grace to im - i - tate Thee now be pure, as pure art Thou: And Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem: Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine; Man - i - fest in gra-cious will, er bring-ing good from ill; Ev -All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap-pear; we might be-come like Thee At That Thy great e - piph - a - ny An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. An - thems be wilt be con-fessed. God in man made man - i - fest. Thou by all And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

NICENE CREED

**C** I believe in one God. the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God. begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father. by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

## **OFFERING**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Dear heavenly Father, You promise to seek the lost. We pray for all those who have wandered P away from Your Church. We pray that You would strengthen us to reach out to them, to receive them with open arms and open hearts when they return home. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
- **G** Give ear to our cry.
- **P** Lord, You promise to strengthen the weak. Send Your strength and courage to all those who need it, to the aging, the lonely, the tired, and the vulnerable. Protect and defend them from the wolves of this world. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

## **G** Give ear to our cry.

Lord, You promise to feed Your sheep with good pasture. Raise up faithful servants and P shepherds to share the nourishment of Your Word and Sacraments with all Your sheep. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

#### **G** Give ear to our cry.

- Lord, You promise to rescue Your flock from all enemies. Guard and keep us from the enemies of sin, death, and Satan. Lead us away from temptation and always closer to the arms of our Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
- **G** Give ear to our cry.
- Lord, You promise to bind up the injured. Bring Your healing to all those who suffer now through injury, illness, and oppression, [*especially*...]. Heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
- **G** Give ear to our cry.
- Lord, by Your Word You have told us that the last enemy to be destroyed is death. As we await the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead, we still grieve and mourn when the enemy of death strikes our friends and family. Be near all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, [*especially*...]. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

#### **G** Give ear to our cry.

- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
- **C** Amen.

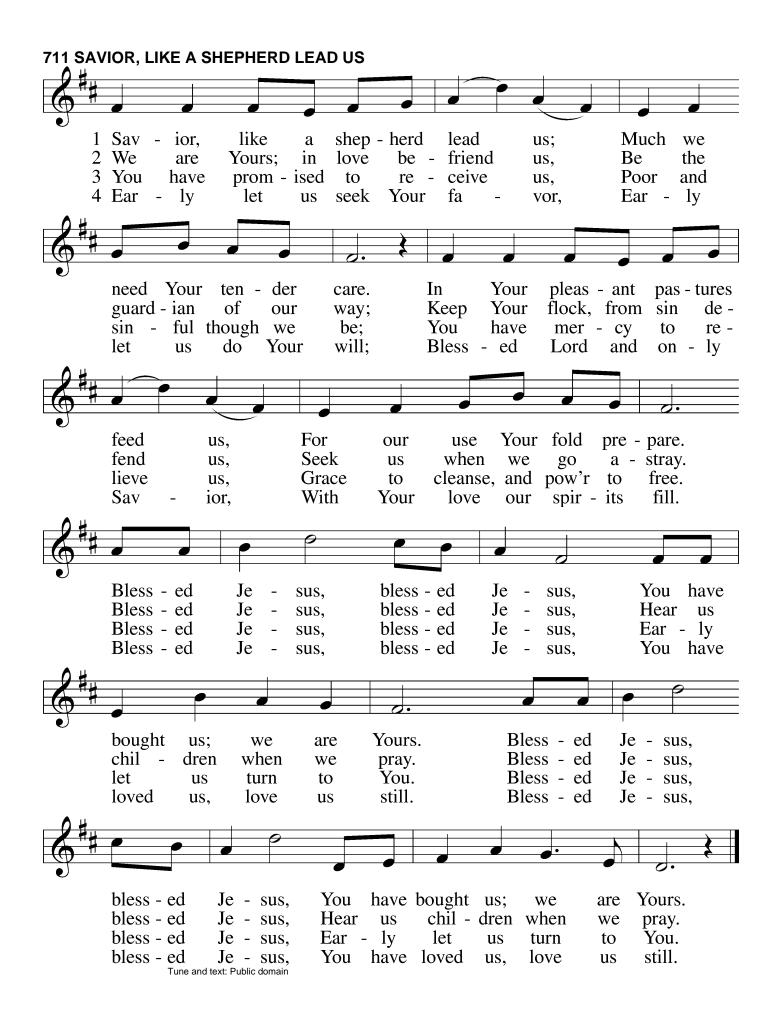
#### LORD'S PRAYER

 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

- 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.
- C Amen.



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#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# **Prayers**

#### Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanks for **Steffen & Kerin Ludwig** who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Thanksgiving for **Bob & Carol Thornton** as they celebrate their wedding anniversary this week.

#### Prayers of Comfort and Healing

For all who suffer from **anxiety and depression**.

Prayers for comfort and understanding for all those who are battling cancer.

Healing for all those who have Covid.

Comfort for the family and friends of **Karen Schuster** as they mourn her death.

Healing for **Gail**, Beth Tietjen's sister, as she recovers from some severe burns.

Comfort for Eric Church and family as they mourn the death of his Uncle Phil.

Healing for **Glenn Warmbier** as he is in poor health, in and out of ER, and his family is caring for him now.

For the family and friends of **Irene**, the mother of member Barb Olson, as they mourn Irene's death.

for Art, the grandfather of a former preschooler as he is suffering from an infection and multiple other complications

for Gene, the Uncle of Jessica, he is in a Spokane Hospital with COVID and is not doing well.

## **Other Prayers**

Safety for all who are traveling.

All who serve in our **armed forces** and their **families**.

Can we pray for you? Share your prayer requests by email at office@concordiapullman.org or fill out one of the white cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate.