

**Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)**

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Supported Missionaries Rev. Chuck Ferry and Family & Chelsea Irwin

*"Equipping Disciples to Make Disciples for Jesus"*

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**FOURTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Saturday, April 24, 2021 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:30 a.m.**

## As We Gather

Of all the animals that could have been used to portray humanity, does it feel strange to be called a sheep? After all, it is not the most honorable creature. There are no defense mechanisms to escape a predator, no intimidating roar, and limited ability to fend for one's self when it comes to seeking nourishment, water, and safety. Yet these things reveal the point we are called to understand. It may not be good to be a sheep on our own, but it is great to be a sheep with a Good Shepherd to care for the flock. Jesus is our perfect shepherd who protects and defends, feeds and nourishes, leads and provides all we need in this body and life. Together as His flock, we are blessed to follow Him as by His Word and Means of Grace He leads us to streams of living water and paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

### PREPARATION

#### Opening Hymn

#### *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

LSB #740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text and tune: Public domain

#### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

*1 John 3:16a, 24; John 10:11, adapted*

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P** By this we know love,  
**C** **that He laid down His life for us.**
- P** "I am the good shepherd," says the Lord.  
**C** **The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.**
- P** Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him.  
**C** **And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.**

## Confession and Absolution

*Psalms 23; John 10:11*

- P** The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
**C** **Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we confess to You that we have been ungrateful for all You give us to sustain our bodies and lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.  
**C** **Like sheep, we are distracted and tend to wander and scatter. We forget who we are as baptized children of God and fail to respond to Your shepherding in our lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.  
**C** **We confess that in difficult times of life, we sometimes struggle to be confident in Your presence and protection, seeking to find our own comfort. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.  
**C** **As we journey through this sinful world, we overlook the goodness and mercy that flow into our lives from You. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** Jesus, our Good Shepherd, hears our cries and says to us, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." Receive the forgiveness won for You through Christ's laying down His life and rising from death in victory. As a called and

ordained servant of Christ, and in His stead and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen. Thanks be to God.**

## WORD

### Introit

*Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b*

**P** I am the good shepherd.

**C I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.**

**P** The LORD is my shepherd;

**C I shall not want.**

**P** He makes me lie down in green pastures.

**C He leads me beside still waters.**

**P** He restores my soul.

**C He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**P** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

**C your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**C you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

**P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**C and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**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.**

**P** I am the good shepherd.

**C I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.**

### Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep,

**C 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;**

**P** through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## First Reading

*Acts 4:1–12 (ESV)*

### *Peter and John witness before the council*

<sup>1</sup> And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup> greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup> And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. <sup>5</sup> On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup> with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup> And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup> if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup> This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*1 John 3:16–24 (ESV)*

### *Love one another*

<sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup> But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? <sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. <sup>19</sup> By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup> for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup> and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup> Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*John 10:11–18 (ESV)*

### *Jesus the Good Shepherd*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Apostles' Creed

**C** **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.

**Sermon Hymn**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

**LSB #709**



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!

Text and tune: Public domain

**Confirmation Essays and Homily**

**Prayer of the Church**

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

You are the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for us out of love.;

- C Help us to hear Your voice, follow where You lead, and receive what You provide through Your grace and mercy.**
  
- P** For the times we fear our enemies and the powers against us, remind us that we belong to You and no one can snatch us from Your hand. We bring before the Lord the part of Your flock here in this place and others whom we love in their time of need, *[especially . . .]*. Carry them as lambs in a shepherd's arms through the difficult paths ahead.
- C Give all wisdom to know the faithful path we are to take, and shepherd us through every trial, trouble, and temptation.**
  
- P** Give us courage that we not live in captivity to our fears; guide those who lead us in this and every land; provide peace, justice, and freedom for people everywhere.
- C In our busy days, give us time to reflect upon the goodness of God and to experience joy in the security and peace You provide us, that we find contentment and peace in You.**
  
- P** Protect and defend the members of our armed forces and the public workers who keep our communities safe.
- C Defend us from our enemies, and teach us to rely on Your provision, the true protector of us all.**
  
- P** That we do not forget those in need but share with all the Lord has entrusted to us and to display the kind of love shown and known that has no end; let us pray to the Lord.
- C That we recall the saints of old, who put their trust in the Lord, that we also be found faithful when He returns in glory.**
  
- P** That as we gather at the Table of the communion of saints for the forgiveness of sins,
- C having faith to receive His gifts for the nourishment of our lives of faith now and to the life that is to come.**
  
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.**

**Offering** *(Offerings and attendance cards can be placed in the basket at the back)*



## Lord's Prayer

- C** 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

### Closing Hymn

### *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

LSB #711



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we  
2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the  
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and  
4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures  
guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -  
sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -  
let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.  
fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.  
lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

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## Acknowledgments

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