

April 30, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter



THE
Lord
IS MY
Shepherd

The background image shows a shepherd in silhouette on the left, holding a staff. Several sheep are grazing in a green field. In the distance, there are mountains under a cloudy sky. The text "THE Lord IS MY Shepherd" is overlaid in a large, white, elegant script font.

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: WS #783

“Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep”

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ Amen.

P Pastor

Confession & Absolution

C Congregation

Psalm 80:1-3

P Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

C You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

P Stir up Your might and come to save us!

C Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

C Heavenly Father, “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way.” We confess that by our thoughts, our words, and our actions we have strayed from Your commands. We have turned from Your love and gone our own way. Because of our wayward sin, we deserve to be sheep that are forever lost. But we pray that for the sake of Your Lamb, Jesus Christ, that You would have mercy on us. With the psalmist we confess and pray: “I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.”

P Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep and took it up again, rising from the dead for our justification. Through Jesus Christ, you are redeemed, restored, and forgiven. “For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

Psalm 28:8-9

P The LORD is the strength of his people;

C He is the saving refuge of his anointed.

P Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!

C Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

P Praise be to the Lamb that was slain for us, but who is alive forevermore!

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

C ♪ *Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our redemption,
By whose self-off'ring we are made God's people:
A priestly kingdom, from all tongues and nations,
Called to God's service.*

*To the Almighty, throned in heav'nly splendor,
And to the Savior, Christ our Lamb and Shepherd,
Be adoration, praise, and glory given,
Now and forever.*

Collect Prayer of the Day

P 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.

C ♪ *Amen.*

John 10:1-10

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me



are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

1 Peter 2:19-25

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: *Below*

“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 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. And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, May I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

1 Samuel 17:31-37

³¹ When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. ³² And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." ³³ And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go

against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." ³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, ³⁵ I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. ³⁶ Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." ³⁷ And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"



“I COME TO YOU IN THE NAME OF THE LORD OF HOSTS.”

1 SAMUEL 17:45

“Go, and the LORD Be with You!”

- I. Without a shepherd, fear leads to death
- II. With our Good Shepherd, faith leads to life

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Sermon Hymn: TLH #263

“O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe”

Prayers, Lord’s Prayer, and Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen.

Hymn: TLH #648

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

Mission Helper Trip Fund: This summer, we have the joyful privilege of sending three representatives from our congregation to our brothers and sisters-in-Christ in Nepal as part of this summer's CLC Mission Helper Trip. Lydia Ohlmann will be joined by Pastor Rodebaugh and Missionary Ohlmann. Please pray for all three as they continue to preparing and that the Lord would bless their efforts through His Word.

If you are able and willing to contribute funds to help offset the costs for Lydia to travel to Nepal this summer, you are invited to do so by contributing to our **Mission Helper Trip Fund**, by marking donations as such in your offering. Any support is greatly appreciated.

Mission Blog: Stay up-to-date on Missionary Ohlmann's travels by visiting his blog at www.missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com/

CLC Call News: Valley Bible Academy, Clarkston, WA **has called** Ross Kok of Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran School, Phoenix, AZ to be their upper grade teacher. <> Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith Lutheran in New Ulm, MN **is considering the call** to serve as the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI <> Seminary graduate Jonah Albrecht **has accepted the call** from the dual parish of Redemption Lutheran of Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran of Tacoma, WA to serve as their pastor. <> Teacher graduate Stephen Krause **has accepted the call** from Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE to teach in their school.

Budget Deficit: Our offerings-to-date have fallen short of our 2023 Budget by **\$3,149.23**. Please remember this in your prayers, as we entrust the ongoing care of our congregation to our Good Shepherd.

<u>April 30th Offerings:</u>	\$ 2,627.50
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,661.54
General Fund Balance	\$20,001.71
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$37,394.59
Total Cash All Funds	\$72,732.14

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; May 01 - 06, '23

Mon John 12:20-23 During Holy Week, when some Greek-speaking worshipers want to see Jesus, we are reminded that His death and glorious resurrection are not just for His own people, but for the whole world.

Tues John 12:24-26 Jesus goes through suffering and death for the fruit that will result for mankind: forgiveness and life. Similarly Jesus' followers go through whatever suffering is necessary, knowing that their life in Christ will survive when this world's life is long gone.

Wed 1 John 4:9-12 We know God loves us because He sent His Son into the world to live and die and rise again for us. One of the fruits of His resurrection is that we also love God and show that love by loving those whom He so loved.

Thur 1 John 4:13-14 A fruit of Christ's resurrection is that we share the testimony about God's sending His Son to save us all. This sharing of the Gospel is the Holy Spirit's doing, who has brought us to see our Savior with the eyes of faith.

Fri Isaiah 40:26-28 When we look at the stars above, we see evidence of God's wisdom and strength. He knows every star (by name, v26). Why then, would His people think that He did not know their troubles or understand? His power we can readily see. His understanding is also unsearchable.

Sat Isaiah 40:29-31 The LORD God, who raised Jesus from the dead, is the source of power for the faint, even for those with no strength at all. This is His promise to us also, both now and when we pass through the valley of the shadow of death.



“The LORD is
my shepherd,
I shall not want.”

Psalm 23:1, NRSV