



**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Worship Service
May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Thought: Today is often called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” This is a day when we share Psalm 23 and know each and every phrase. There are a bunch of pictures that show Jesus carrying a lost lamb over his shoulders back to the fold and we know we are held in his arms. What struck me this time around, was Jesus’ voice! Besides handshakes and hugs, what do you miss at Our Savior?

The voices of caring and stories and concern.

A prayer starts out: “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.” \ Hear the voice of Jesus in each other.

Prelude – “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” Mass of the Rock

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=il1OeQfkVyl>

Call to Worship

Even if I live a life of luxury or loneliness,

The Lord is my shepherd.

Even if I pass through the darkest alleys or dreary daytimes,

The Lord is my shepherd.

Even if I come upon people who pass me by or people who bring hope,

The Lord is my shepherd.

Even when my cup overflows,

The Lord is my shepherd. We will live in God’s house forever. Amen.

Opening Music – The Lord’s My Shepherd – Stuart Townend

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN4tPkX0MG0>

Invocation

“The Shepherd’s Fold”

We like sheep have gone astray, and now we are threatened by danger on every side. Great Shepherd of the sheep,

Bring us into your fold, where we can find safety and protection.

We like sheep have gone astray, and now we are in the midst of chaos and disorder. Great Shepherd of the sheep,

Bring us into your fold, where we can find peace and quiet.

We like sheep have gone astray, and now there is discomfort and distress. Great Shepherd, of the sheep,

Bring us into your fold, where we can find comfort and care.

We like sheep have gone astray, and now we are lacking the energy to carry on. Great Shepherd of the sheep,

Bring us into your fold, where we can be refreshed and restored.

We like sheep have gone astray, and now we look to the future for hope. Great Shepherd of the sheep,

Bring us into your fold, and bring us into the glory to come. Amen.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

Hymn of Praise – “Have No Fear Little Flock”

My First Hymnal, Concordia Publishing House

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Have-No-Fear-Little-Flock-18.mp4>

Prayer of the Day

God calls his name, “Christ, my Son, Arise!”

Alleluia!

Now our ears are open to his call. Our lives are ready for his leading.

Where will our shepherd lead us?

To rescue the lost.

Where will our shepherd guide us?

To heal the injured.

Where will our shepherd call us?

To feed one another –

with rich food of knowledge – with the sweet drink of understanding.
Guide us, O Father, to be shepherds. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now –
and forever. Amen.

The Word

First Reading – Acts 2:42-47

*The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have,
and ensures that everyone has enough.*

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day 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, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

³ he restores my soul.

**He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.**

**⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**

**⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.**

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

Second Reading – 1 Peter 2:19-25

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties,
hardships, rejection, or even suffering.*

¹⁹ For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If 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. ²¹ For 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.”

²³ When 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. ²⁴ He 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. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Holy Gospel – John 10:1-10

Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

Jesus the Good Shepherd

¹⁰ “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. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go 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.

Holy Gospel & Children’s Time – Pastor Barnes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0oKUP2AUwJg&feature=youtu.be>

Homily – “Voice Recognition” – Pastor Barnes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUF3UI8xfAo&feature=youtu.be>

Hymn of the Day – “He Leadeth Me” A Capella Hymn

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/He-Leadeth-Me-A-Cappella-Hymn-18.mp4>

The Apostles’ Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead,
on the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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. 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. 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. 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.

Offering

Yes, we are apart and yet giving thanks to God by our gifts is who we are,
as sheep of the Good Shepherd.

Let's pray this offertory prayer:

What more can we ask, O Lord? Green pastures are ours. Still waters – ours. We shall dwell in your house, forever. Accept our gifts, O Lord. We follow. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A time of reflection where Holy Communion will once again be shared together!

“Glory to God in The Highest” John Michael Talbot With Choir and Orchestra

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qff1ZOtw7dc>

“On Eagles Wings”

written by Michael Joncas

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/On-Eagles-Wings-18.mp4>

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth, as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Closing Prayer

(while we feel closed off, let's pray this prayer of hope yet to be:)

Grant us the courage to open wide the gates of your realm so that all may enter. Grant us the blessing of opened hearts and opened minds, opened arms and opened doors with which to embrace all of your world. Amen.

Closing Hymn and Benediction

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" John Rutter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCpxgEHqjFA>

