

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
The Good Shepherd Loves His Sheep
May 10 & 11, 2014

AS WE GATHER

A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23 is a bestselling book by the author W. Phillip Keller. As one who spent many years shepherding in British Columbia, he had a unique perspective to understand the life of sheep and their shepherd. Keller always saw the Shepherd as our Savior Jesus, who describes Himself as “the Good Shepherd (who) lays down His life for the sheep” (John 10:11). Psalm 23 was written by King David, who himself was at first also a shepherd. Even David, Israel’s mighty king, pictures himself as a sheep when he declares, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want” (Psalm 23:1). Today, we again are reminded how Christ lays down His life for His sheep and takes it up again.

WELCOME

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” 1 Peter 1:3*

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #711 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to You.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to You.

Early let us seek Your favor, Early let us do Your will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus said, “I am the Good Shepherd, I know My own and my own know Me, just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

People: 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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on our Savior Jesus the iniquity of us all.” Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Lord, we truly have wandered away from our Shepherd like lost sheep. We have sinned in what we have done and in what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Yet you sent your Son Jesus to be our Savior. Since Jesus is also God Himself in human flesh and blood, He has become our true Shepherd, going out into the wilderness to find us when we were lost and who then brings us home rejoicing. Forgive our wandering sins, dear Lord, and let us rejoice every day over the Savior who has found us when we were lost.

Pastor: In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Refrain This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. *Refrain*

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

People: O God, whose Son, Jesus, is the Good Shepherd of your people, grant that when we hear His voice we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Be seated)

+ WORD +

FIRST READING Acts 2:42–47 (The fellowship community of the Early Church)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

EPISTLE 1 Peter 2:19–25 (Following Jesus in His steps)

For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he

made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

8:00 ANTHEM

"O Church Arise" Keith Getty & John Hudson

Choir

10:30 HYMN #814

"O Bless the Lord, My Soul" Sung by congregation & Choir

Stanzas 1 & 2

Congregation & hand-chimes (by choir)

Stanza 3

Choir only

Stanza 4

Congregation only

Stanza's 5 & 6

Congregation & hand-chimes (by choir)

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL John 10:1–10 (I am the Door of the sheep.)

"I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #709

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.
Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!
And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever!

SERMON "The Door to Life" John 10:1-10

(Rise)
APOSTLES' CREED (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)
(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the petitions:

Pastor: . . . one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #571 "God Loved the World So That He Gave"

God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.

Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.

God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.

Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.

If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.

Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

HYMN #537 "Beautiful Savior"

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shine purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forever-more be Thine!

HYMN #631 "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face"

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load, Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song; This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed; My strength is in Thy might,
Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
The blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #477 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim For the world's salvation bled-
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat;
See the ancient pow'rs of evil In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!

Preacher

Pastor Harold Bender

Liturgist

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Lectors

Russell Hurst, Laurel Privatt, Manley Hurst

Acolytes

Kaylee Quillen, AJ Olson, Rachel Osell

Choir Director

Nancy Hoelke

Organist & Children's Choir Director

Roger Gottschalk

Music Coordinator

Kim Woller