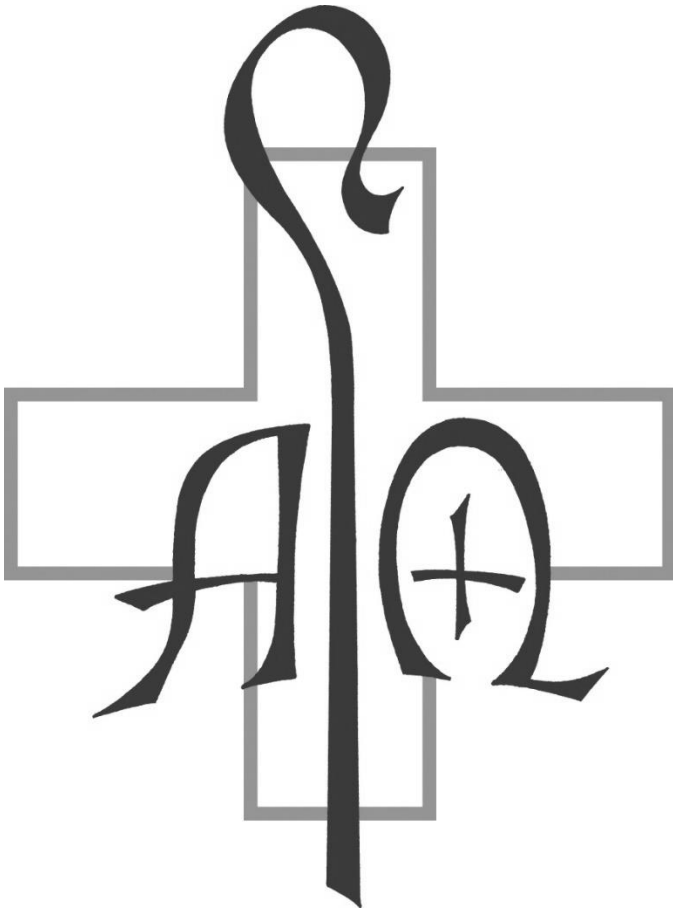


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." *John 10:11*

Order of Worship

April 21, 2024 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

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781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Introit

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

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
and I lay down my life for the sheep.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

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

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.

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.

Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the
Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

Thank you.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Divine Service

Invocation for the Easter Season

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

Matthew 28:19

C Amen.

Opening Song

I Will Dwell

Neale & Neale

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus, Bridge x3, Chorus x2



1. You are my Shep - herd, I have all that I need;
You lead me be - side the peace - ful wat - ers to
rest in mea - dows green; 2. You re - new my
strength, guide me in the right way;
me, bring - ing com - fort and joy;
You're bring - ing all glo - ry and all hon - or
You wel - come me as a guest in - to Your house, a -
to Your match - less Name; Ev - en though I
noint - ing me with oil; Ev - en though I

continued on next page

10
walk the dark - est val - ley, I will not be
walk the dark - est val - ley, I will not be

11
a - fraid. 'Cause Your good - ness and Your mer - cy fol - low me all
a - fraid. CHORUS

13
my days, and I will dwell in Your house, and I will dwell

15
in Your house, and I will dwell in Your house for -

17
ev - er. ev - er. My
3. You walk be - side

21
cup is run - ning o - ver; My cup is run - ning o - ver; My

23
cup is run - ning o - ver be - cause of You; My

25
cup is run - ning o - ver; My cup is run - ning o - ver; My

27
cup is run - ning o - ver be - cause of You. My

29
cup is run - ning o - ver; My cup is run - ning o - ver; My

31
cup is run - ning o - ver be - cause of You. Your good -

33
ness and Your mer - cy fol-low me all my days, and I will dwell

35
in Your house, and I will dwell in Your house, and I will dwell

37
in Your house for - ev - er. 'Cause Your good -

40
ness and Your mer - cy fol-low me all my days, and I will dwell

42
in Your house, and I will dwell in Your house, and I will dwell

44
in Your house for - ev - er.

Prayer of Confession

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** O Lord, hear us now, as we confess our sins to You.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake 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.

G Amen.

Song

White As Snow

Olguin

Sing Twice Through

White as snow, white as snow, Though my
sins were as scar - let, Lord, I know, Lord, I know.
That I'm clean and for - giv - en. Through the
pow - er of Your blood, Through the won - der of Your love,
Through. faith in You I know that I am
now white as snow.

Psalm

Psalm 23

Spoken responsively

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

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

³He restores my soul.

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

⁴**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.**

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

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

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. 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.

First Reading

Acts 4:1–12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But 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? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And 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. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 10:11–18

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He 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. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No 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.

Nicene Creed

- ☩ 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.**



Song of the Day

Hosanna

Baloche, Brown

Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus x2

VERSE

1. Praise is ris - ing, eyes are turn - ing to You;
 2. Hear the sound of hearts re - turn - ing to You;

We turn to You; Hope is stir - ring,
 We turn to You; In Your King - dom

hearts are yearn - ing for You;
 bro - ken lives are made new,

We long for You; 'Cause when we see
 You make us new; 'Cause when we see

You, we find strength to face the day;
 You, we find strength to face the day;

In Your pres - ence all our fears are washed a - way,
 In Your pres - ence all our fears are washed a - way,

CHORUS

washed a - way. Ho - san
 washed a - way.

na, ho - san - na, You are the God Who saves us,
 wor - thy of all our prais - es; Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, come have Your way a - mong us;

38 *Fine*
 We wel-come You here, Lord Je - sus.

43
 'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day;

47
 In Your pres - ence all our fears are washed a-way;

51
 'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day;

55
 In Your pres - ence all our fears are washed a-way,

58 *D.S. al Fine*
 washed a - way. Ho -

Sermon

Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

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

Response after each petition

- P** Lord, in your mercy,
G **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord God, out of Your fatherly goodness You have remembered us poor, miserable sinners and given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd — not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that even as this Shepherd knows us and helps in every affliction, we also may know Him, trust Him, seek help and comfort in Him, heartily obey His voice, and obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Blessing

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Song

Good Good Father

Brown, Barrett

*Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus x2, Bridge x2,
Verse 3, Chorus x2, Bridge x2, Bridge, Chorus*

1. Oh, I've heard a
thou - sand sto - ries of what they think You're like. But
I've heard the ten - der whis - per of love in the
dead of night. And You tell me
that You're pleased and that I'm nev - er a - lone.

You're a good, good Fa - ther, it's who You are,

it's who You are, it's who You are. And I'm loved by

You, it's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

2. Oh, and I've seen man - y search-ing for an - swers

far and wide. But I know we're all search-ing for an -

- swers on-ly You pro - vide. 'Cause You know just

what we need be-fore we say a word. You're a good, good

Fa - ther, it's who You are, it's who You are,

it's who You are. And I'm loved by You, it's who I am,

it's who I am, it's who I am. You're a good, good

Be-cause You are per - fect in all of Your ways.

continued on next page

You are per-fect in all of Your ways. You are

per-fect in all of Your ways. to us. Oh, You are

3. Oh, this love so

un - de - ni - a - ble I, I can hard - ly speak.

Peace so un - ex - plain - a - ble I, I can

hard - ly think. As You call me deep - er still, as You

call me deep - er still, as You call me

deep - er still in - to love, love, love. You're a good, good

Oh, You are per-fect in all of Your ways, so

per - fect in all of Your ways. You are

per-fect in all of Your ways to us. You're a good, good

Fa - ther, it's who You are, it's who You are,
 it's who You are. And I'm loved by
 You, it's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Resources for Meditation this Week

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

21 April 2024

Readings

Acts 4:1–12

1 John 3:16–24

John 10:11–18

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, Lays Down His Life for the Sheep

The Lord Jesus is *“the good shepherd”* who *“lays down his life for the sheep”* (John 10:11). His life is not taken from Him, but He lays it down willingly, of His own accord, because He knows and loves the sheep. As the One sent by the Father, He has the *“authority to lay it down”* and the *“authority to take it up again”* (John 10:18). So has He done, and now He continues to love and serve as the Good Shepherd of the sheep by the voice of His Gospel. He thus calls all people into the fold of His Church, so that there may be *“one flock, one shepherd”* (John 10:16). That is why the apostles *“were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead”* (Acts 4:2). Since *“there is salvation in no one else,”* His voice rings out to this day through the preaching of His name, *“for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12). His voice comforts our hearts against all condemnation and gives us courage to *“love one another”* and *“to lay down our lives for the brothers,”* as He laid down His life for us (1 John 3:16, 23).



Readings

Acts 8:26–40

1 John 4:1–11 (12–21)

John 15:1–8

Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us

“God is love,” and He has manifested Himself to us by sending *“his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him”* (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, *“he has given us of his Spirit,”* so that we also believe and confess *“that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.”* In this way, we *“abide in him and he in us,”* and we *“love one another”* (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip’s preaching of *“the good news about Jesus”* to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when *“they came to some water,”* the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into *“the true vine,”* Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He *“bears much fruit”* in us (John 15:3–5).

