



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Prospect Heights, IL
Office: 847-537-4430

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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Our Good Shepherd

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 ✠

740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 I am Jesus' little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name. | 3 Who so happy as I am,
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast,
There within His arms to rest. |
| 2 Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow. | |

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Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ 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

Psalm 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 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.**
- C **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.**

Kyrie

LSB 186

- C **Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

- 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

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.”

- L 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.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Romans 6:9; John 10:14

C **Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.**

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.**

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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

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

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

4 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.

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!

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Sermon – “Which Sheep Are You?”

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.

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. Help us to hear Your voice, follow where You lead, and receive what You provide through Your grace and mercy; let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Good Shepherd and Lord, have 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 Hedy Beer, Kathleen, Alicia, Sallyann, Sheila, Kathie Kirschenmann, Lou, Jean Staffa, Dana, Kaylee, Leah, Terri, Rory, Jean, Annette Kirschenmann, Ray Wirsing, Rod Isaacson, Sharlene, Fran, Doug, Wally Olson, Janna, Maria, Andrew, and Pastor Barber and his family. Carry them as lambs in a shepherd's arms through the difficult paths ahead. Give all wisdom to know the faithful path we are to take, and shepherd us through every trial, trouble, and temptation; let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Good Shepherd and Lord, have mercy.**
- 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. 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; let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Good Shepherd and Lord, have mercy.**
- P Protect and defend the members of our armed forces and the public workers who keep our communities safe. Defend us from our enemies, and teach us to rely on Your provision, the true protector of us all; let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Good Shepherd and Lord, have mercy.**
- 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 **Good Shepherd and Lord, have mercy.**
- P 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; let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Good Shepherd and Lord, have mercy.**
- P That as we gather at the Table of the communion of saints for the forgiveness of sins, having faith to receive His gifts for the nourishment of our lives of faith now and to the life that is to come; let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Good Shepherd and Lord, have mercy.**

Additional petitions may follow.

- 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.**

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

- P 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.
- C **Amen.**

711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours. | 3 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You. |
| 2 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray. | 4 Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still. |

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Easter Acclamation

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Dismissal

- P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
C **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Worship:

If you are planning to attend in person worship, please register each week using the link below.

<https://rsvp.church/r/PsLbwYgP>

Please dispose of your worship bulletin (and Communion supplies) or take them with you. We are not recycling them.

We have resumed the use of the mailboxes upstairs, so please check yours today.

Please check the May Monthly News for exciting new changes taking place next month.

Wednesday Evening Pastor-Led Bible Studies

Pastor-led Bible Study has resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm online.

ACTS: A study of Growth in the Church. This means growth in Christian attitudes, insights, and skills for Christian living. The focus of this course will be the church and the world of our day. The guiding question will be this: *What does the Lord teach us for life today through the book of Acts?* Join us online on Wednesday evenings, 7 pm at <https://Koinonia.ClickMeeting.com/Acts> (or visit there for the recorded sessions).

Online Giving:

We are now set up for Online Giving on our website as well as in Breeze. If you haven't set up your personal Breeze account, please do so using the email invite that was sent out to you. Setting up your account allows you to update your personal contact information and allows access to online giving. If you need another invitation or need help setting it up, please contact Jim Burmeister at elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org or (847) 934-5963.

Prayer Request Information:

If you have a prayer request, please notify Jim Burmeister via text at (847) 343-3798, Phone: (847)934-5963 or via email: elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org.

Email address for Pastor Jim:

If you would like to send an email to Pastor Jim, please use the following address:

Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org

Summer Suppers:

Please check the May Monthly News for detailed information regarding the 2021 Summer Supper Program.

Voter's Meeting:

Please plan to attend our Voter's Meeting TODAY April 25th at 10:15 am in the Sanctuary. Registration is required.

Wheeling Food Pantry Wish List:

The Wheeling Township food pantry is in need of the following items: Beans (Cannellini, Northern, White, etc. green not needed) Canned Meat Products (Hash, Beef Stew, Ham, Ravioli, Spam etc.), Mayonnaise, Potato Products (Au Gratin, Instant Mashed, Scalloped, etc.) Vegetable Soup (no Broth please). Items can be dropped off at the Wheeling Township office located at 1616 N Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Questions can be directed to Julie Villarreal at 847-259-7730.

Are you a Thrivent Member?

Have you directed your Choice Dollars? Please remember to check your Thrivent account at least on an annual basis and indicate where you would like to have them directed. Both Our Redeemer and Sonshine are included in the recognized recipients and would appreciate being designated. Thrivent provides this free of charge to members, so remember to take advantage of their generosity!

May 2021

No.	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17							1
18	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
20	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
21	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
22	30	31					

May Happenings

May 2 9:00 am – The Fifth Sunday of Easter – With Communion

May 9 9:00 am – The Sixth Sunday of Easter – No Communion

May 11 6:30 pm - Board of Directors Meeting

May 13 6:30 pm – ORLC Summer Suppers

May 16 9:00 am – “The Ascension of the Lord (Observed)” – With Communion

May 20 7:00 pm - Call Committee Meeting

May 23 9:00 am - Pentecost Sunday – No Communion

May 30 9:00 am – Trinity Sunday – With Communion