

DID YOU HEAR THAT?

AS WE GATHER

Many people in the world are deaf to God's presence and certainly to His Word. Some people refused to believe when they physically met Jesus, as in today's Gospel. Paul had to warn church leaders that opposition might even come from within, from wolves in sheep's clothing. But by the grace of God in Scripture, we hear our Good Shepherd speaking to us about His grace and mercy. John's vision of the Lamb's eternal victory lets us hear the eternal praises of saints and angels in heaven. Today is an opportunity to tell one another in word and song about our faith, asking our brothers and sisters if they also are hearing all the good news about our Shepherd. We leave to ask our friends and neighbors the same question. What joy when they may say with us, "The Lord is my shepherd too!"

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN "JESUS CHRIST, MY SURE DEFENSE"

#741 *sts. 1-2, 7-8*



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall
7 Laugh to scorn the gloom - y grave And at death no long - er
8 O, then, draw a - way your hearts From all plea - sures base and



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
wak - en. He will bring me where He is;
trem - ble; He, the Lord, who came to save
hol - low; Strive to share what He im - parts



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the
Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
Will at last His own as - sem - ble. They will
While you here His foot - steps fol - low. As you



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?
go their Lord to meet, Tread - ing death be - neath their feet.
now still wait to rise, Fix your hearts be - yond the skies!

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616-79; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 23:1, 6b; Revelation 7:17

- P** The LORD is my shepherd;
C I shall not want.
- P** For the Lamb in the midst of the throne
C will be their shepherd,
- P** and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
C And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
- P** I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P** Lord, our God,
C we confess that we have strayed from hearing the voice of Your Son, our Shepherd, who went through death to eternal life for us. We have failed to trust in You fully. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us and renew in us faith and trust. Grant us to hear anew our Shepherd's voice and to follow wherever He leads, until we see Him with You in Your eternal house.
- P** Fellow sheep within Christ's fold, our Lord Jesus was God's sacrificial Lamb and has gone through death, paying for the sins of all people, and He now reigns in eternity. Therefore, in His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 78:70–72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

- P** I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

“I AM JESUS’ LITTLE LAMB”

#740 *st. 1*



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
 Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
 day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig
 Text and tune: Public domain

INTROIT PART 2

P He chose David His servant and took him from the sheepfolds;
C from following the nursing ewes He brought him to shepherd Jacob His people, Israel His inheritance.

P With upright heart he shepherded them
C and guided them with his skillful hand.

P But we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever;
C from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.

“I AM JESUS’ LITTLE LAMB”

#740 *st. 2*

2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig
 Text and tune: Public domain

GLORIA PATRI

P 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.

C I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

“I AM JESUS’ LITTLE LAMB”

#740 st. 3

3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig

Text and tune: Public domain

KYRIE

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C Lord, have mercy on us.

P Christ, have mercy on us.

C Christ, have mercy on us.

P Lord, have mercy on us

C and grant us Your peace. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “HEAVENLY HOSTS IN CEASELESS WORSHIP”

#949

1 Heav'n-ly hosts in cease-less wor-ship “Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly” cry;
2 All cre-a-tion, all re-demp-tion, Join to sing the Sav-ior's worth;
“He who is, who was and will be, God Al-might-y, Lord Most High.”
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, Kings and priests, to reign on earth.
Praise and hon-or, pow'r and glo-ry, Be to Him who reigns a-lone!
Wealth and wis-dom, pow'r and glo-ry, Hon-or, might, do-min-ion, praise,
We, with all His hands have fash-ioned, Fall be-fore the Fa-ther's throne.
Now be His from all His crea-tures And to ev-er-last-ing days!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: Amanda Husberg, 1940

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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 20:17–35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again.

²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,

P He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

C He has put all things under His feet.

EPISTLE

Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵“Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Romans 6:9; John 10:14

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

C Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:22–30

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY ” THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS”

#709



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 me 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 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!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77

Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

Nicene 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

Psalm 23

P Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various conditions.

We pray for those who do not listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd, asking the Holy Spirit to give them opportunity to come to faith and join us in saying:

C The LORD is my shepherd.

P We pray for all who lack the food, clothing, and shelter that they need for a fully human life, asking our Father in heaven to meet their needs using His caring people, including ourselves, for we are confident:

C I shall not want.

P We pray for those falsely imprisoned or denied true justice, asking our Lord to free them and open doors of opportunity for them, as He so graciously has done for us:

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

P We pray for all who are depressed in spirit or unsure of God's will for them, asking the Holy Spirit to lift them up and guide them, that with us they may rejoice to say:

C He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

- P** We pray for those who are facing sudden crises or long-term ills, and all who are grieving the loss of loved ones, *including , Hedy, Jean, Kathleen, Ray, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Jean, Jen, John, Leah, Rod, and Kris* asking our risen Lord to lift their eyes to His eternal home so that they may each declare:
- C** **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.**
- P** We pray for first responders and police at home and for armed forces deployed, asking our Father in heaven to guide and protect them, and for all who grow crops and tend herds that He would bless them with bountiful harvests so that they may thank Him, praying:
- C** **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**
- P** Finally, we pray for ourselves and all who gather around Word and Sacrament, that the Holy Spirit would keep us firm in the faith so that we may joyfully profess:
- C** **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. 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.**

CLOSING HYMN “CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER”

#725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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