

# Fourth Sunday of Easter - Good Shepherd Sunday

8:00 a.m. April 21, 2024 (Divine Service 2)

Welcome

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

### Hymn "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" LSB 740

- 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.
  
- 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.
  
- 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.

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

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

Text and tune: Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** **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.*

**Pastor:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** **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.**

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### **Kyrie (Pastor Spoken, People Sung) LSB 168**

**Pastor:** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis (Pastor Spoken, People Sung) LSB 170**

**Pastor:** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**People:** **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day (Response Sung/Amen Spoken)**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## Psalm 23 (Spoken responsively, people in bold)

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>**He makes me lie down in green pastures.**

**He leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>He restores my soul.

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

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me**

**all the days of my life,**

**and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**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.**

## First Reading Acts 4:1-12

<sup>1</sup>As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening.

<sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

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

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle 1 John 3:16-24

<sup>16</sup>By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

<sup>17</sup>But 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? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his

commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And 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. <sup>24</sup>Whoever 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Common Alleluia and Verse (Sung) LSB 173**

**Alleluia.**

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel John 10:11-18**

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

People: **Glory to You O Lord.**

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

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LSB 709**

- 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!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77

Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon “What is Good about the Good Shepherd?” (John 10:11-18)

*Stand*

### 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.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

**Pastor:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord, beseeching Him for the needs of ourselves and others.

Trusting in God's loving response, we pray for the church and all who are called to lives of service to God's people, asking that the Lord will bless His under-shepherds and all who care for His flock. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray the Holy Spirit guide each of us into gracious ways and instill in us a holy confidence in the goodness of our God, aiding us in our prayers. With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthly journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ yet inspires us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for the blessing of God upon our nation and its leaders that we may lead peaceable lives, and we pray for the needs of ourselves and others for healing and restoration, for solace and comfort, [*especially those whose names we boldly call out to You now . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we lift to you today, the students and teachers of our congregation. We lift to you our Preschool Director, teachers, aides, volunteers, and students. We ask your blessing for each of them. May they be sustained by your blessing. May they be reminded that this congregation embraces their call to teaching and learning and surrounds them with love and care as well. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Precious Father, we pray for our college students that they learn to live independently outside of the boundaries that were set for them at home. Guide them to make good choices that will keep their thoughts, words, and deeds pure, always remembering to honor You. That each student will gain confidence and deepen their faith, and strengthen their journey of faith in our Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you for your active presence in their lives. Your wisdom is pure, help them to desire only Your wisdom. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** These things and all else that we should have asked grant us according to Your gracious will, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**People:** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## Offering

*Stand*

### Offertory (Sung) *LSB 176*

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## Service of the Sacrament

### Communion Confession

**Pastor** The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians. God desires for His people to receive this gift of faith, believing it is "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." He does not want it misused through unbelief in God's promise which results in judgement. *(Matthew 26:26-28, 1 Corinthians 11:27-29, Luther's Small Catechism: Sacrament of the Altar (LSB 326-327))*

This means that as we come together at the Lord's Table as one body we affirm and confess:

**People** **I recognize and confess "I am a sinner." I repent of my sin and ask God's forgiveness.** *(1John 1:8-10, Augsburg Confession Articles XI and XII)*

**I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death.** *(Romans 10:9, Augsburg Confession Article III)*

**Through faith, I receive in the Lord's Supper my risen Savior Jesus Christ's true body and blood, under the form of bread and wine, given and shed for the forgiveness of my sin, the strengthening of my faith, and life everlasting.** *(Matthew 26:26-28, Augsburg Confession Articles X and XIII)*

### Preface (Pastor Spoken, People Sung) *LSB 177*

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**Pastor:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus (Sung) *LSB 178*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

## **Hosanna in the highest.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**    *LSB 178*

**Pastor:**        Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:**        **Amen.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

**Pastor:**        Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Proclamation of Christ**

**Pastor:**        As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**People:**        **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Pastor:**        O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**



**Pax Domini (Spoken)**    *LSB 180*

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

People:            **Amen.**

**Agnus Dei (Sung)**    *LSB 180*

**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, grant us peace.**

*Sit*

**Distribution**

**“The Day of Resurrection”**    *Chimes*

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79

Tune: Public domain

**“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**    **LSB 686**

- 1    Come, Thou Fount of ev’ry blessing,  
      Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
      Call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
      Fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore Thee;  
      May I still Thy goodness prove.
  
- 2    Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
      Hither by Thy help I’ve come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
      Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
      Wand’ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
      Interposed His precious blood.
  
- 3    Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
      Daily I’m constrained to be;  
Let that grace now like a fetter  
      Bind my wand’ring heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
      Prone to leave the God I love.  
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it,  
      Seal it for Thy courts above.
  
- 4    Oh, that day when freed from sinning,  
      I shall see Thy lovely face;  
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,  
      How I’ll sing Thy wondrous grace!  
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;

Take my ransom'd soul away;  
Send Thine angels soon to carry  
Me to realms of endless day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg

Text and tune: Public domain

**“Thine Forever, God of Love” LSB 687**

- 1 Thine forever, God of love!  
Hear us from Thy throne above;  
Thine forever may we be  
Here and in eternity!
  
- 2 Thine forever! Oh, how blest  
They who find in Thee their rest!  
Savior, guardian, heav'nly friend,  
O defend us to the end!
  
- 3 Thine forever, Lord of Life!  
Shield us through our earthly strife.  
Thou, the life, the truth, the way,  
Guide us to the realms of day.
  
- 4 Thine forever! Shepherd, keep  
These Thy frail and trembling sheep;  
Safe alone beneath Thy care,  
Let us all Thy goodness share.
  
- 5 Thine forever! Thou our guide,  
All our wants by Thee supplied,  
All our sins by Thee forgiv'n;  
Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819–1913

Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752–1817

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

**Dismissal**

**Pastor:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Thank the Lord (Sung) LSB 181**

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Post-Communion Collect (Spoken)**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we

implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:**       **Amen.**

**Benediction (Spoken)**   *LSB 183*

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.   *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

**People:**       **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Announcements**

*Stand*

**Closing Hymn   “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”   LSB 475**

- 1   Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!  
    Now is the triumph of our King!  
    To all the world glad news we bring:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 2   The Lord of life is ris’n this day;  
    Bring flow’rs of song to strew His way;  
    Let all the world rejoice and say:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 3   Praise we in songs of victory  
    That love, that life which cannot die,  
    And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 4   Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
    And sing today with one accord  
    The life laid down, the life restored:  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

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Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615

Tune: Public domain

**Postlude**

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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