

## 4-21-2024 4th Sunday of Easter

**Hymn** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* #645

1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine for ever.

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 spread'st a table in my sight; thy 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 for ever.

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,  
**Have mercy upon us.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, good Shepherd of the sheep, you came to seek the lost and gather them to your fold. Have compassion on those who have wandered from you. Feed those who hunger, make the weary lie down in your pastures, bind up those who are broken in heart, and strengthen those who are weak, that we rely on your care, find comfort in your love, and abide in your guidance to our lives' end; for your name's sake. **Amen.**

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, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

*Jer. 23:1-6*

Watch out, you shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture, declares the Lord. This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, proclaims about the shepherds who claim to tend to my people: You are the ones who have scattered my flock and driven them away. You have not attended to their needs, so I will attend to you for the

terrible things you have done to them, declares the Lord. I myself will gather the few remaining sheep from all the countries where I have driven them. I will bring them back to their pasture, and they will be fruitful and multiply. I will place over them shepherds who care for them. Then they will no longer be afraid or dread harm, nor will any be missing, declares the Lord. The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up a righteous descendant from David's line, and he will rule as a wise king. He will do what is just and right in the land. During his lifetime, Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And his name will be The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The psalm reading for this morning is from Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

**I shall not be in want.**

He makes me lie down in green pastures

**and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul

**and guides me along right pathways**

**for his Name's sake.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

**you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.**

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

A reading from the First Letter of John

*1 John 3:16-24*

This is how we know love: Jesus laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. But if someone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but refuses to help — how can the love of God dwell in a person like that?

Little children, let us love others with action and truth (and not just words or speech). This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God's presence. Even if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts and knows all things. Dear friends, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have confidence in relationship to God. We receive whatever we ask from him because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love each other as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments dwell

in God and God dwells in them. This is how we know that he dwells in us, because of the Spirit he has given us.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn** *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks* #178

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.** *John 10:11-18*

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 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. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this

command from my Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Gradual Hymn**      *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*      #178

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Come, let us praise the living God,

joyfully sing to our Savior.

**The Sermon**      The Rev. David J. Marshall

**Reflection Hymn**      *Shepherd of Souls*      #343

1 Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless thy chosen pilgrim flock with manna in the wilderness, with water from the rock.

2 We would not live by bread alone, but by thy word of grace, in strength of which we travel on to our abiding-place.

3 Be known to us in breaking bread, and do not then depart; Savior, abide with us, and spread thy table in our heart.

4 Lord, sup with us in love divine thy Body and thy Blood, that living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.

## **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to our Great Shepherd on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people.

*A brief silence*

The Lord is my shepherd;

**I shall not be in want.**

Bless your Church so that we take comfort in you and not in our possessions.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures

**and leads me beside still waters.**

Lead this congregation to peaceful places and to take rest with you. Bring all those who doubt, and those whose confidence in your grace has been shaken by tragedy, to lie down the in green pastures of your peace.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord revives my soul

**and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**

We remember before you all those who suffer with chronic medical conditions, especially Downs IV, Holden, Anne, Victoria, Kim, Michael, Barbara, Lorraine, Maria Christine, Caitlin, Amelia, Dennis, and Alice. Guide them and us along the right pathways for your Name's sake.



## *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

Give comfort to all who receive the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, Kim and Lou. Remind those going through cancer treatments and those in remission, that you are always with them, especially, Margaret, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie, Douglas, Frank, Gerta, Lauren, Jennifer, TJ, Jim, Stephanie, Cara, Todd and Nancy. We pray for those in Hospice that are walking through the shadow of death that they will have no fear, especially Mary Jo.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

**you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

Anoint all those who protect us both at home and abroad with peace and strength. Bring your peace to the leaders of the nations, and especially to those who shepherd peace, that they will sit with those who trouble them so that your peace may overflow into the whole world, especially in Gaza, Israel and Ukraine.

## *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Shepherd those whom we love but see no longer. Wipe away the tears of all who grieve. Bring us with peace into your house where we will dwell with you for ever.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our Sanctifier and Shepherd, hear our prayers and strengthen and help us, that in our daily life walk with you, we serve you in all quietness of spirit; through Jesus Christ our Master. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Greetings, Announcements and Introductions**

### **Offertory Anthem** *My Shepherd*

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His name; In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake his ways; And leads me, for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine forever. And so through all the length of days, Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house forever.

## **The Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
praise him all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Praise him above ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **The Holy Eucharist Prayer B**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven 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**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Communion Hymn**    *This is the Hour of Banquet and Song #316*

1    This is the hour of banquet and of song; this is the heavenly table spread for me; here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong the brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

2    Too soon we rise; we go our several ways; the feast, though not the love, is past and gone, the Bread and Wine consumed: yet all our days thou still art here with us—our Shield and Sun.

3    Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, yet, passing, points to the glad feast above, giving us foretaste of the festal joy, the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

### **Prayer After Communion**

Let us pray. **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

#708

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need thy tender care;  
in thy pleasant pastures feed us;  
for our use thy folds prepare.  
Blessèd Jesus!  
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2 Early let us seek thy favor,  
early let us learn thy will;  
do thou, Lord, our only Savior,  
with thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessèd Jesus!  
Thou hast loved us: love us still.

**The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia**