

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / Good Shepherd Sunday - Online Service**

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

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**WELCOME & EASTER GREETING:**

Christ is risen! *Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

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**HYMN: *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us* (ELW 789)**

- 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.  
      Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
      you have bought us; we are yours.  
      Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
      you have bought us; we are yours.
  
- 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.  
      Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
      hear us children when we pray.  
      Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
      hear us children when we pray.
  
- 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.  
      Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
      early let us turn to you.  
      Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
      early let us turn to you.
  
- 4     Early let us seek your favor,  
      early let us do your will;  
      blessed Lord and only Savior,

with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray. **O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in faith towards the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **GOSPEL: John 10:1-10**

The holy gospel according to John the tenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**REFLECTION:** (for the text, visit [www.raspberryman.wordpress.com](http://www.raspberryman.wordpress.com), “Going through the gate”)

### **HYMN: Have No Fear Little Flock (ELW 764)**

- 1 Have no fear, little flock;  
have no fear, little flock,  
for the Father has chosen  
to give you the kingdom;  
have no fear, little flock!
  
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock;  
have good cheer, little flock,  
for the Father will keep you  
in his love forever;  
have good cheer, little flock!

- 3 Praise the Lord high above;  
praise the Lord high above,  
for he stoops down to heal you,  
uplift and restore you;  
praise the Lord high above!
- 4 Thankful hearts raise to God;  
thankful hearts raise to God,  
for he stays close beside you,  
in all things works with you;  
thankful hearts raise to God!

### **PRAYERS OF PETITION\*:**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need, saying “Lord, in your mercy” and responding, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherding God, help us accept the slower pace of our lives now – in quarantine, in physical isolation. Help us pay attention to and see the good which we have taken for granted in the past and overlooked in our impatience. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, and for those involved in agriculture and food processing of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guiding God, help us accept the changes we are undergoing in our personal and public lives. Give us wisdom and courage to adopt what good we have learned in our isolation to the new world emerging on the other side of this crisis. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering. Bring recovery to those who are sick or who carry the covid-19 virus without knowing it. Heal them and protect those around them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, protect those who live and work in long term care homes afflicted by the coronavirus. Bring them the resources they need to meet the basic needs of the residents there. Empower personal care workers, nurses and doctors who care for them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Comfort and bring peace to those who mourn. Give them hope in the resurrection you promise for those who trust in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;  
and forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us;  
save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

### **HYMN: *God Be with You till We Meet Again* (ELW 536)**

1 God be with you till we meet again;  
by good counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, (till we meet,)  
till we meet, (till we meet again,)  
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)  
till we meet, (till we meet,)  
till we meet, (till we meet again.)  
God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again;  
holy wings securely hide you,  
daily manna still provide you;  
God be with you till we meet again. Refrain

3 God be with you till we meet again;  
when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you;  
God be with you till we meet again. Refrain

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you in grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favour, and give you peace. **Amen.**

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\*Prayer source: adapted from Sundays and Seasons (Augsburg Fortress)

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