

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

606 Orchard, Mediapolis, IA 52637

Praising God and Serving People

Pastor Jerleen Schlessler, phone: 319-394-3634

Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

4th Sunday of Easter

May 3rd, 2020

Gathering Hymn "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (v.1-2, 4-5) 502

HOLY COMMUNION

502

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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.

Greeting

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

All: Amen.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen

Feeding of the Lambs (Children's Sermon)

The first Christians grew their community by sharing not just food together but everything they owned.

First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the

goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm 23 (Read responsively.)

¹The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

As Christ's servants, we can often lose our way. Even so, the writer of this epistle assures us that when we suffer for what is right, the good shepherd brings us home.

Epistle Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."
²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Sheepfolds are where shepherd keep their flocks safely overnight. Jesus offers us a life of safety within God's realm.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

¹"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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him,

and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Sermon

Pastor Jerleen

TRUST, GUIDANCE

782 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;

In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.
 one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.
 oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.

You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;
 Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;

and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.
 no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23
 Music: North American traditional

RESIGNATION
 CMD

Confession of Faith

P: As a community, we gather to confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of the Church

P: 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.

A brief silence.

P: Guiding God, no one should be in want. 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,

All: Hear our prayer.

P: Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

P: Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregation. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

P: Lord Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds us for eternity. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

P: Merciful God, your healing power is everywhere about us. Strengthen those who work among the sick, give them courage and confidence in all they do. Encourage them when their efforts seem futile or when death prevails. Increase their trust in your power even to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before they mystery of your healing grace. Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

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

All: Amen

Benediction

P: May the one who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing, Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending

P: Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn: "All People that On Earth Do Dwell"

883

PRAISE, THANKSGIVING

883 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
 3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy
 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom

Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
 aid he did us make. We are his folk, he
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times
 heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the

praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - jice.
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
 an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594
 Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OLD HUNDREDTH
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