



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

April 21, 2024

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

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

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. 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 O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

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

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.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

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.

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Holy Gospel

John 10:11–18

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

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' 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.**

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray for the whole Church, that through it the goodness of God be shared and the Good News of salvation joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** We pray for those who are in need, assured of the Shepherd's care for all of His sheep. Help us to meet the needs of those who travel with us through life as we are led by our Good Shepherd day by day. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for the nations of the world, asking that still waters of peace flow around the globe and that there be goodness and kindness among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for our families and everyone in them. Together help us to follow the Good Shepherd as one flock in which all dwell together in love and unity. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for those whose tables are set in difficult or challenging places, whose lives know want or discord or sadness or continuing illness. Gently guide them with Your rod and staff, Good Shepherd, and keep them ever with You. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** With gratefulness we remember those who already dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Inspire us to pass throughout our earthly journeys with faith and hope as we heed the voice of our Good Shepherd and follow in His ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- P** 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.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**
- P** Let us pray.
 O Lord, graciously receive the prayers of Your Church that, being delivered from all adversity and error, it may serve You in safety and freedom and dwell in Your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus

LSB 202

- P** Bless we the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

Acknowledgments

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