

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4th, 2025

Liturgy: TLH p. 5

Organist: Kathy Lueck



I AM the  
*good*  
Shepherd.



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

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## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: WS #728

*"Christ Is Living"*

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

**G** *♫ Amen.*

### Confession & Absolution

*Ps. 80:1-3; Ps. 28:8-9*

**P** "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock."

**G** **"You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth."**

**P** "Stir up Your might and come to save us!"

**G** **"Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!"**

**P** Let us confess our sins before God and one another:

**G** **Heavenly Father, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way." We confess that by our thoughts, our words, and our actions we have strayed from Your commands. We have turned from Your love and gone our own way. Because of our wayward sin, we deserve to be sheep that are forever lost. But we pray that for the sake of Your Lamb, Jesus Christ, that You would have mercy on us. With the psalmist we confess and pray: "I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments."**

*Is. 53:6; Ps. 119:176*

**P** Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep and took it up again, rising from the dead for our justification. Through Jesus Christ, you are redeemed, restored, and forgiven. "For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."

*1 Pet. 2:25*

**P** "The LORD is the strength of his people;"

**G** **"He is the saving refuge of his anointed."**

**P** "Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!"

**G** **"Be their shepherd and carry them forever."**

**P** Praise be to the Lamb that was slain for us, but who is alive forevermore!

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father."*

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**G** ♪ *Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our redemption,  
By whose self-off'ring we are made God's people:  
A priestly kingdom, from all tongues and nations,  
Called to God's service.*

*To the Almighty, throned in heav'nly splendor,  
And to the Savior, Christ our Lamb and Shepherd,  
Be adoration, praise, and glory given,  
Now and forever.*

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### **The Salutation**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** ♪ *And with thy spirit.*

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### **The Collect Prayer of the Day**

**P** 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.

**G** ♪ *Amen.*



#### **Ezekiel 34:11-16**

"For thus says the Lord GOD:  
Behold, I, I myself will search  
for my sheep and will seek

them out. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.

<sup>13</sup> And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of

Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

**Psalmody: WS p. 36**

*"The LORD Is My Shepherd"*



### **1 Peter 2:21-25**

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup> He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup> When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

### **Confession of Faith**

*The Apostles' Creed*

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#### **I BELIEVE...**

**in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

# Hymn: LSB #709

## "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. And so through all the length of days  
 Thy goodness faileth never;  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
 Within Thy house forever.

### ✠ The Sermon ✠



## John 10:11-18

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."



### **Just How “Good” is Our Shepherd?**

- I. He's the greatest—both in strength and in meekness.
- II. He knows His sheep—He cares, even in our weakness.

### **The Offertory**

**C** ♪ *Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.*

### **✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠**

**Hymn: TLH #51**

*“Now May He Who From The Dead”*

### **✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠**

### **The Benediction**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*The blessing given by God for His people.*

**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 His peace.

**C** ♪ **Amen, amen, a – men.**

**Hymn: TLH #648**

*“I Am Jesus' Little Lamb”*

**Quarterly Voters' Meeting Summary:** Jim, Kris, and James Sullivan's memberships were transferred and accepted from Messiah in Eau Claire; Jim Sullivan, James Sullivan, and Todd Rosen were accepted as voting members; Jennifer Dukleth was released from membership at her request. A motion was passed to continue our custom of ushering out at the end of the service—if anyone would like to remain seated in their pews, they are welcome to do so. A motion was passed to move to standing communion on a two month trial basis; rather than kneeling at the rail, communicants will stand in front of the first step (this is to aid those who would like to come forward for communion but who are unable to ascend the step and kneel). The summer schedule was set for 9:30 am worship and 10:30 am Family Bible Class; this will begin after Memorial Day weekend. The next meeting is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Ladies' Day Out** will be held Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at SOJOs in Lakefield. Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the entryway.

**CLC Call News** – Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA, has **returned** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

<b>Ushers</b>	5/4	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	5/11	Kendall B, Larry B.
	5/18	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
<b>Cleaning</b>		This Week – The Strikes (wk. 1)
		Up Next – Ling, Sumey, Rovere

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

May 5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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**Mon John 21:15-19** Jesus, the living Shepherd of the sheep, restores Peter to his apostolic calling. As one who loves His Lord, Peter will now be sent to feed Jesus' lambs and sheep, to be a shepherd to His flock.

**Tues 1 John 1:1-7** The apostle John brings the Word of Life as an eye-witness. Now that our fellowship is with the Father and the Son, we walk in light, not darkness, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin!

**Wed Exodus 15:22-26** The Lord tends Israel, His flock, in the Wilderness. After purifying the drinking water, He promises to watch over His people, and to be for them "the Lord who heals."

**Thurs Ezekiel 34:11-16** The Lord God will be a shepherd to His flock, to bring them back from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. He will lead them to the richest pasture!

**Fri 1 Peter 1:3-9** In Jesus' resurrection we have a new birth to a living hope, looking forward to a heavenly inheritance. Even in times of trouble and grief, our dear Shepherd tends us and leads us to the goal.

**Sat 1 Peter 1:22-25** Having seen God's true love for us in Christ Jesus, let our love for one another remain fervent, not flickering and dying, for we were born again from an enduring seed, the eternal word of God!



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