



St. John Lutheran Church

Freedom Twp. • Napoleon, Ohio

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Good Shepherd Sunday

View the video file on our
'SJL Services' YouTube Channel
Search "sjlc napoleon ohio"



As We Gather

The closing prayer of the funeral service begins with these words: "Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home." Describing Jesus as a Shepherd is a special image used in prayers, hymns, and Christian artwork. The believer receives a sense of assurance in knowing that the One being followed throughout life is Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The fact that our Lord chooses to repeat the words "I am the Good Shepherd" more than once indicates its importance to Him and to us. As we follow Jesus, we can be confident that He will lead us into that place where goodness and righteousness are eternal.

Prelude & Ringing of the Tower Bell

710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

- 2 My soul He doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.

- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 95:1, 7

- P** Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
- C** let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- P** For He is our God,
- C** and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand!

Confession and Absolution

Micah 6:6-8

- P** Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking forgiveness and amendment of our lives as we follow the Lord.
- C** With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?
- P** Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
- C** Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
- P** He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
- C** Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may follow where He leads until that time when we, by His grace, come to dwell in Your house forever.

P In the mercy of almighty god, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ..

G Amen.

Kyrie

Have Mercy on Your People, Lord

Have mer - cy on Your peo - ple, Lord.
Have mer - cy, Christ, our King.
Re - new us by Your mer - cy, Lord;
Ac - cept the prayers we bring.

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Hymn of Praise “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb

LSB 740

- 1 I am Jesus’ little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev’ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.
- 2 Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.
- 3 Who so happy as I am,
Even now the Shepherd’s lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast,
There within His arms to rest.

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Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

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.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and

distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 23

¹**The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.**

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

³**He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

⁴**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.**

⁵**You 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 forever.**

Epistle

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was

deceit found in his mouth.

²³When 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. ²⁴He 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. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of

strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.
- 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 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!

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Sermon

“Our Example, and So Much More”

2 Peter 2:19-25

The Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Offering

If you wish to give an offering during this time of suspended public worship, there are three ways to give:

- Mail your offering to the church
- Drop off your offering outside the church office, Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon
- Give online at SJL.ORG

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.

Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

C 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

P *Let us pray.*

Almighty and ever-living God, our heavenly Father, as part of Your loving plan for us You have again permitted our ears to Your Holy Word, the voice of our Good Shepherd. Even as He took up the cross for us and laid down His life, strengthen us by the sound of His voice follow His example, until at last Your Church is gathered together into one flock from the ends of the earth where we will dwell in Your house forever, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

- 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.

- 4 Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.

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✠ **Soli Deo Gloria** ✠

To God Alone Be Glory

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