

I AM THE **Good**  
**Shepherd**

WHO LAYS DOWN HIS  
LIFE FOR HIS SHEEP.



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**Praise & Worship Service**  
**April 25, 2021**

**WELCOME**

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

**PASTOR:** 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.

**ALL:** **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.**

**PASTOR:** I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

**Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

**ALL: Amen.**

PASTOR: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**ALL: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

PASTOR: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

PASTOR: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

## **KYRIE**

PASTOR: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

PASTOR: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

PASTOR: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

PASTOR: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

PASTOR: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

# **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

PASTOR: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

PASTOR: 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.

**ALL: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Acts 4:1-12**

As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

PASTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE LESSON: I John 3:16-24**

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

PASTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

### **The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want**

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

**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.**

**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.**

**My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.**

***PLEASE STAND FOR THE READING OF THE HOLY GOSPEL.***

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

ALL: Glory to You, O Lord.

## **HOLY GOSPEL: *John 10:11-18***

[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."

PASTOR: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ.

## **APOSTLES' CREED (spoken in unison)**

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.

## **Jesus, Lead Thou On**

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;  
And although the way be cheerless  
We will follow calm and fearless.  
Guide us by Thy hand to our fatherland.

If the way be drear, if the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;  
Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For though many a woe to our home we go.

When we seek relief from a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring.  
Show us that bright shore where we weep no more.

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won.  
Heav'nly leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand in our fatherland.

## **SERMON**

### **I Am Jesus Little Lamb**

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 every day the same,  
Even calls me by my name.

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.

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.

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

# **THE LORD'S PRAYER (spoken in unison)**

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed by 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.

## **BENEDICTION**

PASTOR: 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.

ALL: Amen.

## **Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

Precious Lord, take my hand,  
Lead me on, let me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord;  
Lead me home.

When my way grows drear,  
Precious Lord, linger near,  
When my life is almost gone.  
Hear my cry, hear my call;  
Hold my hand lest I fall.  
Take my hand, precious Lord;  
Lead me home.

When the darkness appears  
And the night draws near  
And the day is almost gone,  
At the river I stand;  
Guide my feet, hold my hand,  
Take my hand, precious Lord;  
Lead me home.