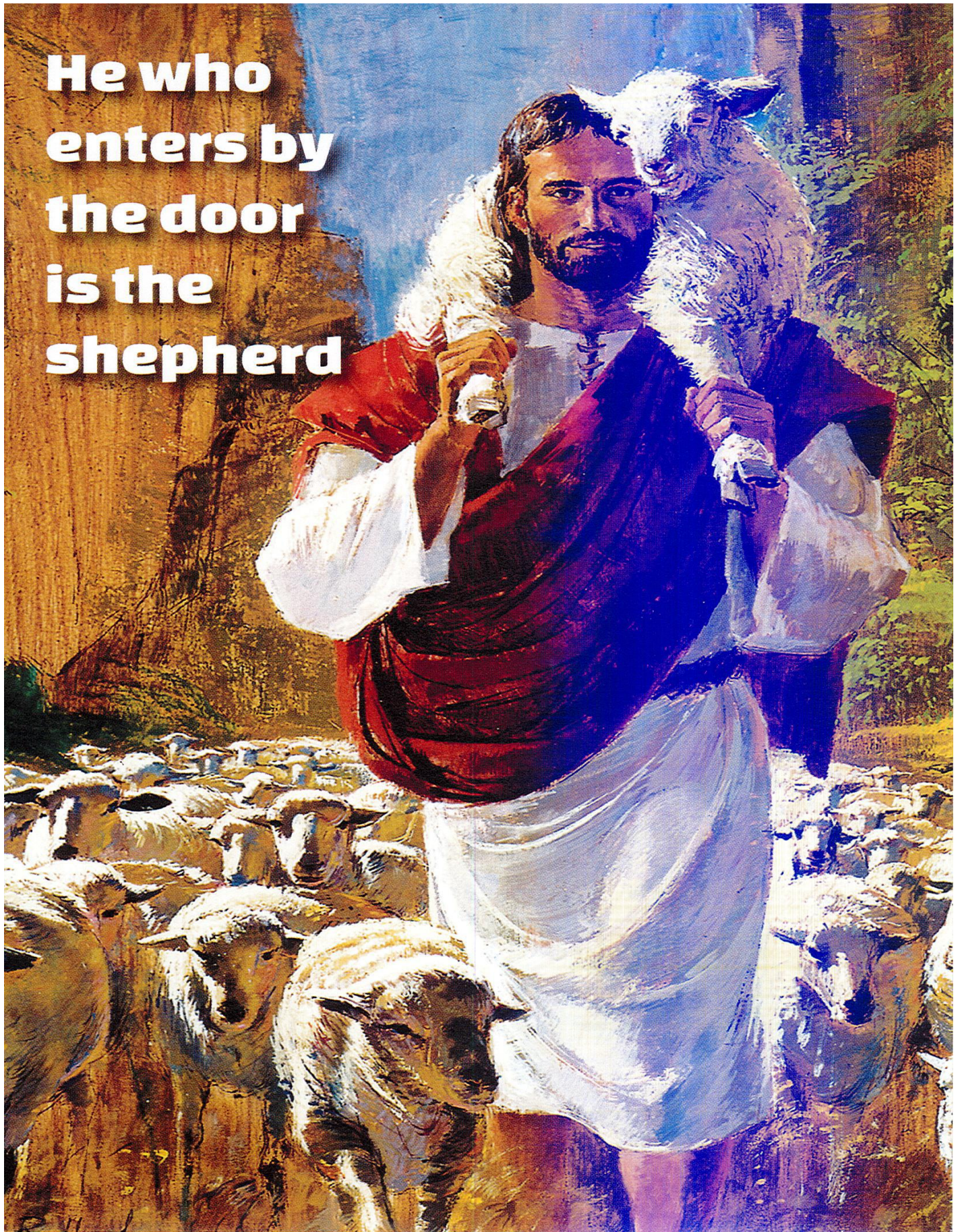


**He who
enters by
the door
is the
shepherd**



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

Thank you for attending. The service, the organ music, and Pastor John's message will be routed through the church's sound system and broadcast on your car radio on FM channel **101.5**. Please follow the direction of the persons assisting with parking. Once they have directed you to your parking space, please remain in your vehicle and await the beginning of the service. To follow the COVID-19 guidelines and for your protection as well as others attending **you must remain inside your vehicle for the entire service**. You can leave the vehicle running or turn it off and roll down the windows, just listen to your radio. Pastor John will lead the service from the steps of the church. Please follow the service in the bulletin.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please show your respect with silent meditation at this time.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISES AND CONCERNS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

L Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

HYMN: LBW #535

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

Holy God, we praise Your name;
Lord of all, we bow before You;
All on earth Your scepter claim,
All in heav'n above adore You.
Infinite Your vast domain,
Everlasting is Your reign.

Hark! The glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
“Holy, holy, holy Lord!”

Lo, the apostolic train
Join Your sacred name to hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refrain,
And the white-robed martyrs follow;
And from morn to set of sun,
Through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, Three we name You,
Though in essence only One;
Undivided God we claim You
And adoring, bend the knee
While we own the mystery.

GREETING

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy

L 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.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their mercy and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the lamb whose was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

All **Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all that are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²{The believers} devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the 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.

**¹The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.**

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

**³He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.**

**⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

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

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For this 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.

GOSPEL VERSE

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (*sung*)

¹{Jesus said to the Jews,} “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 The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (*sung*)

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: WOV #731

“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 past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father, the 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 arose 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.**

HYMN: WOV #775

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to Your children praying,
Lord, send Your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

P Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

C Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

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

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE

Thank you for attending this morning and we look forward to and pray for the day that we may join in worship together and celebrate the end of this pandemic.

Easter 4
May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A)



Jesus, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life for his sheep because of his great love for us. This one, prefigured in Psalm 23, is the Shepherd who provides for, protects, and leads his sheep into green pastures and by still waters. This Shepherd suffered greatly for his sheep so they might never be lost or forsaken. St. Peter reminds us that it is our calling to follow Jesus into abundant life, even when it means suffering for the faith. By the wounds of the Shepherd, we have been healed.