



Fourth Sunday of Easter
Sunday Worship Service
May 3, 2020

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
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Welcome! In today's Gospel reading, Jesus proclaims himself as THE Good Shepherd, who loves His sheep so much that He will lay down His life for those sheep. But this shepherd does not fall prey to death's cold grasp forever. He rises again in victory and power, winning everlasting life for all. In today's epistle reading, Peter urges us to remember our Good Shepherd, even amid suffering, following our Lord and clinging to Him in all times and circumstances, knowing He leads us to find true pasture and abundant life.

+ Order of Worship +

Hymn

“O Holy Spirit, Grant us Grace”

LSB 693

Invocation and Easter Greeting

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession and Absolution

P: Although Christ, our Good Shepherd, has risen and given us salvation and new life, we have not always lived as His sheep. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

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

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father:

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Introit (Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7a; antiphon, John 10:14, 15b)

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

**C: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.**

P: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.

C: For the LORD is a great God and a great king above all gods.

P: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**C: For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
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.**

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

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, because 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, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn "Let All Together Praise our God" LSB 389 vv. 1, 3-7

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

C: Christ has risen from the dead. (God the Father) has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands. He has put all things under His feet.

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 2:18-25

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For 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. 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. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 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. 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. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

P: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?

C: You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

“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. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

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

The Apostles' Creed

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.

The Apostles' Creed (continued)

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

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

LSB 709

Sermon

Offertory

“Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings” LSB 782 v. 1

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the people of God's pasture and the sheep of His hand, and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P: Heavenly Father, in the wake of Your Son's resurrection, Your people devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Unite Your people in the one true faith, and grant penitent hearts so that all may know Your love and mercy in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: King of the nations, with Your favor grant wisdom and discernment to the president and Congress of the United States and all others in authority. Replenish them with Your grace that they may always rejoice in Your will and walk in Your way. Prosper all good counsels and just works that compassion and life, contentment and peace, truth and righteousness, genuine faith and piety may be established among us. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, our Creator and Redeemer, the culmination of all beauty is found in Your Son. Bless all artists and artisans, that in the midst of a world made ugly by sin, their labors might remind us of the beauty with which You have endowed our creation and our redemption. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, by the work of Your Holy Spirit through the Means of Grace, You daily add to the number of believers being saved. Grant to Your people open ears, courageous hearts and bold tongues to receive and proclaim Your truth. Help us not to neglect Your gifts, but trust that You will strengthen us and gather more in keeping with Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, receive our humble and unending thanks that Christ suffered for us so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. When it is given to us to suffer for Your name's sake, grant that we might follow in the steps of our Savior, act in love and entrust ourselves to You. Strengthen those who endure persecution for the name of Jesus, thwart the plans of those who oppose the Gospel, and grant to them repentance so that they, too, might die and live in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, You worked many miracles through the hands of the apostles in the name of Jesus. Hear our prayers on behalf of all who cry to You. We pray for those we name in the silence of our hearts and those requesting prayers, including _____. Provide them help according to Your will, and within our vocations, grant that we might help those in need with glad and generous hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: *(Other specific petitions)* Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You still gather Your sheep, and we still hear Your voice through Your holy Word. Receive our thanks for all the saints whom You have shepherded through the valley of the shadow of death to eternal life. Grant that we may always follow the voice of our Good Shepherd until we are gathered with them before Your throne; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

Closing Prayer

P: Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from our ears to our hearts, from our hearts to our lips and from our lips to our lives, that Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction and Easter Proclamation

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.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Closing Hymn

“I am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

LSB 740

