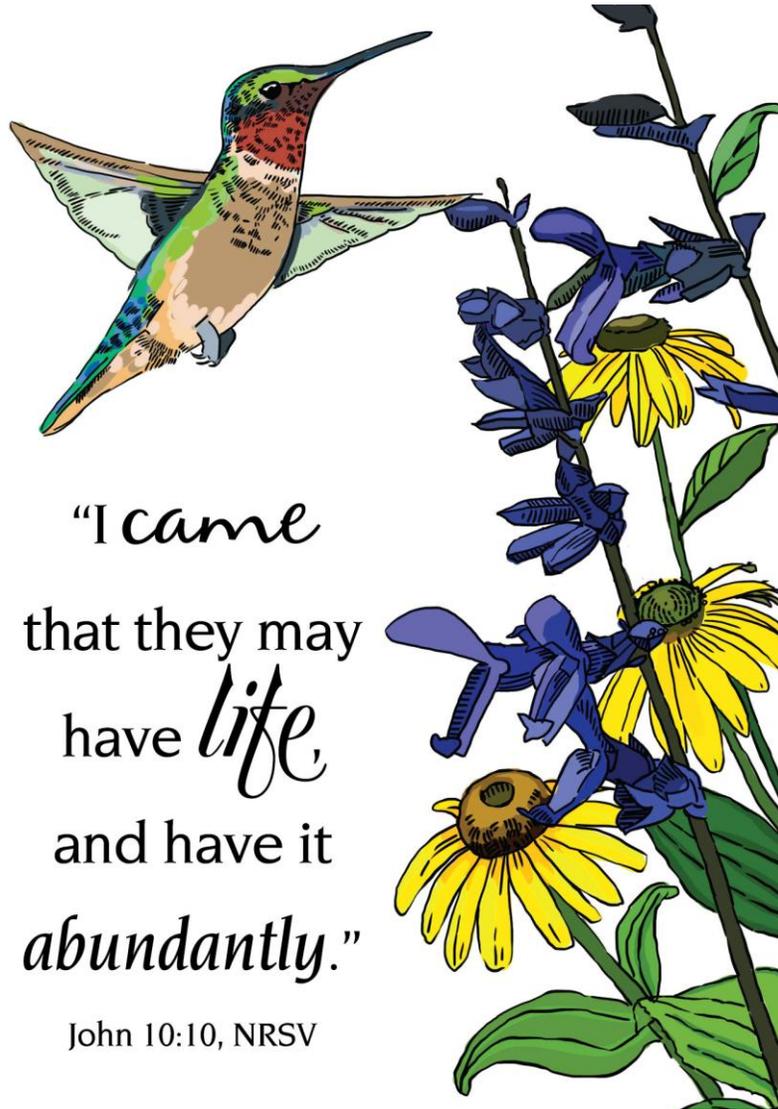


May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter



"I came
that they may
have *life*
and have it
abundantly."

John 10:10, NRSV

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

*Our Mission:
To Make More and Better Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2020

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.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 95:1, 7*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

People: **let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Pastor: For He is our God,

People: **and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand!**

HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

(v 1, 2, 4, 5)

[Public Domain]

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

"Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your fold to refine."

"Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne."

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on [our Savior Jesus] the iniquity of us all." [*Isaiah 53:6*]
Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Lord, we truly have wandered away from our Shepherd like lost sheep. We have sinned in what we have done and in what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Yet You sent Your Son Jesus to be our Savior. Since Jesus is also God Himself in human flesh and blood, He has become our true Shepherd, going out into the wilderness to find us when we were lost and who then brings us home rejoicing. Forgive our wandering sins, Dear Lord, and let us rejoice every day over the Savior who has found us when we were lost.

Pastor: 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 children of God and gives to 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.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

PSALM: *Psalms 23*

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 fear no evil;
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff,
they comfort me.
⁵ Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
thou anointest 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
for ever.

EPISTLE: *1 Peter 2:19–25*

¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” ²⁵ For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“The Lord Alive”

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The Lord alive says, “Go,”
To meet Him as He said;
As Jesus, past all doubts, does show
He’s risen from the dead.

“Come follow,” says the Lord,
“As sheep within My care.
Be fed and nourished by My Word;
My love alive to share.”

HOLY GOSPEL: ***John 10:1–10***

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

[Von Hayn / Choral-Buch. Public Domain]

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.

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.

SERMON: "A Shepherd; A Gate; A Lamb" *John 10:1-10*

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.**

**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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: We pray for the whole Church, that through it the goodness of God be shared and the Good News of salvation joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those who are in need, assured of the Shepherd's care for all of His sheep. Help us to meet the needs of those who travel with us through life as we are led by our Good Shepherd day by day. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for the nations of the world, asking that still waters of peace flow around the globe and that there be goodness and kindness among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for our families and everyone in them. Together help us to follow the Good Shepherd as one flock in which all dwell together in love and unity. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those whose tables are set in difficult or challenging places, whose lives know want or discord or sadness or continuing illness. Gently guide them with Your rod and staff, Good Shepherd, and keep them ever with You. Lord, in your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: With gratefulness we remember those who already dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Inspire us to pass throughout our earthly journeys with faith and hope as we heed the voice of our Good Shepherd and follow in His ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: (Special petitions) Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, in whose name we pray.
People: Amen.

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 forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION *Hebrews 13:20–21*

Pastor: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Crown Him With Many Crowns”

[Bridges / Thring / Elvey. Public Domain]

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
A- wake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all e - terni - ty.

Crown Him the Lord of Love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet vi - si - ble a - bove,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wondering eye
At myste - ries so bright!

Crown Him the Lord of Life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of Heaven,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is given
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns
For He is King of all.

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Serving Us Today

Pastor ... Rev. Dennis Krueger

Organist ... Katherine Herman

Singers ... Mark Ganschow, Linda Meissner, Willert Family