

CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

LUTHERAN



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE

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 who leads 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

"Prelude and Fugue in F Major"

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

✂ PREPARATION ✂

OPENING HYMN

819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good (vv. 1, 3-5)

1 Sing praise to God, the highest good,
The author of creation,
The God of love who understood
Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

3 We sought the Lord in our distress;
O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
And came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord,
Who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

4 He never shall forsake His flock,
His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock,
Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand,
He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

5 All who confess Christ's holy name,
Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father,
People: **who loved us, and sent the Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: In the name of the Son,
People: **Jesus, the Good Shepherd of the sheep, who became the Lamb of God for us.**

Pastor: In the name of the Holy Spirit,
People: **who enables us to hear the voice of our Good Shepherd. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, You have promised us that we shall not be in want;
People: **but we confess as Your sheep that we are stubborn, and often do not want for ourselves what You want to give us—Your mercy and blessing. Forgive us Lord.**

Pastor: As the Good Shepherd, You have promised us peace in green pastures by quiet waters.
People: **but too often, we as sheep wander and stray, missing out on Your blessings. Forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: As our Good Shepherd, You promise to restore our souls.
People: **we confess our sinning against You. We deserve nothing more than Your eternal wrath and judgment. Forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: You promise to be with us, even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death;
People: **yet we confess, O Lord, that we do things in that valley that make us easy prey for predators. We sin against You in thought, word, and deed. Forgive us Lord.**

(continued on next page)

Pastor: You have promised to comfort us with Your rod and Your staff;
People: **and we confess that we are helpless to save ourselves. We need You to save us, Lord!**

Pastor: Hear the Good News: “Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever” (Psalm 23:6). The Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, became the Lamb of God, shedding His blood on Calvary’s altar for your forgiveness. Your sins—all of them—have been forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of the Good Shepherd, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

469 Christ the Lord is Risen Today (vv. 1, 3-4, 6)

- 1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n today!”
Saints on earth and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply.
- 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise;
Christ has opened paradise.
- 4 Lives again our glorious King!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save;
Where thy victory, O grave?
- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv’n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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.

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:42–47

(The life of the first Christians)

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:19–25

(The example of Christ, who suffered for us)

¹⁹ For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is 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 tree, 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"Praise to You and Adoration"

Music by J. S. Bach (from BWV 147)

*Praise to You and adoration,
Blessèd Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation,
Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may
From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding
Follow where Your steps are leading.*

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1–10

(Jesus is the gate of the sheep.)

¹ "I tell you the truth, the man 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 man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. ³ The watchman 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 they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He 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.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE WORD

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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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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.

Please stand

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.

+++ Special Intercessions +++

Each concluding: Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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

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.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

793 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

- 2 Praise Him for His grace and favor
To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

- 3 Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hand He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

- 4 Angels, help us to adore Him;
You behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
All who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

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POSTLUDE

“Rondo in G Major”

John Bull

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60; 1 Peters 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher: Theodore Laesch

Lector: Ellory Glenn

Singers: Lynda Christian & Matt McEuen

Instrumentalist: Nate Laesch, trumpet

Organist & Accompanist: Ryan Meyer

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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Worship and Christian Education

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service broadcast on KFUD 850 AM Sundays at 6:00 p.m.
Live internet streaming at www.chapelofthecross.org Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

*Holy Communion is celebrated the 1st and 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month at 8:30 a.m.,
the 2nd and 4th and 5th Sundays of the month at 11:00 a.m.,
and the 1st and 3rd and 5th Saturdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.*

Sunday school for children, Sunday Bible classes for adults and youth – 9:45 a.m.

Chapel Ministry Staff

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Missions

Chapel of the Cross supports the ministry of the English District and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as well as the Lutheran High School Association. We also assist the following ministries and organizations:

Day 3 Seeds*	Hope Center for Families*	Apple of His Eye*
Helping Hands Food Pantry	Concordia Seminary	Friend of Moms
Sidewalk Sunday School	Eric & Linda Funke in Tanzania	Lutherans for Life
Chapel Summer Camp	KFUD Radio	

** indicates special emphasis in 2020*

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran is affiliated with the
English District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*