

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday / Mother's Day

May 8, 2022



## As We Gather

Many people in the world are deaf to God's presence and certainly to His Word. Some people refused to believe when they physically met Jesus, as in today's Gospel. Paul had to warn church leaders that opposition might even come from within, from wolves in sheep's clothing. But by the grace of God in Scripture, we hear our Good Shepherd speaking to us about His grace and mercy. John's vision of the Lamb's eternal victory lets us hear the eternal praises of saints and angels in heaven. Today is an opportunity to tell one another in word and song about our faith, asking our brothers and sisters if they also are hearing all the good news about our Shepherd. We leave to ask our friends and neighbors the same question. What joy when they may say with us, "The Lord is my shepherd too!"



**Baptism** – Today we welcome Mack Marie Jacquelyn Whitehouse and Jack Alexander Barkway into the family of God through the waters of Holy Baptism. We pray that our gracious heavenly Father would keep Mack and Jack in their baptismal grace, that they may grow up to lead a godly life to the praise and honour of their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

The Lord's my  
shepherd, I'll not  
want;  
He makes me down  
to lie  
In pastures green; He  
leadeth me  
The quiet waters  
by. LSB 710:1

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**HYMN**      **LSB 740 "I Am Jesus Little Lamb"**

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## ✠ WORD ✠

**HYMN LSB 477 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"** (*stand for last verse*)

## 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.**

**FIRST READING**    *Acts 20:17–35* (Paul commends the word of grace to the church overseers as they care for the flock.)

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

**Second Reading**    *Revelation 7:9-17*      (On the heavenly throne, John sees the Lamb who has conquered death and become the Shepherd.)

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

**HYMN LSB 710 "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"** (**Ps 23**)

**HOLY GOSPEL**    *John 10:22–30* (Jesus affirms that no one following His voice can be snatched from Him. He and the Father are one.)

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

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

(The Gospel is read.)

**Pastor:**           This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon Hymn: LSB 676 “A Host Arrayed in White”**

**SERMON:”A Host Arrayed in White”**

*Text: The Second Reading*

## **OFFERING**

**HYMN – LSB 709 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”**

*(sung as offerings are brought forward)*

## **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.

Lord, You are our Shepherd and You provide us with all we need to support this body and life. We lack for nothing. Help us to appreciate all the good gifts You have given us of clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:**           Lord, when we are lost and weary, You restore our souls. Make us to lie down in the green pastures of Your Word and Sacraments, basking in the abundance we find in those good gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:**           Lord, in this fallen world we often walk through the valley of the shadow of death. War, terror, disease, and chaos threaten to steal our peace of mind. Remind us daily that we need not fear any evil since You are with us, since Your rod and staff comfort us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:**           Lord, send healing to all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Restore their health with the overflowing abundance that comes only from Your hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:**           Lord, death remains a curse until You come again, and many grieve and mourn the death of loved ones. Comfort them with the knowledge that those who trust in You will dwell in Your house forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:**           Lord, Your goodness and mercy follow us all our days. We thank You for the blessings You have poured out upon us. We rejoice with those who rejoice. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:**           Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**People:**           **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.**

*Numbers 6:24–26*

## **HYMN**

### **LSB 711 “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

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