Peace Lutheran Church

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Good Shepherd Sunday

May 3, 2020

As We Gather This day we are often reminded how Jesus is the Good Shepherd that cares for His sheep. However, in the Gospel, Jesus gives us another different and vivid picture of Himself: as a door. He says, "I am the Door of the sheep . . . If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture" (John 10:7, 9). Jesus is the only way to salvation; as His sheep, we look only to Him and listen for His loving voice alone. What a contrast there is between a thief, who would never use the door properly and brings only destruction, and Jesus, the Door, who brings abundant life.

People Have Asked, if they are not able to attend services, how can they continue to support the congregation with their regular giving? Whether we are holding regular Sunday worship services or not, the expenses will continue. We ask you to remember this is not a giving holiday. We have easy options.

- 1. You can mail you offering to the church or
- 2. You can sign up for Vanco giving. Vanco is a convenient way to give directly from your bank account or credit card. There is information about it on our website, or if it is easier for you, you can call them and they will walk you through the process on the phone. You will need to know the church address, 71 Loma Drive, Camarillo, and have your account information handy. Vanco moves your offering from your account directly into ours. We have been using this service for some time now and people have found it to be easy and one less thing to worry about.

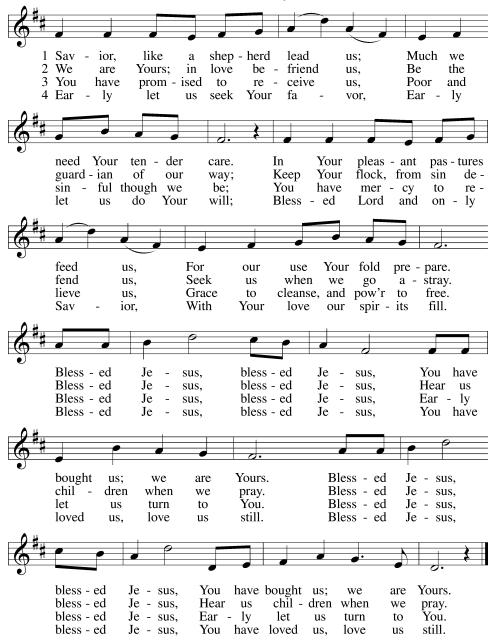
You can sign up on our website, peacecamarillo.com, or call 1-800-675-7430. Choose option #1 for client services and they will help you get started. Council also decided, to be good stewards of the resources we have available, that all major projects around the church will be put on hold for the present time.

If you have a special need we can help you with, please call the church office.

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"



INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **People:** Amen.

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. All: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

OPENING SENTENCES

- Pastor: Our Lord Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd, I know My own and my own know Me, just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.
- People: And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one Shepherd.

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, truly we 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. He has become our true Shepherd, who stepped into the wilderness of our sin to find us when we were lost and then brought us home rejoicing. Forgive our wandering, 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 bestows on 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.

HYMN



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People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

+THE WORD OF GOD+

OLD TESTAMENT	Acts 2:42-47
(The fellowship community of the Early Church.)	

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Following Jesus in His steps.)

¹⁹ This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**



HOLY GOSPEL

(I am the Good Shepherd.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter. **People:** Glory to You, O Lord.

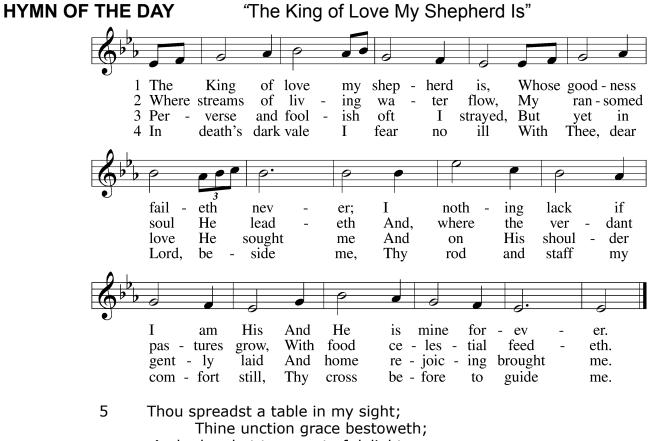
10 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

.... John 10:1-10

⁷ So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You O Christ.



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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MESSAGE

Pastor Rob Rebensal

Don't Confuse God With Life: What Do You Do When It Feels Like The Whole World Has It In For You? 1 Peter 2:19-25

CONFESSION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, All: 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

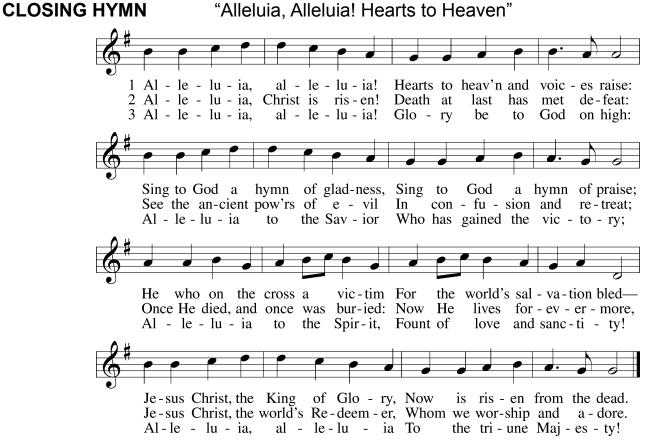
Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: 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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You!

I want to thank all our friends and members for your prayers of comfort and love, cards, phone calls, flowers and food during these trying times. We both feel very loved through all these actions. Roy and Ingrid Poehler