

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4th, 2025



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- The Lord's My Shepherd; I'll Not Want

CW 360

1. 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.
2. My soul he doth restore again And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake.
3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.
4. My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy, all my life, Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore My dwelling-place shall be.

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



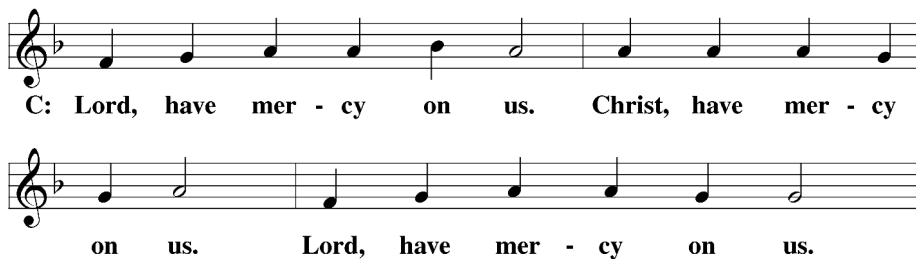
CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory be to God

Gloria in Excelsis



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,
 we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,
 God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the
 sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
 sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Be seated.

Anthem ----- Now all the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Men's Choir

1. Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
3. O fill us Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
4. Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Ezekiel 34:11-16

For this is what the LORD God says. Here I am. I myself will seek the welfare of my flock and carefully search for them. As a shepherd searches for his flock when his sheep that were with him have been scattered, so I will search for my flock and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own soil. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the settle-

ments of the land. I will lead them into good pasture, and their grazing land will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and they will pasture on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will shepherd my flock. I myself will let them lie down, declares the LORD God. I will seek the lost. I will bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured. I will strengthen the weak. I will destroy the fat and the strong, and I will shepherd them with justice.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 23

CW p.72

Refrain

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd*,
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures*,
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;*,
he guides 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.

Refrain

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies*,
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life*,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**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.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- 1 Peter 2:21-25

Indeed, you were called to do this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example so that you would follow in his steps. He did not commit a sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When he was insulted, he did not insult in return. When he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges

justly. He himself carried our sins in his body on the tree so that we would be dead to sins and alive to righteousness. By his wounds you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but you are now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Verse of the Day

John 10:14

M: Alleluia. I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia.



Stand.

Gospel ----- John 10:11-16

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me (just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- The King of Love My Shepherd Is

CW 375

1. The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.

2. Where streams of living water flow, My Savior gently leads me;
And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feeds me.
3. Confused 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 you, dear Lord, beside me;
Your rod and staff my comfort still, Your cross before to guide me.
5. You spread a table in my sight, A banquet here bestowing;
Your oil of welcome, my delight; My cup is overflowing!
6. And so through all the length of days Your goodness fails me never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever!

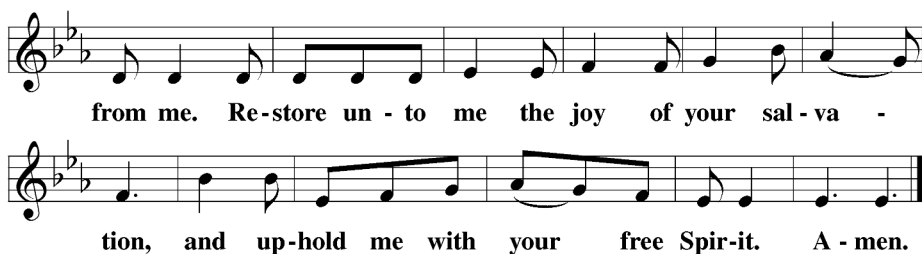
Sermon ----- John 10:11-16

Oh to Be a Sheep in Jesus' Fold

Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it



Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation joins with “**hear our prayer.**”*

Online giving option:

mluther.org/give



*Offerings support the spread
of the Gospel here and around the world.*

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

M: Heavenly Father, in Holy Baptism the children of Your Church are born again to a living hope. Feed and nourish our faith, bring us through every trial, and lend strength and joy to the praises of our risen Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: O God, send faithful shepherds to care for Your flock here and scattered throughout the world. Keep them devoted to You and Your truth and so turn them in dutiful service toward Your people. Spare us from hirelings who would serve ego, belly or the world’s doctrines. Give discerning ears to Your sheep to listen for the voice of Christ, our Good Shepherd. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Gentle Lord, visit the homes of Your people, that they may be places where faith is nurtured and where we learn to live our new lives in holiness and righteousness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- M: O gracious King, You have ordered the nations of the world so that men might seek security in You and not in earthly powers. Give good purpose to our leaders and grant peace through their labors, that many may find You in the sanctuary of Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Heavenly Father, by the firstfruits of Christ's life from the dead, You secured forgiveness for our troubled consciences. Bless also with temporal health and well-being those who suffer among us [*especially* _____]. Grant them aid in this moment and, even more so, true, immortal health in the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Merciful God, Your Son has given us His own flesh to be our food and His very blood to be our drink. Give us Your Holy Spirit so that we who approach His table may receive His gifts with repentant hearts and faith, that what we receive with our lips we may keep in holy hearts and show forth in holy lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Gracious Lord, those who die in Christ rest in Him. With them we await the day when we are received into Your everlasting presence to the life that death cannot end. Receive our thanks for the mighty saints of old and for their witness preserved through the ages. Keep us in Christ, that we may be reunited with all who have gone before us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: These things and whatever else You know that we need, kind Father, grant us for the sake of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

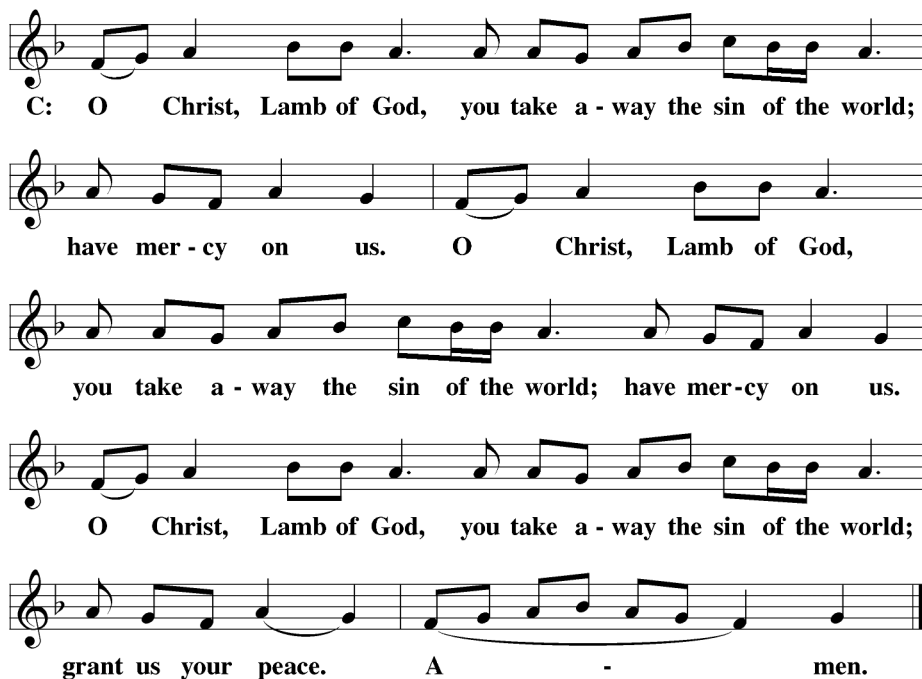
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:

Hymn ----- Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

CW 150

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
See the place where he was laid; Alleluia!
Praise him for the ransom paid. Alleluia!
2. For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinners' stead. Alleluia!
"Christ is ris'n," today we cry; Alleluia!
Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
3. Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled. Alleluia!
While, in strange and awefull strife, Alleluia!
Met together death and life. Alleluia!
4. Christ, who once for sinners bled, Alleluia!
Now the firstborn from the dead, Alleluia!
Throned in endless might and pow'r, Alleluia!
Lives and reigns forevermore. Alleluia!

Hymn ----- I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

CW 432

1. I am Jesus' little lamb;
Ever glad at heart I am,
For my shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my needs and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.
2. 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.
3. Who so happy as I am,
Even now the shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By his angel hosts attended,
He shall fold me to his breast,
There within his arms to rest.

After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



Be seated.

Hymn ----- Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

CW 436

1. Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep,
Who your Father's flock does keep,
Safe we wake and safe we sleep,
Guarded still by you.
2. In your promise firm we stand;
None can take us from your hand.
Speak-we hear-at your command,
We will follow you.
3. By your blood our souls were bought;
By your life salvation wrought;
By your light our feet are taught,
Lord, to follow you.
4. Father, draw us to your Son;
We with joy will follow on
Till the work of grace is done,
There to live with you.
5. We, in robes of glory dressed,
Join th' assembly of the blest,
Gathered to eternal rest
In the fold with you.



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