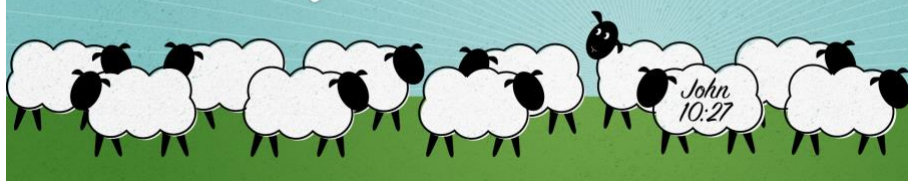


*My sheep hear my voice,
and I know them,
and they follow me.*



Sunday, May 11, 2025
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Service Theme

**BECAUSE HE LIVES WE KNOW JESUS IS
TRUSTWORTHY AND TRUE**

Jesus tells you in his Word that he cares for you dearly. . . that he would do anything for you. . . that he's leading you into the green pastures of paradise. How do you know you can trust him? Simple. Jesus followed up his words with action. Jesus promised he would die to save you from your sin. He did. Scripture promised the Savior would rise from the dead, proving that payment for sins was complete. It happened. Jesus always does what he says. His every promise is fulfilled. Jesus once illustrated that point in a striking metaphor, that of the Good Shepherd. All shepherds use words, calling to the sheep hoping they will follow. What sets the Good Shepherd apart is the fact that his words are followed by action, including his willingness to lay down his life for his sheep. Because he lives, we know Jesus is trustworthy and true.

551 Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

CW 551



1 Je - sus, shep - herd of the sheep, who your
2 In your prom - ise firm we stand, none can
3 By your blood our souls were bought, by your
4 Fa - ther, draw us to your Son; we with
5 We, in robes of glo - ry dressed, join th'as -



Fa - ther's flock does keep, safe we wake and
take us from your hand; speak— we hear— at
life sal - va - tion wrought; by your light our
joy will fol - low on till the work of
sem - bly of the blest, gath - ered to e -



safe we sleep, guard - ed still by you.
your com - mand, we will fol - low you.
feet are taught, Lord, to fol - low you.
grace is done, there to live with you.
ter - nal rest in the fold with you.

Text: Henry Cook, 1788–1868, alt.

Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

The Service

Setting One (page 155)

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 156

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

**We have followed what we have devised and desired
in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy
law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have
done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should
have done.**

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

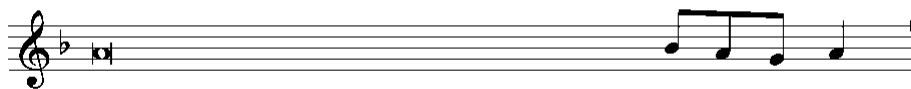
Lord, Have Mercy

CW 156



In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



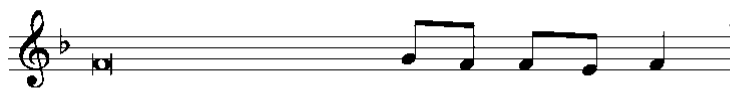
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.


938 This Is the Feast

CW 938 sts. Ref-5, Final Refrain

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *v. 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia! *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719723
Tune: © 1975, 1988 Richard W. Hillert. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719723

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

Amen.

First Reading

Acts 13:15,16a,26–39

St. Paul points out that Jesus' death and resurrection both fulfilled the Scripture. They prove not only that we are forgiven, but that God's promises are trustworthy and true.

¹⁵After the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Gentlemen, brothers, if you have a word of encouragement for the people, say it."

¹⁶Then Paul stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen.

²⁶"Gentlemen, brothers, sons of Abraham's family, and those among you who fear God, this message of salvation has been sent to you. ²⁷The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize him, and by condemning him they fulfilled the statements of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. ²⁸Though they found no grounds for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. ²⁹When they carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. ³⁰But God raised him from the dead, ³¹and for many days he was seen by those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. These same individuals are now his witnesses to the people.

³²“We are preaching to you the good news about the promise that was made to our fathers. ³³God has fulfilled this promise for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm:

You are my Son.

Today I have begotten you.

³⁴“That God would raise him from the dead never again to be subject to decay, God said in this way:

I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.

³⁵“Therefore he also says in another place:

You will not let your Holy One see decay.

³⁶“For David, after he had served God's purpose in his own generation, fell asleep, was laid to rest with his fathers, and saw decay. ³⁷But the One God raised did not see decay.

³⁸“So, gentlemen, brothers, let it be known to you that through this Jesus forgiveness of sins is being proclaimed to you, also forgiveness from everything from which you could not be justified through the law of Moses. ³⁹In this Jesus, everyone who believes is justified.

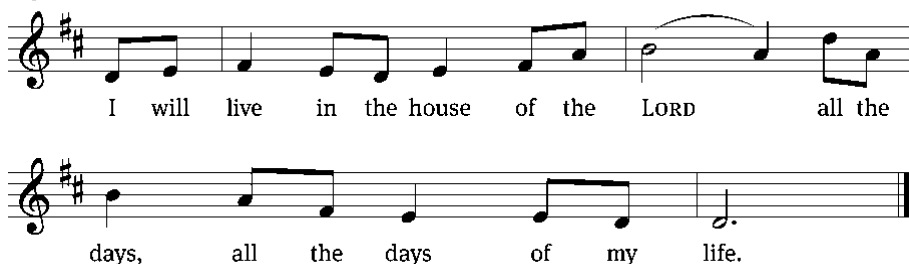
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

23A I Will Live in the House of the LORD

Psalm 23A

Refrain



Tone



The LORD is my / shepherd,

I lack / nothing.

He makes me lie down in green / pastures,

he leads me beside quiet / waters,

he refreshes / my soul.

He guides me along the right paths 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 your goodness and love will follow me all the days / of
my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for- / ever.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9–17

God's promise to lead all believers from great tribulation to the green pastures of heaven is trustworthy and true. St. John sees that promise fulfilled through the work of the Lamb.

⁹After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They called out with a loud voice and said:

Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb.

¹¹All the angels stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, ¹²saying:

Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen.

¹³One of the elders spoke to me and said, "These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?"

¹⁴And I answered him, "Sir, you know."

And he said to me:

These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵Because of this they are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple.

He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

¹⁶They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again.
 The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat,
¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd.
 He will lead them to springs of living water.
 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
 The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

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Gospel

John 10:22–30

Because our Good Shepherd is trustworthy and true, we eagerly listen to his voice.

²²Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple area in Solomon's Colonnade.

²⁴So the Jews gathered around Jesus, asking, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

²⁵Jesus answered them, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I am doing in my Father's name testify about me. ²⁶But you do not believe, because you are not my sheep, as I said to you. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

804 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

CW 804



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb; ev - er glad at
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, e - ven now the

heart I am, for my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,

knows my need and well pro - vides me, loves me ev - 'ry
 in - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; when I thirst, he
 by his an - gel host at - tend - ed, he shall fold me

day the same, e - ven calls me by my name.
 bids me go where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
 to his breast, there with - in his arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–1782; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, Leipzig, 1784

Text and tune: Public domain

The Resurrection of the Dead:

- 1) I follow him because I belong to Him.
- 2) No one can snatch me from His hand.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From there 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

Loving Shepherd of the sheep, fill us with contentment and confidence during this season as we celebrate your Easter victory. You laid down your life for the sheep and then rose again to assure us that you give us eternal life.

Good Shepherd, save us.

Strengthen our faith to follow where you lead, to the green pastures of your Word, the quiet waters of our baptism, and the gracious table of your body and blood where our cup overflows with your forgiving love. Guide us to find in you the gate that leads to safety and good pastures.

Good Shepherd, lead us.

Guard and protect us from those who want to lead us astray and snatch us out of your hand. Give us courage to fight against the devil and wisdom to recognize false teachers. Lead us to honor and follow those you have called to shepherd your flock, the Church.

Good Shepherd, guide us.

Let your rod and your staff comfort us and all your sheep in times of sickness and sadness and especially when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. May we find in your redemption and your Father's resolve the unbreakable promise that we will dwell in your house forever.

Good Shepherd, console us.

Move us to reach out to sheep who are not yet a part of our sheep pen but whom you have claimed as your own. Give us your passion to search for the sheep who are lost and lead us to rejoice when they have been found.

Good Shepherd, inspire us.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

You are the source of life, wisdom, and all good things. Look with favor on all mothers who have given life to their children and nurture them with loving concern and faithful instruction. May their children honor them and call them blessed. When they become weary, sustain them with physical and spiritual rest; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Be with them, gracious Shepherd.

We thank you for all the blessings we have gained from your goodness: family and friends, wealth and health, work and leisure. Give us wisdom to long for and cherish your more precious gifts, your Word and sacraments, so that your goodness and love may follow us all the days of our life.

Good Shepherd, hear us. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

893 For All the Faithful Women

CW 893 sts. 1, 13, 3-4



- 1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in days of old,
- 2 For Eu - nice and for Lo - is we sing our thanks and praise.
- 3 O God, for saints and ser - vants, those named and those un - known
- 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their sto - ry told.
Young Tim - o - thy they nur - tured and led him in your ways.
in whom thro' all the a - ges your light of glo - ry shone,
All praise the Ho - ly Spir - it, who binds the Church in one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave;
Raise up in ev - 'ry house - hold true teach - ers of your Word
we of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing and fer - vent prayer we raise
With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



to you their lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your pow'r to save.
whose lives will bear clear wit - ness to Christ, our ris - en Lord.
that, faith - ful in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.
we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, alt.

Tune: Finnish

Text: © 1993, 1997, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719723

Tune: Public domain

Prayer

CW 171

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

CW 171

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

CW 171

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 T give you peace.
Amen.

528 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

CW 528 sts. 4, 6



4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, watch - ing all your
6 Christ, the Al - pha and O - me - ga, Christ, the first - born

lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,
from the dead; Christ, the life and res - ur - rec - tion,

nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good
Christ, the Church's glo - rious head: praise and thanks and

Shep - herd, seek us, find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of
ad - o - ra - tion and un - end - ing wor - ship be to the

God, our shep - herd, keep us; let us hear your voice a - lone.
Fa - ther and the Spir - it and to you e - ter - nal - ly.

Announcements

Church Cleaners

May 18 – Mark // May 25 – Thomas

Youth Pizza and Video Games @ St. Paul's!

Fri May 16, 2025

Calling all Ottawa Valley youth catechism age and up! We will be gathering at St. Paul in downtown for a night of Pizza and Video Games! We will start with a short object lesson devotion while eating pizza! After that, we will have a few game systems set up to enjoy together. We plan to begin at 6:30 P.M. on Friday May 16th and will end around 8:30! For more info, please email jonathan.kock94@gmail.com.

Use this link to sign up: <https://signup.com/go/KfDagkb>

Divine Sisters' Meeting

Sunday, May 25th, after Worship

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (11) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour
- Tu (13) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
- We (14) 11:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Fr (16) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)
6:30 pm Youth Game Night @ St. Paul's
- Sa (17) 11:00 am Communicating Christ (Youth)
- Su (18) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
11:30 am Coffee Hour
12:00 pm Evangelism Meeting
3:00 pm Communion Service in Poltimore
- Tu (20) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
7:00 pm Elders Meeting
- We (21) 11:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Fr (23) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)
4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Sa (24) 11:00 am Communicating Christ (Youth)
- Su (25) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour
12:00 pm Divine Sisters' Meeting



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