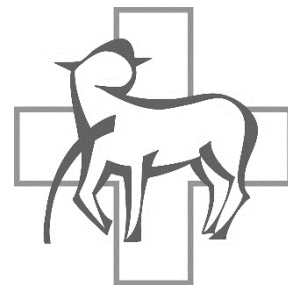


# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Hermiston



## Call to Worship

Psalm 100

**P:** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness!

**C: Come into His presence with singing!**

**Know that the LORD, He is God!**

**P:** It is He who made us, and we are His;

**C: we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

**P:** Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

**C: Give thanks to Him; bless His name!**

**P:** For the LORD is good;

**C: His steadfast love endures forever,  
and His faithfulness to all generations.**

## Hymn #709 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
My ransomed soul He leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me.

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.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

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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## The Easter Dialog

adapted from Revelation 1 & 7 NIV

**P:** Grace and peace to you from the One Who is, and  
the One Who was, and the One Who will be  
From the sevenfold Spirit before His throne;  
And from Jesus Christ – He is the Faithful Witness,  
the First of the dead to live again and the Ruler over the kings of the earth.

**C: To Him Who loves us  
and by His blood has freed us from our sins,  
and has made us a kingdom,  
priests to God and His Father  
— to Him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.**

**P:** Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P:** The uncountable multitude of nations standing before the throne of the Lamb cry out with a loud voice:

**C: “Salvation belongs to our God, Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”**

**P:** And all the angels standing around the throne worship Him saying:

**C: “Amen!**

**Praise  
and glory  
and wisdom  
and thanks  
and honor  
and power  
and strength  
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”**

**P:** Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Prayer of the Day

**P:** 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;

**C: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn #710** vv.1-4 “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”

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.

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.

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.  
  
My table Thou hast furnishèd  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

**Psalm of the Day**      read in unison      Psalm 23 KJV

**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 for ever.**

**Hymn #710** v.5 "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

Goodness and mercy all my life

Shall surely follow me;

And in God's house forevermore

My dwelling place shall be.

Text: Public domain

## **New Testament Lesson**

Acts 4:1-12

As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

**L: This is the Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Gradual** recited by ALL:

**Christ has risen from the dead.  
God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,  
He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;  
He has put all things under His feet.**

**Epistle Lesson**

I John 3:16-24

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup>But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>9</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

**L: This is the Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Lesson**

John 10:11-18

**P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Tenth chapter**

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

[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

**P: This is the Word of the Lord**

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

**Hymn #740** "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;  
For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my need and well provides me,  
Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.

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.

Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd's lamb?  
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,  
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

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**Sermon**

## The 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.**

## Offering

### The Prayers of the Church

### The Words of Institution

**P:** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P:** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### The 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.**

## Agnus Dei

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

**Distribution Hymn #633** “At The Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

*at Bethlehem*

At the Lamb’s high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His piercèd side. Alleluia!

Praise we Him, Whose love divine  
Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast —  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

Where the paschal blood is poured,  
Death’s dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel’s hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, Whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love  
Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

△ Father, Who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by Whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

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## Post-Communion Collect

**P:** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Benediction

**P:** 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.

**C: Amen.**

## Hymn #735 "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

Have no fear, little flock;  
Have no fear, little flock,  
For the Father has chosen  
To give you the Kingdom;  
Have no fear, little flock!

Have good cheer, little flock;  
Have good cheer, little flock,  
For the Father will keep you In His love forever;  
Have good cheer, little flock!

Praise the Lord high above;  
Praise the Lord high above,  
For He stoops down to heal you,  
Uplift and restore you;  
Praise the Lord high above!

Thankful hearts raise to God;  
Thankful hearts raise to God,  
For He stays close beside you,  
In all things works with you;  
Thankful hearts raise to God!

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