

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



The Good Shepherd

July 21, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Tending sheep is a mainstay occupation in many countries around the world. The American Sheep Industry Association includes more than 100,000 sheep producers from every part of the nation. Statewide associations are located across the nation from Maine to Hawaii. Some use the historic title of “wool growers” in their group name; others call themselves “Shepherds Federations.” In referring to Himself as the “Good Shepherd,” Jesus identified His ministry as one given to caring for and nurturing His precious lambs. One hymn states simply, “I am Jesus’ little lamb” (*LSB* 740:1). It is a faithful confession for people of all ages!

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN 8:00 AM “Savior like a Shepherd Lead Us” 711
 11:00 AM “Children of the Heavenly Father” 725

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 40:11, 16; 145:1–4*

Pastor: I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

People: **Every day I will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever.**

Pastor: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

People: One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.

Pastor: As for You, O Lord, You will not restrain Your mercy from me; Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

People: But may all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; may those who love Your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and ask His gracious forgiveness.

People: We humbly confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and before one another, that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not always put God first. We have used His holy name in ways that do not honor Him. We have not always been thoughtful caretakers of His creation and have not shared His bounty with others at all times. We have been heedless in word and deed and have not always kept our thoughts, words, and deeds pure and honorable. We strayed from His paths of righteousness and have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have wished for that which is not rightfully ours and have not put the best construction on all things and on all people. We pray God to have mercy on us, to forgive us all our sins, and to bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained 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.

People: Amen.

(Share the Peace of Christ with those around you)

HYMN OF PRAISE "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" 463 vs 1,2

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 23:1-6* (The remnant of God's flock will be gathered.)

"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people:

“You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord. Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord.

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 2:11–22* (Together we are fellow citizens with God’s people.)

Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Romans 11:33, 36*

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Pastor: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 6:30–44* (Jesus miraculously feeds thousands of people.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and

they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY 8:00 AM "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" 709
11:00 AM "The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want" 710
(sing to the tune for "Amazing Grace")

SERMON The Good Shepherd Mark 6:30-44

CATECHISM *The First Article*

Pastor: We have begun our worship this day in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the First Person of the Holy Trinity and reflect on our confession of faith using the words written by Martin Luther in the Small Catechism.

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

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each prayer is offered

Pastor: . . . Lord in your mercy

People: hear our Prayer

OFFERING

SACRAMENT

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, O Lord, for in Jesus Christ, the servant of all, You have shown Your saving power and Your great compassion. Grant that we may live in humility, honoring our Good Shepherd in all that we do. Gathered at the Table of the Lord, we rejoice that we are given a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us, merciful Lord, that we rejoice in the gifts before us and praise You with thankful hearts.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

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

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: 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:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI “Just As I Am” 570 vs 1,6

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 8:00 AM only

“Lord Jesus Christ We Humbly Pray” 623

“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” 710

(to the tune for “Amazing Grace”)

“Your Table I Approach” 628

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious and eternal God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus. Grant that the bread of life and blood of Christ that has been shared and received in this blessed Meal be for us that life-giving food that sustains us on our earthly journey as we serve and follow our Good Shepherd faithfully all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

8:00 AM "Jesus Lead Thou On" 718

11:00 AM "Precious Lord Take My Hand" 739

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3.

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