

# + Fourth Sunday of Easter April 25, 2021

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## + Fourth Sunday of Easter Order for Worship

The image of the good shepherd reminds us how God's will for us through the risen Christ is abundant life. It is the relationship of the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep demonstrates the breadth of that love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing what we have with any sibling in need.

Prelude

#### Invention No. 4

J.S. Bach

Welcome

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of Baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We bless you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We thank you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all honor and praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **C: Amen.** 



Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt. Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

## **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.** 

## First Reading - 1 John 3: 16-24

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a sibling in need and yet refuses help?

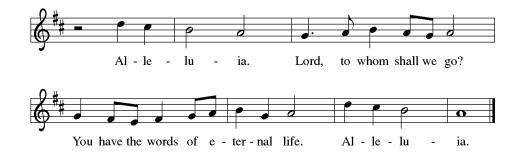
<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey God's commandments and do what pleases God.

<sup>23</sup>And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of God's Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.** 

**Gospel Acclamation** 

Alleluia



## **Gospel – John 10: 11-18**

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

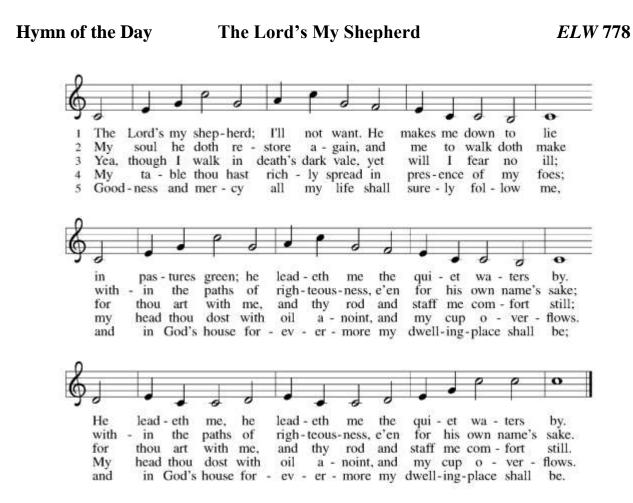
[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and

leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care 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>I have other sheep that do not belong to 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 in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### **Children's Word**

#### Sermon



Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

## **Prayers of the People**

P: Trusting in God's promise of new life in Christ, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition P: God of mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.** 

P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we lift up our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **C: Amen.** 

## Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
C: 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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## Benediction

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, the Holy Trinity, bless you now and forever. C: Amen.

## Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!



Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

#### **Abbreviations**

### P: Pastor/Presiding Minister C: Congregation

#### ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Prelude

Hymnody

Welcome Gospel Verse Maria Mangano, Clarinet David Rollinson, Euphonium Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer, Organ Maria Mangano and David Rollinson, Vocals The Kalcich Family Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer, Organ Kristen Asplin Maria Mangano and David Rollinson Jonathan Paetz Joseph Paetz Christopher Atwood Pastor Ross Carmichael

Director of Faith Formation Presiding Minister

#### Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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