

SUNDAY- APRIL 21, 2024 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR
INTERN

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON
ZACH SMIRRISS

ELC@MHTC.NET - 608-437-5012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 21, 2024 | Fourth Sunday of Easter | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / C = Congregation)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.

WELCOMING WORD *The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between 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 shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.*

OPENING HYMN: # 789 - Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

SONGS BY SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

*"Hallelu, Hallelujah!"
"Ho-Ho-Ho-Hosanna"
"If I Were a Butterfly"*

GREETING

L: 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.

+ KYRIE pg. 138

+ HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140 "This is the feast..."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep,

C: 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. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS:

*"Better is One Day"
"Jesus Loves Me Alleluia"*

FIRST READING: Psalm 23 (read responsively)

¹The Lord is my shepherd; shall not be in want.

²**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All 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.

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to John, Chapter 10

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

[Jesus said:] ^{11a}"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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.”

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM - “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Instrumentalists

Kris Muehlenkamp

Kristin Willcutt

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

+HYMN #782 - My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

BENEVOLENCE

OFFERING SONG “Come to the Cross”

OFFERTORY - #182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

MEAL

+ Offering Prayer: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

+ The Lord’s Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Communion Hymn: #778 - The Lord Is My Shepherd

Prayer after Communion: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+HYMN insert - He Leadeth Me (vs.1,2,3)

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 2024

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 95, A Call to Worship and Obedience

Tuesday, Revelation 7:13-17, The Multitude from Every Nation

Wednesday, Mark 14:26-31, Peter's Denial Foretold

Thursday, Mark 1:1-15, The Proclamation of John the Baptist

Friday, Amos 8:11-13, A Coming Famine

Saturday, Mark 4:30-32, The Parable of the Mustard Seed

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” -- John 10:11

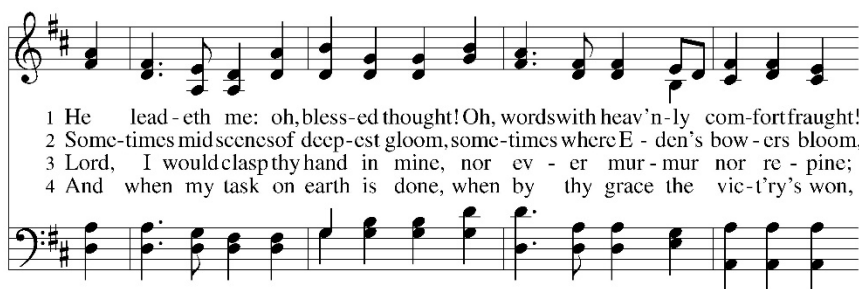
In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

- Compare and contrast the Good Shepherd, the hired hand and the wolf, and ponder the differences. (John 10:11-18)
- If you were introducing Psalm 23 to someone who had never heard it, what would you say?
- In a world of instant communication about global poverty, what does love look like in practice? (1 John 3:17)

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. Amen.

BLESS: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always. Amen.

He Leadeth Me



1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E-den's bow-ers bloom,
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev-er mur-mur nor re-pine;
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,

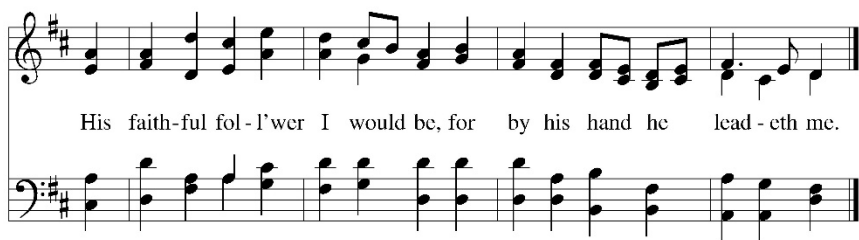


What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
by wa-ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
con-tent, what-ev-er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead-eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor-dan lead-eth me.



Refrain

He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead-eth me.