



Jesus the good Shepherd

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone"

May 3, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. *(Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)*

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgar con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. *(El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.)*

(P = Pastor, C = Congregation, A = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: “Example—and Much More”

AS WE GATHER

“Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure.” These poetic words of a favorite hymn, written in the 1600s by Sigismund von Birken, have a special meaning for us each day. Although the author intended that his hymn about following the example of Jesus be sung in the Lenten season, when there is a focus on themes of sacrifice and self-giving, the words fit equally well in Eastertide. No season, even one as joyous and victorious as Easter, is without its challenges that may include some sorts of suffering. There are no times when we are exempted from taking up our crosses and following the Lord. The Good Shepherd stands ready in every season to lead His flock with loving care!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

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, tho’ 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 furnished In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me,
And in God’s house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 95:1, 7*

P Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
C let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

P For He is our God,
C and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Micah 6:6–8*

P Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking forgiveness and amendment of our lives as we follow the Lord.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and our sinful condition.

P With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?
C Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

P Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
C Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

P He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
C **Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may follow where He leads until that time when we, by His grace, come to dwell in Your house forever.**

P God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. Therefore, as a called 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.
C Amen.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

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; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:42–47 (ESV)

(The life of the first Christians)

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:19–25 (ESV)

(The example of Christ, who suffered for us)

¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. ²³ When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly.

²⁴ He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1–10 (ESV)

(Jesus is the gate of the sheep.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

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

¹“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what He was saying to them. ⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN

“Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus”

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do our Father’s bidding,
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross,
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus,
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
Then by grace we all may win
Untold fruits of His creation.
Jesus, unto You I die,
There to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus,
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken,
Jesus, since You are our head,
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

SERMON

“ORDINARY...AND EXTRAORDINARY”

**1 Peter 2:19–25
Pastor Jim Sprengle**

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.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS ADDRESSED

(The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings; 1Cor 16:2)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

based on Psalm 23

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Silence for reflection

We pray for the whole Church, that through it the goodness of God be shared and the Good News of salvation joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those who are in need, assured of the Shepherd's care for all of His sheep. Help us to meet the needs of those who travel with us through life as we are led by our Good Shepherd day by day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the nations of the world, asking that still waters of peace flow around the globe and that there be goodness and kindness among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for our families and everyone in them. Together help us to follow the Good Shepherd as one flock in which all dwell together in love and unity. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those whose tables are set in difficult or challenging places, whose lives know want or discord or sadness or continuing illness, *especially...* Gently guide them with Your rod and staff, Good Shepherd, and keep them ever with You. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those who are celebrating, *especially*...Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P With gratefulness we remember those who already dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Inspire us to pass throughout our earthly journeys with faith and hope as we heed the voice of our Good Shepherd and follow in His ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Mt 6:9ff; Lk 11:2ff)*

P Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:
C **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.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26;*

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN

“Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us”

Savior, like a Shepherd lead us;
Much we need Thy tender care.
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us;
For our use Thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us; Thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Early let us seek Thy favor;
Early let us do Thy will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With Thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us; love us still.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace and serve the Lord!
G Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS—FYI

MAY 3, 2020

† VIRUS UPDATE RELATED TO CHURCH ACTIVITIES

All Church activities are canceled until further notice. Although we are not fearful, we will take prudent measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Please stay at home, do not go out unless it is unavoidable and stay 6 feet away from others. You may call the office phone and listen to current messages, check the web site and emails to stay up on the latest news so you will be aware of what you need to do to stay healthy.

† ASCENSION HELP LINE – 971-715-1416

Our goal is to offer practical help for our members and friends in need during this difficult time. We have volunteers who are willing to run errands, bring groceries, or help with other needs. In addition, volunteers can call to check on people, offer a connection, and pray. Please leave your name, number, and as clearly as possible describe your need, and a HELP LINE Volunteer will return your call within 24 hours.

† LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES ALTERNATIVE FOR HOMEBOUND WORSHIP

- Online Daily Devotions are on our Facebook page: Ascension Lutheran Church and School - Portland
- Radio: KPDQ on 93.9FM Sunday mornings at 7:00am.

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Janice Hart	May 3	Mark Schiely	May 5
Hilary Sylvia	May 5	Rebecca Williamson	May 5
Karin Richardson	May 8		

BIRTHDAYS

Sonia Bublies	May 4	Wanda Cassetty	May 5
Millie Edwards	May 5	Herb Hoefler	May 5
Andrea Bryant	May 6	Esperanza Gutierrez	May 6
Samantha Cassetty	May 7	Lois Fabbri	May 7
Mel Haggard	May 9	Knocke birthday	May 9

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES - NONE

PRAYER NEEDS? Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail: office@alcportland.org

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

All those suffering or infected with Covid-19, The family of Alejandra Gamboa, Randy Arronson, Mary Niska, Jack Webber, Larry Hart, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Virginia Hunt, John Eilers and Family, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Lewis Eilers, Wayne Rippon, Ella Murray, Rich Zahursky, Audrey Bauch, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Ray Brown, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Ordena Laxton, *Jean Smith, *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath **Home Bound*.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);

Jaden Keup, Army – deployed (great-nephew of Karon Keup);

Jon Porath, Air Force — Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas NV (son of Dale and Sherry Porath);

Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);

Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright Air Force – Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Randy and Karen Arronson).

EVENTS AT ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH – Canceled until further notice

Ascension Lutheran Church and School

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750

Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement: *Go and Share Jesus Christ*

Our Vision Statement: *Take part... Join Jesus on His mission*

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God’s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God’s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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