

Zion Lutheran Church, Glen Rock, PA
Fourth Sunday of Easter
ELW Service of the Word
Sunday, April 25, 2021

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

***ENTRANCE HYMN: “Praise the Savior, Now and Ever” LBW 155 vs. 1, 4**

Praise the Savior, now and ever;

Praise him, all beneath the skies;

Come before him and adore him, God’s own perfect sacrifice;

Vict’ry gaining, life obtaining, Now in glory see him rise!

4. Earth rejoices; all its voices Glory to the Father sing!

Praise the Savior, laud him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King!

Praise the Spirit, through Christ’s merit Life eternal see him bring!

***Apostolic Greeting**

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

And also with you.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by

the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME AND SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY: “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” LBW 481 vs. 1, 4**

- 1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are yours.**
- 4. Early let us seek your favor, Early let us do your will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.**

OFFERTORY INTERLUDE

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of love, you call us beloved children. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need (*especially*). Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

***BLESSING**

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.

Amen

***SENDING HYMN: “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done” LBW 135 vs. 1, 2**

1. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The strife is o’er, the battle done; Now is the victor’s triumph won!
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The pow’rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions
has dispersed.**

Let shouts of holy joy outburst, Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Today’s altar flowers are presented in honor of our 50th wedding anniversary,
by Tom and Pam Spangler.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 05/02/21

Acts 8:26-40, Ps 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

PRAYER REQUESTS

Kim, Cecilia and family, Jill Dehoff, Jim Ebaugh and family, Lind Frey, Irene
Grogan, Nancy Heltzel, Linda Kowalewski, Don Miller, Brian Phelps,
Jim Ream, Susan Scheungrab, Steve Scott, Alice Simmons,
LeMos & Susette Stallard, Earl Williams, Marian Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services are videotaped and streamed live each week. It is possible during recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concern about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

Today we welcome Michael Warns and Rick Freda as official members of Zion.

Today is Loose Change Sunday. April is Organ Donation month. April’s offering will benefit Donate Life America. Thousands die every year waiting for a donated organ that never comes. When 1 person signs up to be an organ donor, he/she can save the live of 8 people and enhance the life of 75 others. Sign up now to end their wait.

Thank you to the many people in the congregation who have donated to my Eagle Scout project. To date, I have collected over 40% of my \$10,000 goal. I will continue to collect donations until May 25th. – Roman Davis

Upcoming Lectors:

- April 25 – Susie Hengst
- May 2 - Linda Beegle
- May 9 - Shirley or Dave Seitz
- May 16 - Donna Price
- May 23 - Sandy Fair
- May 30 - Diane Bortner

Council Offering Duty:

- April – Donna Price and Edgar Davis
- May – Joy Keller-Brown and George Brown
- June - Carrie Miller and Tom Bailey

Altar Care:

- May – Donna Price

If you desire pastoral care or conversation, please contact Pastor Katie Brantner at 717-420-0779.

PERSONNEL here at ZION

- Pastor Paul Haack, Stated Sunday Supply Pastor
- Pastor Katie Brantner, Interim Pastoral Care Coordinator...717-420-0779
- Darryl Engler, Organist
- Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant
- Natalie Walker, Custodian
- Chad Fisher, Sexton.....717-891-5327
- Joy Keller-Brown, Council President.....717-235-7044

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joy Keller-Brown, Donna Price, Bill Ream, Tom Bailey, Susan Hengst, George Brown, Carrie Miller, Edgar Davis and Gevene Harden

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