

Sunday Worship
Bulletin
**GOOD SHEPHERD
SUNDAY**

10:00 a.m.

May 12, A.D. 2019



Saint John's Lutheran Church

--- Missouri Synod ---

60 Broad Street, Westfield, MA

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Radio Broadcast at 7:30 a.m. on WHYN 560 AM

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS, OUR LORD!

We pray that our worship this day will be an inspiration to every one of us.

If you are a visitor or the guest of someone, please sign our Guest Book at the round table in the Foyer. Requests for prayers in this morning's service may be made by writing them on the Prayer Request form in the entryway of the church.

A Nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

Jesus said: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you are also to love another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
John 13:34-35



The Order of MORNING WORSHIP

TO OUR VISITORS AND GUESTS: The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at this congregation is administered in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive into our mouths, not just bread and wine, but as our Lord promises His true Body and Blood "through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins". If you are not a member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we kindly ask that you arrange for a time to speak with Pastor Riley if you are interested in receiving Holy Communion.

AS WE GATHER: Jesus the Good Shepherd is the familiar theme of the Fourth Sunday of Easter. He is our Good Shepherd because He lays down His life for us. We are His sheep because we hear His voice, and by the power of the Spirit, we recognize His voice and rejoice in Him. He knows us, and we know Him. That is our comfort and our hope. As we find peace in the words of Psalm 23, so do we find hope in its fulfillment in Christ. He shows us the Father, He gives us eternal life, and He keeps us safe in the face of all our enemies.

✠ OPENING HYMN NO. **709**: *"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"*

✠ INVOCATION, CONFESSION, and ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen.

P: We all, like sheep, have gone astray;

C: each of us has turned to his own way.

P: But the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,

C: so we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

Silence for reflection and examination

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father:

C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your 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. May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

‡ SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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.

(Be Seated)

‡ FIRST LESSON: Acts 20:17–35

(I did not shrink from proclaiming to you the whole counsel of God.)

Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

‡ EPISTLE: Revelation 7:9–17 *(The Lamb will be their Shepherd.)*

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud

voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

✠ HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:22–30

(No one can snatch the sheep out of the Shepherd's hand.)

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

✠ STATEMENT of FAITH: Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will

come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead whose kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Be Seated)

✠ HYMN of the DAY NO. **710**: *“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”*

✠ SERMON: *“Safe in the Arms of Jesus”* John 10:22-30

(Please Stand)

✠ PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Let us come before the Lamb and His throne and bring to Him the prayers of all His people and everyone according to their needs. Shepherd of love, You have delivered us from our sins and from the power of death and made us Your people forever. Give to us Your Spirit that we know the fullness of Your goodness now until we know Your joy forever in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Deliver us from all our enemies, keep us in safe amid the dangers and terrors of this mortal life, and bring us to everlasting life through Christ, our Good Shepherd. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give wisdom to those who lead us in this land, peace to the nations, courage to pursue justice for all people, and protection for those who protect and defend us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Wipe every tear from Your people, and give to the sick and those who suffer in mind or in body healing, comfort, strength, and patience according to Your gracious will. Give peace to the dying, and comfort the grieving in their sorrow and loss. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give to us Your Holy Spirit and faith that we recognize Your presence in this Holy Sacrament, rejoice in its gift and treasure, and receive it for our eternal good. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Help us to use wisely and well all the resources You freely and graciously bestow upon us, and direct our hearts to return to You the worship of lips that proclaim the name of Your Son before the world and lives that reflect His goodness, love, and mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

✠ SHARING of the PEACE

(Be Seated)

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering

We respond to God's love with our OFFERINGS

(Please Stand)

Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

✠ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

✠ WORDS of INSTITUTION

P: 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."

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

† **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**

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

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(Be Seated)

At the time of DISTRIBUTION, all those wishing to receive Holy Communion will come forward as the ushers direct. The bread/Body of the Lord will be served in your hand. If you wish to receive the Lord's blood from an individual glass rather than from the common cup, indicate so when Assistant comes to you and he will hand you a glass from which you then drink and place back in the tray carried by the acolyte.

(Please Stand)

† **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

P: Let us pray. Father, we thank You for having fed us on the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation, and we pray You to open our hearts to the work of Your Spirit, that we trust in Christ, our Good Shepherd, hear and follow the voice of His Word, serve You in willing obedience, and dwell in Your house forevermore; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† **BENEDICTION**

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.

† **CLOSING HYMN NO. 740: "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"**

† **POSTLUDE**

SERVING US AS WE WORSHIP TODAY:

Lay Assistants – Paul Brose & William Schneeloch

Lay Reader – Tom McClure

Acolyte – Mason Quinn

Guest Organist – Don Henneman

THE FLOWERS in the chancel this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Fogg from her husband, David and Robyn.

