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THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST July 20 & 21, 2024 5:30 PM & 8:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Tending sheep is a mainstay occupation in many countries around the world. The American Sheep Industry Association includes more than 100,000 sheep producers from every part of the nation. Statewide associations are located across the nation from Maine to Hawaii. Some use the historic title of "wool growers" in their group name; others call themselves "Shepherds Federations." In referring to Himself as the "Good Shepherd," Jesus identified His ministry as one given to caring for and nurturing His precious lambs. One hymn states simply, "I am Jesus' little lamb" (*LSB* 740:1). It is a faithful confession for people of all ages!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN TO OPEN "Christ Is Our Cornerstone" LSB 912, sts. 1-3

Please stand

INVOCATION

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

G who made heaven and earth.

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
 But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.

CONFESSION

- **P** Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

People of God, I have good news for you! Know with joy that upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

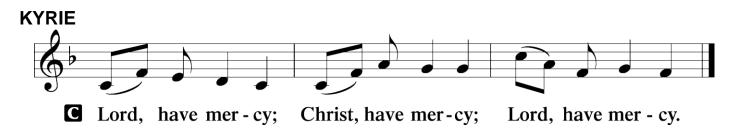
PSALM 23 (Spoken responsively)

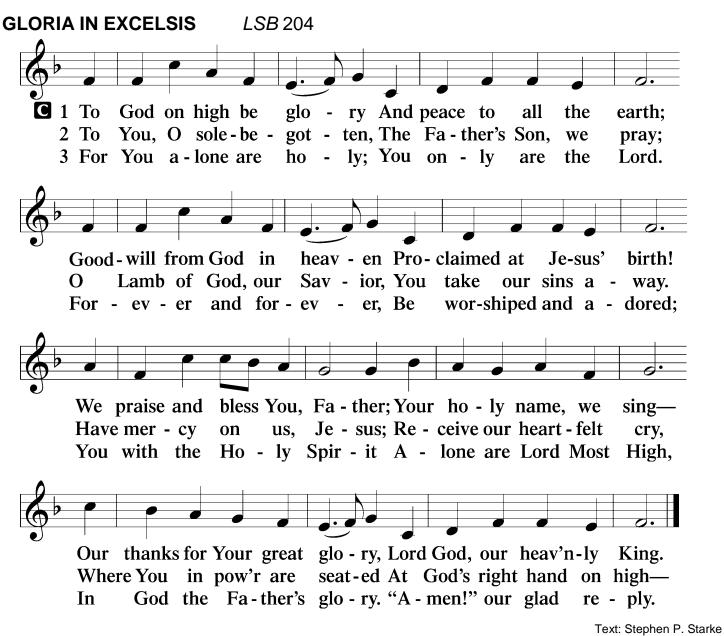
G ¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Women: ²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Men: ³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

- Women: ⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- *Men:* ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
- **G** ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
- GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.





SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Collect)

P Let us pray.

God of compassion, when You saw that we were like sheep without a shepherd, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to shepherd us. Keep alive in us Your spirit of compassion for the world, until all people come to know Your Shepherd's care; 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

July 20 & 21, 2024

3

Please sit

FIRST READING Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: "You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. ³Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and

SECOND READING Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—¹²remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace. who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and

they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.

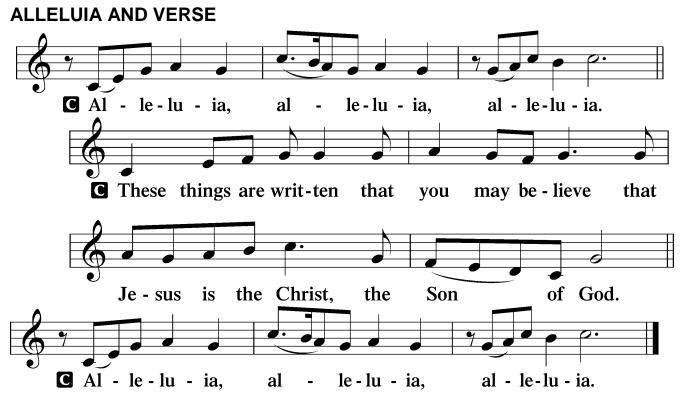
⁵"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord
- **G** Thanks be to God.

preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand



GOSPEL READING Mark 6:30-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁰The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. ³⁵And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said. "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. ³⁶Send them away to go into the

surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

³⁷But he answered them, "You give them something to eat."

And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?"

³⁸And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." ³⁹Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. ⁴¹And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people.

(continued...)

And he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

<u>Please sit</u>

PARTS OF LITURGY - CREED

In the course of His earthly ministry, Jesus put this hard question to His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" He wasn't asking for the opinions of the crowds. He wanted a confession of faith.

In reality, this confession is no different than the confession of sins. In both, we acknowledge that what God has said is true. When we confess our sins, we acknowledge the truth that God speaks about us — that we are sinners. When we confess the faith of the church in the creed, our confession speaks about God — who He is and what He has done.

In every age, the same question is put to the church: who do you say that I am? As we open our mouths and begin, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty ...," we confess a profound truth that has passed over the lips of Christians in every generation.

This confession of the Triune God is the property of no single individual, but of the whole church, including the whole company of heaven. There are more than a few saints and martyrs who put their lives on the line as they defended the truths that we confess in the creeds.

Think of Athanasius, that faithful fourth-century pastor and confessor, who was exiled numerous times for his defense of the truth against the false teachers of his day. Or Luther, who stood firm against the combined might of the Roman Church and the Holy Roman Empire.

In our own day, there are faithful Christians who risk their lives — and sometimes die — to confess these truths.

In the same way, as we stand on holy ground where Jesus comes in His Word and Sacraments, we join that noble company of saints and martyrs, confessing these holy truths concerning the Triune God.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

CATECHISM The First Article

- We have begun our worship this day in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the First Person of the Holy Trinity and reflect on our confession of faith using the words written by Martin Luther in the Small Catechism.
- **G** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- **P** What does this mean?
- I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN "With the Lord Begin Your Task" LSB 869, sts. 1-5

SERMON "REBUILDING EACH GATE-41 WORK DETAILS" (Text: Nehemiah 3) The Rev. Peter Gueldner

CANTICLE HYMN "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" LSB 711, sts. 1-4

TITHES & OFFERING

<u>Please stand</u>

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please sit

CLOSING HYMN "I'm But a Stranger Here" LSB 748, sts. 1-3

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

* * * TO GOD BE THE GLORY * * *

Pastor The Rev. Peter Gueldner Music Barbara Mrosko Elders 5:30 – Mark Prieve; 8:00 – Curt Becher Soundboard 5:30 – Dean Schultz; 8:00 – Brian Anderson Lectors 5:30 – Jan Zierke; 8:00 – Barbara Beatty Worship Assistants 5:30 – Richard Delaske; 8:00 – Brent Peterson, Dave Simonson Greeters 5:30 – Carol Ciffra, Scott Howard; 8:00 – Dan Saehler Ushers 5:30 – Dave Schuenke, Dan & Judy Valentyn; 8:00 – Jim Cross, Vernon Cross, Wayne Dalluge

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