

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

## *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

**Introduction for the Day:** Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

### *Gathering*

Prelude

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

Temple Talk

Equipping the Saints Synod Mission Appeal

Call to Worship                      8:30

*My Soul, My Joy* by John Paradowski  
– The EmbELLishments

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

**Amen.**

When we were baptized, we died and were buried with Christ.

**We were baptized so that we might have a new life, as Christ was raised to life by the glory of God the Father.**

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

*Silence for meditation and self-examination*

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.**

Since we have been united with him in a death like his,  
**we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. For his sake, forgive our sins, so that we may receive and share the precious peace our Lord has promised.**

Christ is our Good Shepherd, and it is written, that the Messiah had to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins must be proclaimed in his name. I therefore declare unto you that your sins are forgiven.

**We have seen the Lord! Alleluia!**

Gathering Song

**#377 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen**

Opening Litany for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter & Greeting

The Lord is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

We like sheep have gone astray and are in search of greener pastures.

**Bring us into your fold, where we can find safety, peace and protection.**

We wander into fields filled with false promises and hidden pitfalls.

**Bring us into your fold, where we can be refreshed and restored.**

Jesus, our Good Shepherd, calls us to his land of care and compassion.

**Bring us into your fold and bring us into the glory to come.**

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

**page 140; Festival Canticale: This is the Feast**

Prayer of the Day

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

### First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

Psalm 23

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)*

Let us read responsively from Psalm 23.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

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

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

**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.**

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

**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 Peter 2:19-25

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Gospel Acclamation

### Christ from the Dead is Raised

1. Christ from the dead is raised; The reign of death is o'er! Christ's  
 2. Our Shep-herd safe will keep all those who are his own. By  
 ho - ly name be praised now and for - ev - er - more! Al - le - lu -  
 name he knows each sheep, as he by us is known. Al - le - lu -  
 ia! The Lord who lives rich bless - ings gives! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ia! Christ from the grave is ris'n to save! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Arden W. Mead. Text Copyright © 1999 by Creative Communication for the Parish. Used by Permission. Music: John Darwell, 1731-1789. Tune: Darwell's 148th, 66 66 88.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

The Lord is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

The holy gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O risen Lord!**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O risen Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

*Please stand as you are able.*

Hymn of the Day

**#502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

Inside back cover of hymnal or page 104

Prayers of Intercession

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

...Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you,  
almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## Meal

Musical Offering      8:30      *Feed My Lambs* by Matthew Wolka, Senior Choir

*Feed my lambs, tend me sheep, feed my lambs, follow me.*

*At the daybreak Christ is waiting, risen Healer, constant friend, by a fire preparing  
breakfast, humble meal of fish and bread. And he beckons his disciples from a  
weary night at sea, in the crescent light he questions, "Do you love me more  
than these?"*

*Feed my lambs, tend me sheep, feed my lambs, follow me.*

*Through the years the church has gathered 'round the Christ, eternal flame, known in  
water, word and banquet, serving all he calls by name. Here the yearning, here  
the witness, here the provender of grace, love that finds, forgiveness and fills us,  
sends us singing from this place:*

*Feed my lambs, tend me sheep, feed my lambs, follow me.*

*Now the Church, a living welcome, moves as Christ within the world, both its faith and  
sin confessing, life is mended, healed, restored: seeing Christ in ev-ry stranger,  
sharing freely all that's giv'n, bearing hope through joy and justice, bread of  
earth and bread of heav'n.*

*Feed my lambs, tend me sheep, feed my lambs, follow me.*

11:00      *Sheep May Safely Graze* – Melody by J.S. Bach, Setting  
by John Carter

*Please stand as you are able.*

8:30

K5 children come forward during Offertory Response

## Offertory Hymn

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing.

Ga - ther a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Ga - ther the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer now.

Grace our ta - ble with your pre - sence, Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: With One Voice Bread of Life Setting 5. Contributors: John W. Arthur, Jeremy Young. Music: © 1995, Augsburg Fortress Text: © 1978, Augsburg Fortress. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

## Offertory Prayer

What more can we ask, O Lord? Green pastures and still waters are ours. We shall dwell  
in your house, forever. Accept our gifts, O Lord. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the  
earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of  
this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

## Words of Institution

## Lord's Prayer

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

8:30

K5 students will lead the Lord's Prayer while the  
Congregation prays silently.

11:00

The Lord's Prayer, Page 145

## Invitation to Communion

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

**We who are hungry, we who are thirsty, we come.**

*Please be seated.*

## Call to Communion

## We Come Now to Your Table



1. We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv-ing Bread.  
 2. We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:—

You are the Liv-ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:—

and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed— with Liv - ing Bread.

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop. Music: St. Vincent trad., adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932-2013. Tune: Living Bread 86 86 66 84. Copyright © Caribbean Conference of Churches. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

## Communion Hymn

## #782 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

**Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

You have called us by name, O Good Shepherd. You have led us to this place, to this table. Nourish us with this rich food. Empower us to serve you. Then we, too, will be shepherds. We bless you now and evermore.

**Amen.**

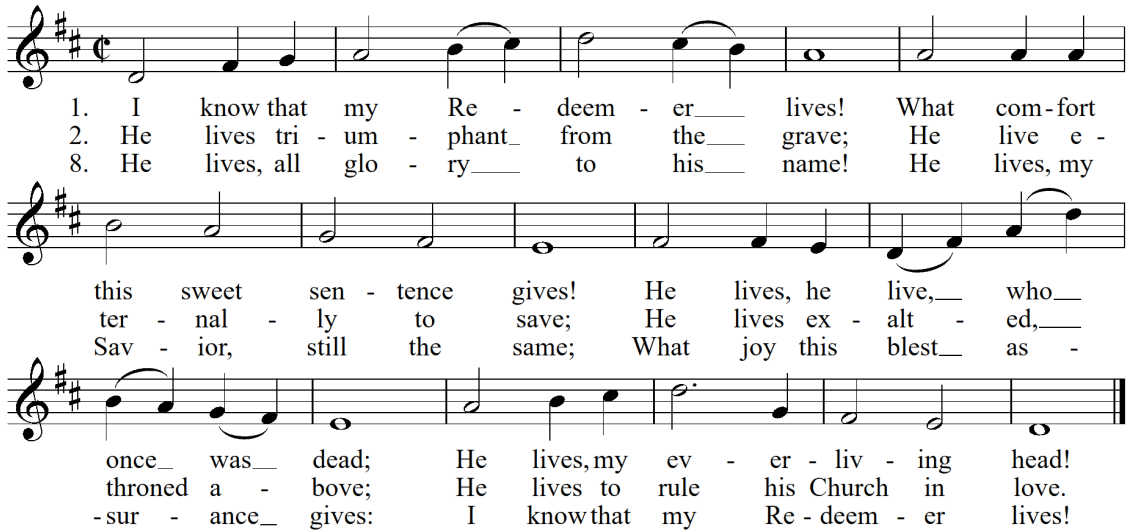
*Sending*

## Blessing

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**Amen!**

## Sending Song

**I Know that My Redeemer Lives!**


1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2. He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He live e -  
 8. He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my  
 this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he live, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives ex - alt - ed,  
 Sav - ior, still the same; What joy this blest as -  
 once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 throned a - bove; He lives to rule his Church in love.  
 - sur - ance gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt. Music: John Hatton, d. 1793. Tune: Duke Street, LM.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## Postlude

*Toccata on "Duke Street" arr. Diane Bish*



**FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47**

[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

**Psalm 23****SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."  
<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not

threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

**GOSPEL: John 10:1-10**

[Jesus said:] "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."