

+DIVINE SERVICE III+  
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
+THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER+ 01 MAY 2022+

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## The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

[tgslicms.org](http://tgslicms.org)

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# The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
  - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
  - ❖ Mr. Leon Tarr, Congregational Chairman
  - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

## Welcome to our Divine Service!

*We are pleased that you are with us.*

### +Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

**Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!** We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

**To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!**

### A Note From the Organist:

Alze Wyton's setting of "St. Columba" features some very lush romantic writing. It was published in 1964 in a collection titled "A Little Christian Year" featuring a group of seasonal hymn preludes. They were intended to be playable on any keyboard instrument, but the rich colors of the organ bring out their best qualities.

Walter Pelz is professor emeritus at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas, which has Swedish origins. He is among the most prominent Lutheran musicians of our time, and has many choral and organ compositions to his credit. He wrote this brief but effective setting and also wrote the original hymn tune. (LSB 473)

# Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation

## 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me  
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to  
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I  
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence  
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He  
 walk doth make With - in the paths of  
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,  
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with  
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.  
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh  
 Tune: William Gardiner, 1770-1853  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*


## Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## Absolution

LSB 185

- P** 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.**

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 33:1, 18–20; antiphon: vv. 5b, 6a*

*The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.\**

*By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.*

*Shout for joy in the LORD, O you | righteous!\**

*Praise befits the | upright.*

*Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who | fear him,\**

on those who hope in his | steadfast love,  
 that he may deliver their | soul from death\*  
 and keep them alive in | famine.  
 Our soul waits | for the LORD,\*  
 he is our help | and our shield.

### Gloria Patri

LSB 186



**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Kyrie

LSB 186



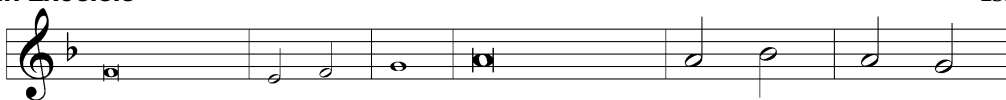
**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

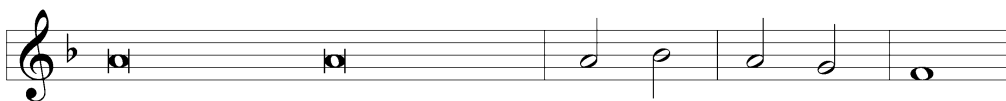
LSB 187



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament

*Ezekiel 34:11-16*

<sup>11</sup>“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*Psalm 23; antiphon: v. 6*

### The LORD Is My Shepherd

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my | shepherd;\*  
I | shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>**He makes me lie down in green | pastures.\***  
**He leads me beside still | waters.**

<sup>3</sup>He re- | stores my soul.\*  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his | name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Even 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.**

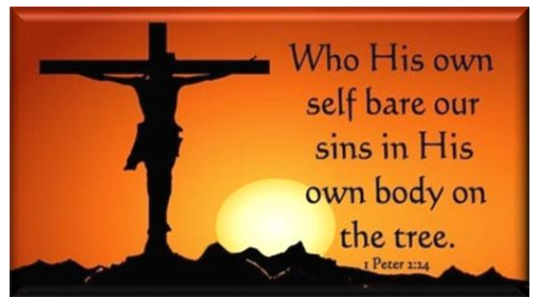
<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my | enemies;\*  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup | overflows.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me**  
**all the days | of my life,\***  
**and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.**

## Epistle

*1 Peter 2:21–25*

<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.



**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*



# Alleluia

LSB 190



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

# Holy Gospel

John 10:11-16

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



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>11</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



## 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.

And 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.

*Sit*

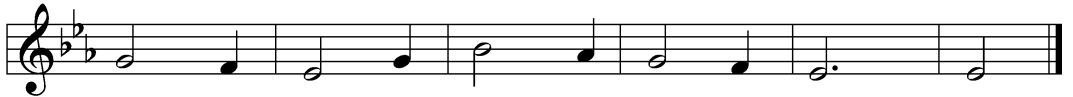




1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
 And, oh, what transport of delight  
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
 Thy goodness faileth never;  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
 Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77  
 Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

*Pastor Edward Killian*

*Stand*



## Offertory

LSB 192



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

**Offering** *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

## Prayer of the Church

*The proper response is "Hear our prayer."*

- P** We thank You, our heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ Your dear Son, that You have kept us this night from harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and lives may please You. For into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things. Let Your holy angels be with us, that the evil foe may have no power over us. Lord in Your mercy...
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that, by patience and comfort of Your holy word, we may embrace and remain faithful to the blessed hope of everlasting life. Lord in your mercy...
- P** God of love, through Your Son You have commanded us to Love one another. By the guidance of Your word and the Holy Spirit, deliver us from unrepentant hearts and teach us the truth that we might confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and be reconciled to one another. Lord in Your mercy...

- P** Lord keep this nation under Your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Grant that we may choose trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve You faithfully in our generation. Lord in Your mercy...
- P** O Father of mercies, You are the God of all comfort and our only help in time of need. Look with favor upon Your servants, especially *Alice, Beth, Carmen, Cynthia, Dalton, Debra, Deneice and her family, Gary, Gloria, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marie, Marion and her family, Royce, Sabrina, Timothy, and William*. Assure them of Your mercy, deliver them from the temptations of the evil one, and give them patience and comfort in their distress. Lord in Your mercy...
- P** Into Your hands we commend all things to You, the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

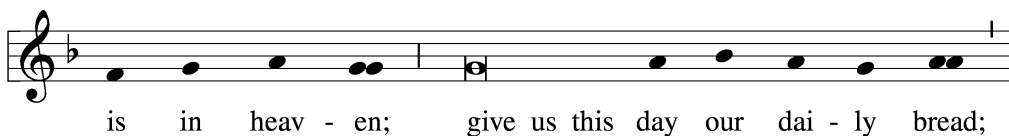
LSB 196



**P** Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



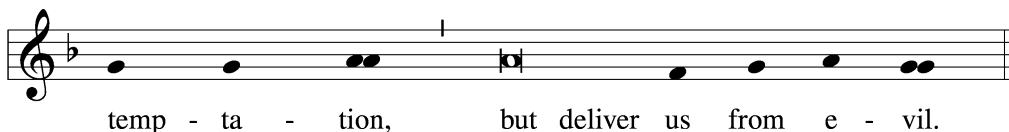
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



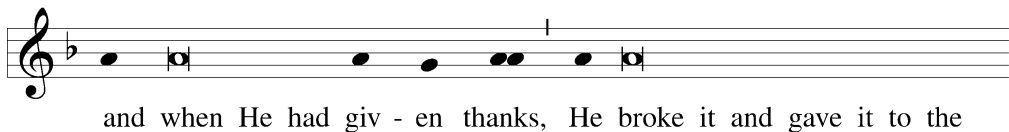
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

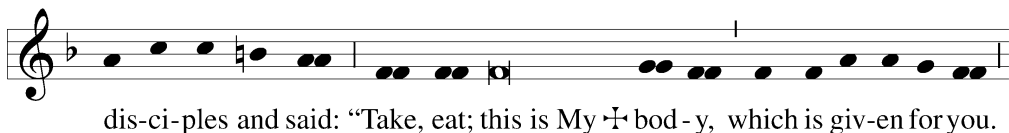
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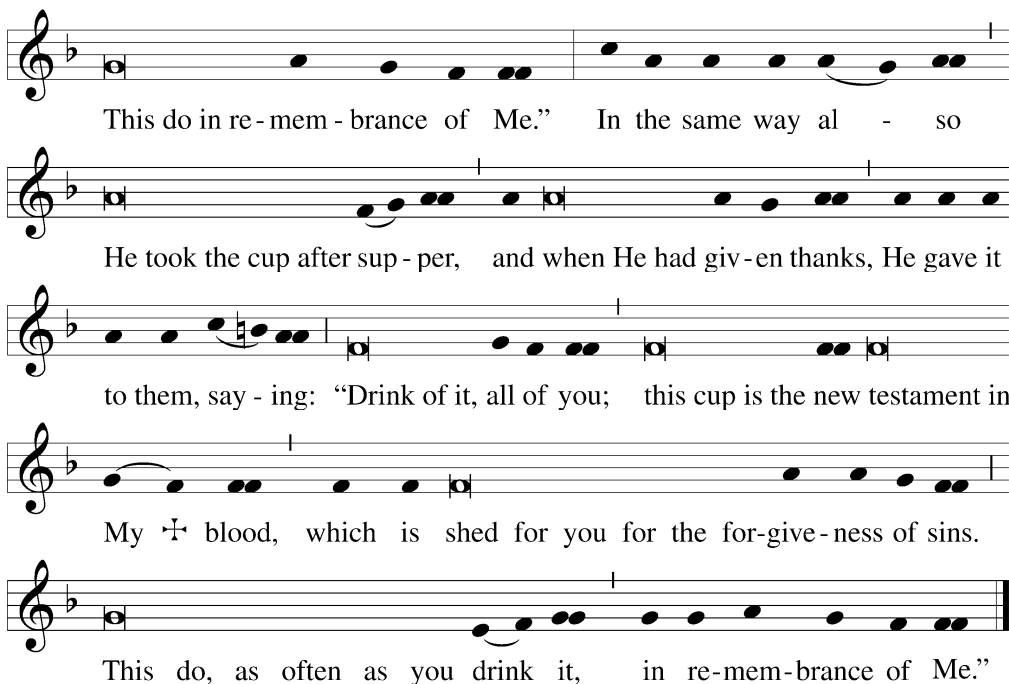
**P** Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



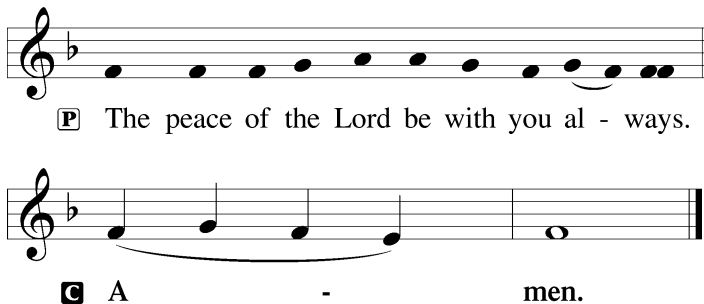
dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My bod - y, which is giv - en for you."



This do in re-mem - brance of Me.” In the same way al - so  
 He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it  
 to them, say - ing: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in  
 My blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.  
 This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

**Pax Domini**

*LSB 197*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.  
**A** - - - men.

**Agnus Dei**

*LSB 198*



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
 world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

*Sit*

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn

### 629 What Is This Bread

1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -

ris - en	from the	dead:	This	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for mine;	The	cup	of	grace
live	and	He should	Un -	der	the	rod?
Word	and	prom - ise	In	mouth	and	soul
giv - en	and	set free!	I	do	be -	lieve

This	life	we	take,	Was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
Brings	His	em -	brace	Of	life	and	love	un -	til	I
My	God,	my	God,	Why	have	You	not	for -	sak -	en
He	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru -	ly	pres -	ent	in	this
That	I	re -	ceive	His	ver -	y	bod -	y	and	His



lease.	O taste and see—	the Lord is peace.
sing!	O taste and see—	the Lord is King.
me?	O taste and see—	the Lord is free.
meal.	O taste and see—	the Lord is real.
blood.	O taste and see—	the Lord is good.

Text: Frederic W. Baue, 1946  
 Tune: Jean Neuhauser Baue, 1951  
 Text and tune: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401

## Distribution Hymn

## 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1	At the Lamb's high feast	we sing	Praise to
2	Praise we Him, whose love	di - vine	Gives His
3	Where the pas - chal blood	is poured,	Death's dread
4	Praise we Christ, whose blood	was shed,	Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King,	Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine,	Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword;	Is - rael's hosts tri - umphant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread;	With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side.	Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.	Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe.	Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove.	Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath  
 You lie;  
 You have conquered in the  
 fight,  
 You have brought us life and  
 light.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death  
 appall,  
 Now no more the grave  
 enthrall;  
 You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall  
 rise.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set  
us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall  
give,  
Savior, by whose death we  
live,  
Spirit, guide through all our  
days:  
Three in One, Your name we  
praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

### Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and



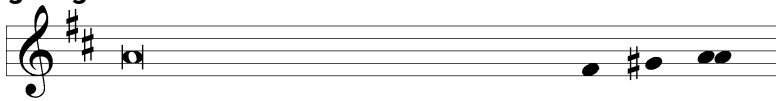
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



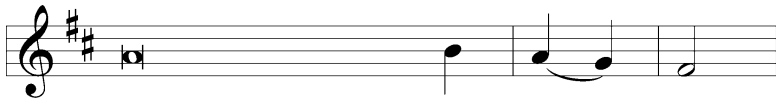
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

### Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Salutation

LSB 201



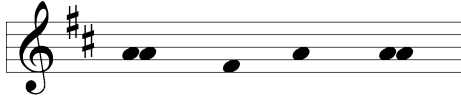
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

### Benedicamus

LSB 202



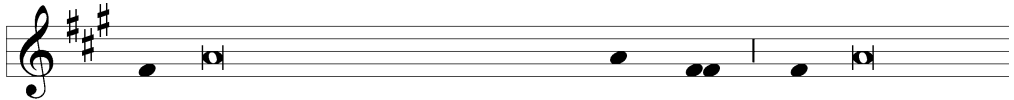
**A** Bless we the Lord.



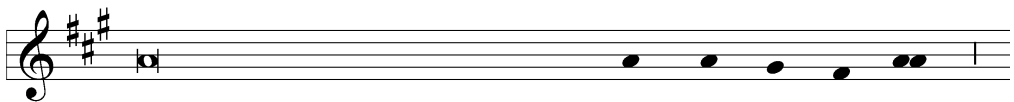
**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

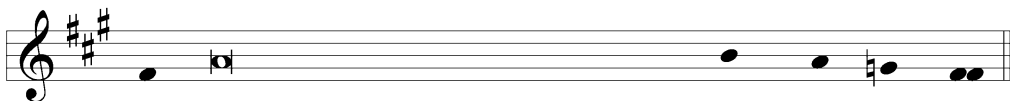
LSB 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.



# Hymn to Depart

# 711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we  
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the  
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures  
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -  
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -  
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.  
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.  
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,  
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.  
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.  
 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Acknowledgments**

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✝ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✝

**Announcements**

+ **Last Sunday's Attendance: 42**

+ **This Sunday's Greeters:** Stephanie & Marc Cram  
**Next Sunday's Greeters:** Royce & Norm Morton

+ **Altar Guild Set Up:** May 1<sup>st</sup> Mary  
May 8<sup>th</sup> Marie

**Cleanup for May:** Stephanie & Gayle (Onja & Sydney)

+ **Today is Mite Sunday!** If you have your mite offerings, the collection box is located in the Narthex.

+ The dedication of The Pastor Tree will take place directly after service.

+ **Join us after service for Music, Food, and Fellowship!** Join singer-songwriter, Blake Flattley of 1517 Music for an afternoon of hymn singing with our congregation.

+ **Thank you to all who purchased an Easter Lily to help decorate the church for Easter!** You are welcome to take home your lily today or leave it as decoration for a few weeks.

**May Birthday Celebration**

Lynette Hurd May 9<sup>th</sup>

Norm Morton May 11<sup>th</sup>

Jay Rogers May 19<sup>th</sup>

Leon Tarr May 20<sup>th</sup>

Stephanie Cram May 29<sup>th</sup>

## **Synod Sentences for the Third Sunday of Easter**

### ***The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep***

Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:11–16). He is not like the hireling, who cares nothing for the sheep and only for himself, who flees when he sees the wolf coming. Rather, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks out His scattered sheep to deliver them (Ezek. 34:11–16). He gathers them and feeds them in rich pasture. He binds up the broken and strengthens the sick. He lays down His life for wandering and wayward sheep. On the cross, Christ bore in His body the attacks of the predators of sin and death and the devil for you that you might be saved. He now lives to restore your soul in the still waters of baptism, to lead you in the paths of righteousness by the voice of His Gospel, to prepare the table of His holy supper before you, that you may dwell in the house of the Lord forever (Psalm 23). *“For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls”* (1 Peter 2:25).

### **A Prayer for the Week**

Lord God, heavenly Father, out of Your fatherly goodness You have been mindful of us poor, miserable sinners, and have given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd, not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death, and the devil: We beseech You, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that, even as this Shepherd knows us and helps us in every affliction, we also may know Him, and, trusting in Him, seek help and comfort in Him, from our hearts obey His voice, and obtain eternal salvation; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

### **An Excerpt from Martin Luther’s Sermons**

“You have heard that after His sufferings and death Christ our Lord arose from the dead and entered upon, and was enthroned in, an immortal existence. Not that He might sit up there in Heaven idly and find pleasure in Himself, but that He might take charge of the Kingdom of which the prophets and all the Scriptures have so fully spoken, and might rule as a King. Therefore, we should think of Him as being present and reigning among us continually, and never think of Him as sitting up there doing nothing, but rather that He from above fills and rules all things, as Paul says to the Ephesians (4:10), and especially that He is taking care of His Kingdom, which is the Christian faith, and that therefore His Kingdom among us here on Earth must prosper. This Kingdom, as we have said, is so constituted that we all must daily increase and grow in holiness, and it is not governed by any other power save the oral proclamation of the Gospel.” *From Martin Luther’s Sermon in the Church Postil for Misericordias Domini Sunday from 1523.*