

I know my sheep

and my sheep know me...

John 10:14



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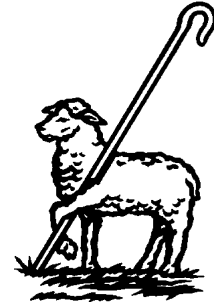
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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, April 22, 2018 10:00 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of EASTER

Theme of the day: On “Good Shepherd Sunday” our attention is fixed on Jesus the Good Shepherd of the sheep. His care and concern are recognized by those whom he has called as his sheep. Even in suffering, his sheep know his care for them and follow him.



WELCOME

A warm welcome to our friends and visitors! Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is eager to share with you the blessings of its Christ-centered ministry. If you are a new or long-time resident of the Central Coast looking for a church home, we invite you to meet with us at the close of this worship service or at your convenience. All are welcome to stay for refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Families are encouraged to worship together. If you need to step out with your children, the service can be seen and heard in the fellowship hall or narthex area. Feel free to enter and return at any time.

OUR MISSION

Our congregation exists for the purpose of “HOLDING OUT THE WORD OF LIFE.” This is accomplished by faithfully preserving and proclaiming all of God’s inerrant word, and administering the Sacraments as they were instituted by Christ.

The Service of the Word

OPENING HYMN: # 360 “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

♪ **The Lord’s my shepherd; I’ll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me The quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E’en for his own name’s sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.**

**My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Goodness and mercy, all my life, Shall surely follow me,
And in God’s house forevermore My dwelling-place shall be.**

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.** (*spoken*)

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love
and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him
and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us
confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from
birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do
not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my
Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing
love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span multiple notes. The score begins with a C-clef and ends with a double bar line.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: 1 John 3:1,2

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 23

Refrain



The Lord is my shep - herd; there is noth - ing I shall want.

Psalm tone



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

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;*
he guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

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.

Refrain

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.*
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,*
and I will 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.

Refrain

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.
Alleluia! (John 10:14)

C: ♪Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the
Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON: John 10:11-18

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his
life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns
the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep
and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³

The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

HYMN: # 538 “The Church’s One Foundation”

**♪ The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation By water and the Word.
From heav’n he came and sought her To be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.**

**Elect from ev’ry nation, Yet one o’er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With ev’ry grace endued.**

**The Church shall never perish. Her dear Lord, to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end.
Though there be those that hate her And strive to see her fail,
Against both foe and traitor She ever shall prevail.**

**Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, “How long?”
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.**

SERMON: Acts 4:23-31

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

“ ‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together

against the Lord and against his Anointed One.’

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Please stand.

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Please be seated.

Hymn: # 438 “Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep”

**♪ Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep,
Who your Father’s flock does keep,
Safe we wake and safe we sleep,
Guarded still by you.**

**In your promise firm we stand;
None can take us from your hand.
Speak—we hear—at your command,
We will follow you.**

**By your blood our souls were bought;
By your life salvation wrought;
By your light our feet are taught,
Lord, to follow you.**

**Father, draw us to your Son;
We with joy will follow on
Till the work of grace is done,
There to live with you.**

**We, in robes of glory dressed,
Join th’ assembly of the blest,
Gathered to eternal rest
In the fold with you.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: ♪Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN # 432 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

♪ I am Jesus' little lamb;
Ever glad at heart I am,
For my shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my needs and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.

Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, he bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.

Who so happy as I am,
Even now the shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By his angel hosts attended,
He shall fold me to his breast,
There within his arms to rest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Moore family.

LADIES GET-TOGETHER: Saturday, May 26. Mark your calendars now.

ATASCADERO Bible Study moved to Friday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.

VBS - Seeking interested parties for helping with this major event for the end of June.

THIS WEEK

Thursday Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

Friday Atascadero Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.



