

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

THEME: As sheep are loved by their shepherd, so we are loved by Jesus.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

P: Great Shepherd of the sheep, you search us out when we are lost. You pick us up when we are hurt and you bring us to safe pasture. As we gather for Worship this day, help us to clearly see and hear of your love for us.....so that we can leave with confidence knowing that, with you as our Shepherd, we have nothing to fear. In Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN "Green Book" 474 Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather,
Nestling bird or star in heaven
Such a refuge ne'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish,
In his holy courts they flourish,
From all evil things he spares them,
In his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord his children sever;
From all evil things he spares them,
In his mighty arms he bears them.

Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

WE CONFESS OUR SINS.....

P: We confess our sins to God and one another:

C: Gracious Lord God, we confess our sins to you, the sins in our thoughts, words and actions. We confess that we do not always appreciate your Fatherly love.....and like sheep, we wander away from your help and care. Slow us down when we are going too fast to see your work. Speed us up when we are weighed down by earthly concerns to see the new opportunities you have placed before us. Give us new hearts to better receive and then to reflect your Fatherly help, care and love to others.

Silence for Reflection

.....AND RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS

P: God is gracious and is more ready to forgive us than we are to receive it thankfully and humbly. As a fellow child of God I declare the forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE "Red Book" 215 The Lord is My Shepherd

The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll walk with Him always
He leads by still waters, I'll walk with Him always

Always, always, I'll walk with Him always
Always, always I'll walk with Him always

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with You!

C: And also with you!

P: We pray together:

C: God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep. Send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with knowledge and understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Lesson: Acts 4:1-12

Salvation is found in no one else except Jesus Christ

And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Epistle: I John 3:16-24

The challenge is to love not in word or talk but in deed and in truth

By this we know love that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

CHOIR ANTHEM

People Need The Lord

By Greg Nelson and Phill McHugh

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

Each sheep is special to Jesus—the Great Shepherd

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kris Holt

SERMON HYMN

On Eagle’s Wings

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”
And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
Under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield.
And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.
And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

For to his angels he's given a command to guard
you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

SERMON "Finding the Right Pace" Pastor Lucke

APOSTLE'S CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And was born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate.
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

OFFERING

We offer our thanksgiving for what God has first given us—our selves, our time, our possessions

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each portion of the prayers, these words are spoken:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer**

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING BLESSING

CLOSING SONG "Red Book" 241 To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.
*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POST-SERVICE MUSIC