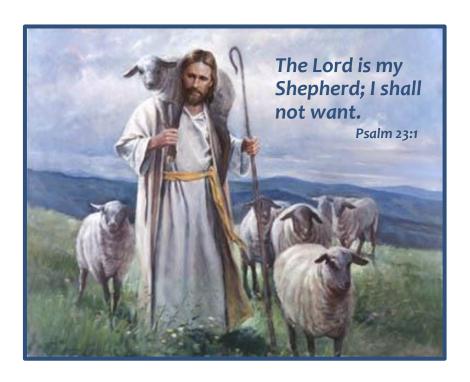


Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service Three

The Fourth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday April 30, 2023





The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod) 9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd. Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Sunday Worship Services	8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Bible Classes and Sunday School	9:25 a.m.
Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Office	303-683-1300
Fax	303-470-0165

Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:
Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!

Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

O Jesus, our Good Shepherd, You see us, Your sheep, as frightened and alone, as tired and lonely. You became one of us. You, the Son of God, came to find us. You stood between us and Satan on the bloody hill of Calvary. As death clamped its jaws around Your heart, You suffered alone, abandoned by Your Father, so that we could live forever safe in the Father's family. Now You live to ever nourish and defend us. You, our Good Shepherd, care for us—soul and body—in Your Word, at Your altar, directly and through other people. We thank You for those who serve us in Your name: those people You use to touch, heal, restore, and strengthen us. We pray that all those who work in Your name remain faithful, having, by Your grace, hearts quick to hear and obey Your voice. Thank You, heavenly Father, for the comfort You have given us in "the Shepherd [who] dies for the sheep who love to wander." Amen.



8 a.m. – Baptism of Ruth Schehera Durbin 10:30 a.m. – Baptisms of Andrew John Steinman and Thomas Carl Steinman

593 See This Wonder in the Making vs. 1-2



Rite of Holy Baptism LSB p. 268

593 See This Wonder in the Making vs. 3-4

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

Exhortation

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

- 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,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

Confession of Sins

- O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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 [John 20:19–23]

- 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 95:1-3, 6-7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b



I am the good | shepherd.*

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;*

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!

Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;* let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!

For the LORD is a | great God,* and a great King a- | bove all gods.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;*
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

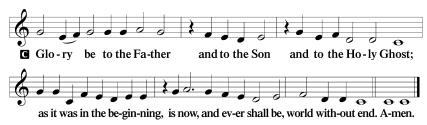
For he is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I am the good | shepherd.*

I know my own and my own know me,
and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

Gloria Patri



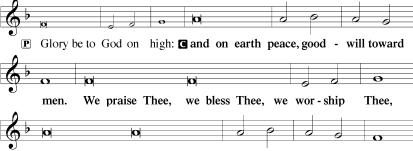


Mark 10:47



Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



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



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads 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.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6



Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor. He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;* he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:19-25

This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. 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. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 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. 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. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia



Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10

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



[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the sheepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.





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 \pm of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

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

Sermon

"The Good Shepherd"

Text: Psalm 23

Stand



Offering

(Please add your name to the red fellowship book and pass it to your fellow worshipers.)

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

- P Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.



Service of the Sacrament

+++

Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.

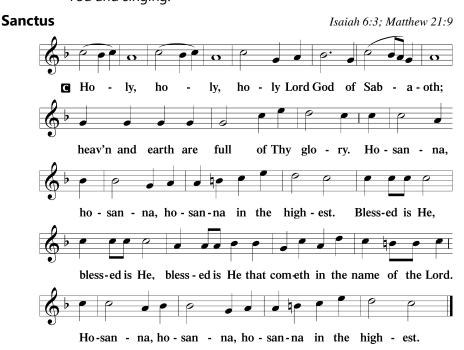
Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:





Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9–13

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.



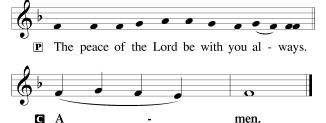
The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

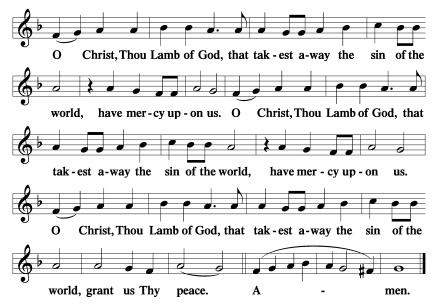
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ♣ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini John 20:19



Agnus Dei John 1:29



Sit

Personal prayer before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



Distribution

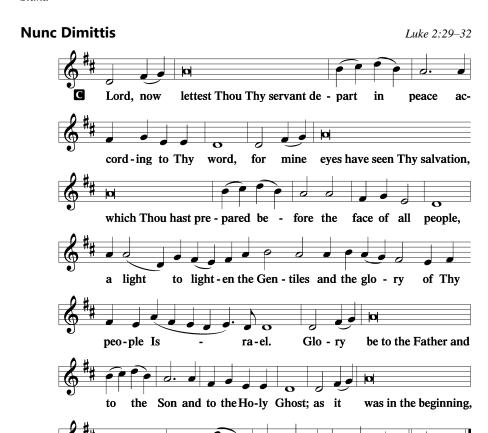
Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

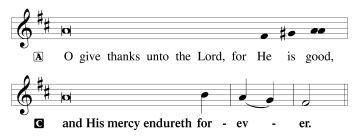
Stand



Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

A-men.



be, world with - out end.

is now, and ev - er shall

Post-Communion Collect

A 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.



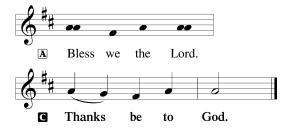
Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22



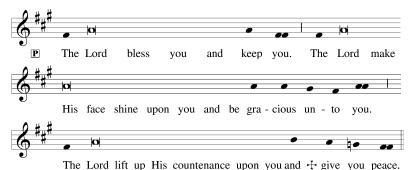
Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1



Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26





864 Shepherd of Tender Youth



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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This morning at the 8 a.m. service we welcome into our Holy Cross family through the sacrament of Holy Baptism **Ruth Schehera Durbin**, daughter of Tommy and Danae Durbin. Also baptized this morning at the 10:30 a.m. service are **Andrew John Steinman**

and **Thomas Carl Steinman**, sons of Jennifer Steinman. We pray that God will keep Ruth, Andrew and Thomas forever in their baptismal grace.

Baptism Connects us to Christ!

Baptism is more than a ritual or a ceremony. Baptism is not a mere tradition of men. Baptism is a clear teaching of God in His Word. In baptism God is at work, bringing us into the family of God. Through baptism God miraculously unites us with Christ. Baptism is part of God's ongoing creating and re-creating power that He used to create the whole world. In baptism we become "in Christ," and "if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV).

Excerpted from the editorial of the third issue of *Good News*, which is published by Concordia Mission Society. The third issue studied the topic of Christian Baptism.

So What's the Big Deal ...



about shepherds and sheep? Maybe we understand that the narratives in Genesis make more sense when set in the nomadic, sheepherder culture of the ancient Near East. But why pick up the metaphor again and again in the Psalms and the writings of the prophets?

When we read Ezekiel 34 in light of John 10 and think about the meaning of both texts, we see how aptly the word picture fits.

The "shepherds" Ezekiel excoriates in chapter 34 included both national and spiritual leaders. (Kings were often called "shepherds" in that time and place.) These false shepherds held their positions as a sacred trust from Yahweh. Yet, instead of functioning as servant leaders, these false shepherds fleeced the flock. Instead of humbly acting in the best interests of their people, these undershepherds led those people away from their one, glorious Good Shepherd.

Ezekiel 34:2-10 outlines what the Lord expected of His undershepherds. They should have

- fed the flock (34:2-3).
- strengthened the weak (34:4).
- treated and cured the sick (34:4).
- gone after the lost and straying (34:4).

The false shepherds did none of this. The straying in their care died in their sins. The spiritually hungry grew weak. The broken languished, separated from their God. In short, the flock was scattered across a dozen hillsides, prey to Satan and ripe for spiritual death. Those who bore responsibility for them let it happen.

Yahweh saw all this. Yahweh knew. He heard His people cry out in hunger and pain. He did not take the arrogance, carelessness, and laziness of the false shepherds lightly. He did not ignore their malfeasance.

No, the Good Shepherd came—in person—to rescue His weak and wandering flock. When you read Ezekiel 34:11-16, can't you picture our Lord Jesus? Can't you see Him

- engaged in earnest conversation with the Samaritan adulteress in John 4?
- touching the paralyzed man in John 5 with His Father's forgiveness and physical wholeness?
- multiplying the loaves and fishes of John 6 while He described to the crowds the bread of life that never goes stale?

This Good Shepherd cares for you, soul--and body-too! In His Word. At the altar. Directly and through other people, He touches, heals, restores, and strengthens you. Thank Him for that today. Pray for those who serve you in His name. Pray that they remain faithful. Ask for a heart quick to hear and obey, by His grace.

Announcements



Assisting Elders: 8 a.m. – Steve White 10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson



We will be recognizing our graduates on Sunday, May 7. Please call the church office, 303-683-1300, with the name of your high school or college graduate, date of graduation, school, and plans after graduation. Thank you.

Fellowship Committee



We have a new Fellowship Committee that is looking for members! We will organize, plan, and execute providing snacks for special occasions, fun activities, and social events. If you are interested in participating in the planning of Christian fellowship, please contact Kathy Harrington at 1-209-352-6893.

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." (Matthew 18:20)

Housing for intern student needed – Breana Downs, a student at Pacific Lutheran University in Parkland, WA is looking for housing for June, July and August while she internships for Rocky Mountain Wildlife Alliance in Sedalia. If you are interested, please call Breana at 360-591-8950 as soon as possible.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and 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.

John 10:14-15



Please check the **Sunday Greeter schedule**, posted on the bulletin board, to find out when you're scheduled to serve. Thank you!

Throughout the last year Higher Things (HT) has seen over a 6000% increase in our social media interaction, created over 500 pieces of video content, published 365 devotions in print and audio, 35 Bible studies, confirmation curriculum, a Vacation Bible School, and hosted 10 retreats and two conferences to over 3000 youth and young

The mission of Higher Things is to make the Gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth and young adults. Your one time or reoccurring gift helps us accomplish this mission. We ask that you partner with us to raise \$15,000 through the next ten days as we close our fiscal year. Go to higherthings.org.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!





adults.

Something Old, Something New...

Sunday, May 7, 2023 2:30 pm

Atonement Lutherun Church 6281 W Yale Ave. Lakewood, CO

Sunday, May 7, 2023 6:30 pm Shepherd Of The Rockies Lutheran Church 106 Rosalie Rd. Bailer, CO



We are not selling tickets but appreciate your fee will offerings.

Visit www.the luther anchorale.org for more information.



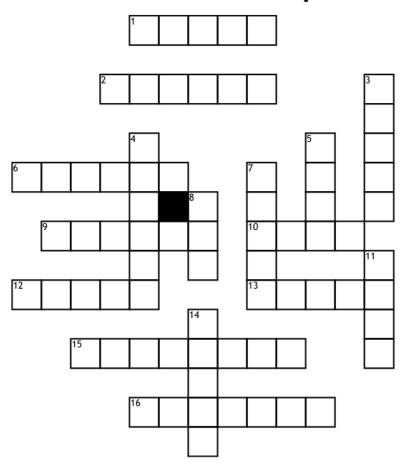
Psalm 23 Word Search

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right house comfort green Psalm staff dwell goodness shepherd prepare rod soul table Lord pastures evil love anoint waters valley overflows enemies paths forever refreshes quiet

David

The Good Shepherd



1. Jesus gave his life for us by dying on the	Good Shepherd. 13. What "wolf"
2. Just as the Father knows me, I know the	the Good Sheph us from
6. My sheep me. because they know my voice.	15. Jesus is the
9. "My sheep will spend eternal life in"	my sheep Down
10. My sheep love, trust, and me.	3. Those who ha

Across

 What "wolf" does Jesus, the Good Shepherd, protect us from Jesus is the good 		
16. Jesus says, "I will give my sheep life.		
Down		
3. Those who have		
in Jesus are His.		

is our

5. A Good Shepherd lays down his for his sheep.
7. Jesus gave His life for us by dying on the
8. There shall be one flock, and shepherd.
11. I know my sheep, and
my sheep me.
AA laare tha Caral

my sheep, and me.

4. A shepherd protects his

sheep from the _____.

14. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, takes care of his

Petitions and Prayers: Our heavenly Father understands that we are often too weak to pray and do not know how to pray "as we ought."



Health concerns:

Dear Jesus, Great Physician of body and soul, hear our prayer for those who are sick. Be for them the grace sufficient for them in this time of suffering. Remind them that in their weakness Your power is being brought to perfection. If it be Your will, bring healing to these people, even as we anticipate the ultimate healing in the joys of heaven. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Devon Hanson (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell) mental health issues
- Dillon (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell health issues
- Roger Frank (brother of Connie Mitchell) cancer
- Mary (relative of Tabris') pray for protection and wisdom for her family concerning special needs.
- Angela (single mother in Illinois) friend of Helen Tabris –waiting for heart transplant
- Jamie (is missing and has mental health issues) and young daughter Jade (is being adopted by family in Colorado)

Prayer of intercession:

*Almighty God, grant Your blessings on those seminarians who will soon be placed as vicars or as first-year graduates. Keep those involved in the placement of these men in mind of Your presence as they make decisions affecting the futures of these seminarians. Amen.

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life April 30, 2023

"God's Word is full of stories of people who gave up, got discouraged, and quit. His response to them was words of encouragement and support, a call to courage and perseverance, a call to strengthen trembling knees and put on the armor of God."

Barbara Lane Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org



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. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 2:24-25

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Website	www.hclchr.org

Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:
Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!



Check out
The Lutheran Hour
Sunday mornings at
6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio or
click on "Listen Now" anytime.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church





Holy Cross Lutheran is on Facebook. Check us out and Like us at facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch.



The Lamb is my Shepherd