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**May 07, 2017**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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# WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



7301 North 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Omaha, Nebraska 68112-2816



Sunday Worship.....9:00 A.M.  
Education Hour..... 10:20 A.M.  
Church Office – 455-8700 ..... FAX – 455-8701  
email: MountOlv@msn.com..... website: MountOliveOmaha.com

**Our Good Shepherd calls us into the safekeeping of this fold.  
May all gathered here feel the welcome and love of God in Christ.**

Roland A. Jank, Jr.  
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek  
Organist

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FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER    May 07, 2017



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Thanks to the grace of God working faith in our hearts, we are able to hear the voice of Jesus, our Shepherd. What that would mean, were we to block out competing voices around us, is described in Acts—the members of the Early Church were active in teaching, fellowship, communion, prayers, and works of charity. Their actions spoke volumes, and many others “heard” Christ through them. We all stray, of course, as did the people to whom Peter wrote in today’s Second Lesson. But in His grace, God calls us back to return to “the Shepherd and Overseer” of our souls. We gather again to hear His voice today.

**P R E L U D E**

**W E L C O M E**

*Please fill out the attendance registration sheet.*

**R I N G I N G   O F   T H E   C A R I L L O N**

**Stand**

## GATHERING

We Enter God's Presence.

### INVOCATION

### EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(Psalm 124:8; 130:3-4)*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

Let us now confess our sins, confident of God's grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

O Holy Spirit, we give thanks that the Early Church exemplified what it means to be the Body of Christ and that many people came to faith through their witness.

**We must confess that we have not always been fully devoted to the study of the Word, to a faithful use of the Sacraments, and to loving service to the people around us. Forgive us, and renew in us right hearts and willing spirits.**

Our gracious Shepherd, we give thanks that You not only endured suffering and death for our sake, but also left us an example that we might follow in Your steps.

**We must confess that we have avoided suffering for Your name, have not always turned the other cheek when reviled, and have often strayed from Your will. Forgive us, and open our ears to hear Your gracious call to return to You.**

Heavenly Father, we give thanks that Your Son knows us each by name and that You have given us faith to hear His voice. He alone gives us protection; He alone offers us abundant life.

**We confess in all humility that often we have not even listened to His voice. Too often, we have feared the dangers of the world around us. Forgive us, strengthen our resolve, and restore to us the joy of Your salvation.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, gave Himself willingly into suffering and death to pay for all our sinning and straying. By His resurrection, He has restored to us eternal and abundant life. We shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

Green 128

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!  
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!  
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!**

**For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!  
Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

**Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!  
When contending death and life, Alleluia!  
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**

**Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!  
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

# KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

## Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

## Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

## Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

## Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

## Congregation



A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

## This Is The Feast

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit

**WORD**

We Hear God's Word.

FIRST LESSON

**Acts 2:42-47**

Life in the early church among the baptized.

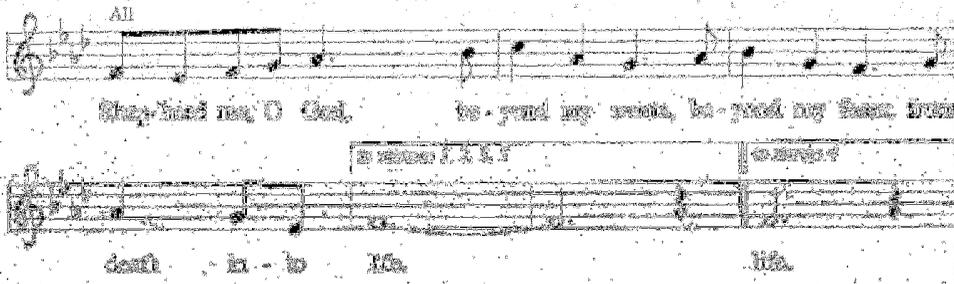
*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 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, 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. (NRSV)*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!** (*shouted*)

PSALM HYMN (*Psalm 23*)

**Congregation: Refrain**



Cantor: God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

**Congregation: Refrain**

Cantor: Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
My spirit shall sing the music of your name.

**Congregation: Refrain**

All  
Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears. Free  
me from death in-to life.

Cantor: Though I should wander the valley of death.  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,  
Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

**Congregation: Refrain**

Cantor: You have set me a banquet of love In the face of hatred,  
Crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.

**Congregation: Refrain**

Cantor: Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

**Congregation: Final Refrain**

All  
Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-  
yond my fears, from death in-to life.

## SECOND LESSON

### 1 Peter 2:19-25

Follow Jesus the Shepherd, even in suffering.

*For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 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. 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. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 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. 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. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. (NRSV)*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!** (*shouted*)

**Stand**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Turn as the cross passes.*

Cantor begins, congregation joins in on "alleluias."

The image shows a musical score for a Gospel Acclamation. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has the lyrics "Je - sus Christ is the - son of A - le - lu - ia." The second staff has the lyrics "Je - sus Christ is the - son of A - le - lu - ia." The third staff has the lyrics "Praised from the cloud, our life - giving Lord in glory." The fourth staff has the lyrics "Je - sus Christ is the - son of A - le - lu - ia." The music is written in a simple, melodic style, suitable for a church service.

Cantor: Jesus says, I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.

(*John 10:14*)

## HOLY GOSPEL

### **John 10:1-10**

Christ the Shepherd speaks of the abundant life.

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

**Glory to you, O Lord!** (*shouted*)

*[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. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go 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.” (NRSV)*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ!** (*shouted*)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Repeat from above.*

Sit

## SERMON

**Our Good Shepherd**

**John 10:1-10**

Stand

## HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Tune: Bradbury

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are yours.**

**We are yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.**

**You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;  
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to you.**

**Early let us seek your favor, Early let us do your will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.**

#### **N I C E N E C R E E D**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **P R A Y E R O F T H E C H U R C H**

**. . . Lord, in Your mercy,  
hear our prayer.**

**. . . one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share the reconciliation we have with God with one another by greeting those around you with a hearty handshake and the words, "Peace be with you."*

Sit

## MEAL

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper.

## GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Please fill out the attendance registration sheet in your pew, if you have not already done so. Visitors, you are our guests and are not expected to make a contribution. As the offerings of bread, wine and money are brought forward, please stand.*

## MUSIC AT OFFERING

The Good Shepherd  
*setting by Zebulon M. Highben*

Choir

“My sheep hear my voice and they follow me;  
I know them; I give them eternal life.  
My sheep hear my voice and they follow me.  
I am the Good Shepherd of all.  
My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name.  
In pastures green you make me feed beside the living stream.  
You bring my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake, your ways.  
And lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
And so through all the length of days your goodness fails me never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise, within your house forever.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you,  
**O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**