

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION/PRAYERS

Please take an empty cup when you come forward for communion. We have gluten free wafers—let your server know of this need. There is both wine and grape juice. You may lift up your prayers after communion by lighting a candle.

Music is played during communion

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

THE BLESSING SONG

The Lord bless you, and keep you

Make his face shine upon you

Be gracious to you

The Lord turn his face toward you

And give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

SONG: This Little Light of Mine #677 (*We sing the first verse of this song while the children leave for Sunday school class*)

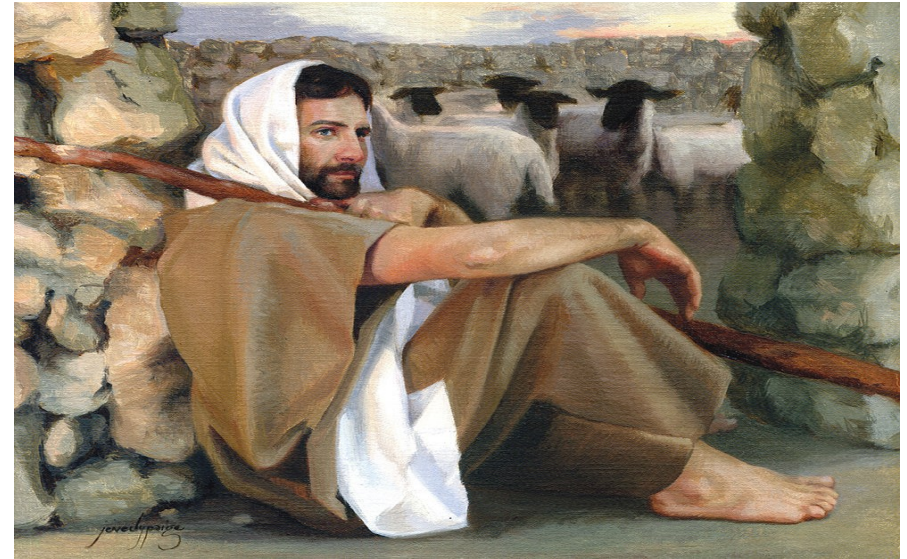
Go now in peace to Love and Serve Our Risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Join us after worship for our Coffee Fellowship!

Sunday, April 26th ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter



INTRODUCTION

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

OPENING SONG: Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing
#807 Vs. 1-3

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR BASPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us

beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and in song.

SPARK STORY BIBLE: Paul & Silas pgs. 536-539
Children's Message

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47

C: Open our ears to hear your word.

Reading

Psalms 23 (please read bolded words)

L: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C: The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

L: You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of

death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

C: Open our ears to hear your word.

reading

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah #172

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to John in the 10th chapter

C: Glory to You, O LORD!

Pastor reads

L: This is the gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

MESSAGE

SONG: Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us #789 Vs. 1-3

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please respond to Merciful God, with **Receive our prayer.**

MEAL

We are fed with the presence of Jesus Christ.

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Give thanks to the Lord your God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER