

Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 30, 2023

Hymns – 550 – 554 – 551 – 523 – 551

The Service | *Setting Two* *Christian Worship* page 172

550 Lamb of God

CW 550

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called 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.

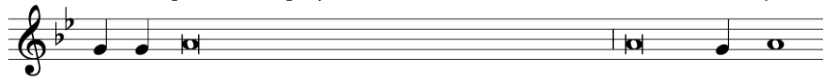
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174



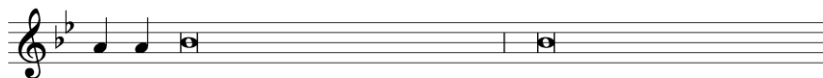
In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.



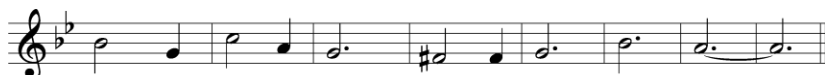
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,




Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the




right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,




you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,




with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen
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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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 the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

The Lord's My Shepherd (Jon Bernthal, Pastor Persons)

CW 554

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul. (Refrain)
- Ref And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.
- 2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights. (Refrain)
- 3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know. (Refrain)

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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First Reading

Acts 2:42–47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

CW 551: 1-3

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." ²⁵For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



I am the good shep - herd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

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Gospel

John 10:1-10

¹“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

523 How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

CW 523

Sermon

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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Loving Shepherd of the sheep, fill us with contentment and confidence during this season as we celebrate your Easter victory. You laid down your life for the sheep and then rose again to assure us that you give us eternal life.

Good Shepherd, save us.

Strengthen our faith to follow where you lead, to the green pastures of your Word, the quiet waters of our baptism, and the gracious table of your body and blood where our cup overflows with your forgiving love. Guide us to find in you the gate that leads to safety and good pastures.

Good Shepherd, lead us.

Guard and protect us from those who want to lead us astray and snatch us out of your hand. Give us courage to fight against the devil and wisdom to recognize false teachers. Lead us to honor and follow those you have called to shepherd your flock, the Church.

Good Shepherd, guide us.

Let your rod and your staff comfort us and all your sheep in times of sickness and sadness and especially when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. May we find in your redemption and your Father's resolve the unbreakable promise that we will dwell in your house forever.

Good Shepherd, console us.

Move us to reach out to sheep who are not yet a part of our sheep pen but whom you have claimed as your own. Give us your passion to search for the sheep who are lost and lead us to rejoice when they have been found.

Good Shepherd, inspire us.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We thank you for all the blessings we have gained from your goodness: family and friends, wealth and health, work and leisure. Give us wisdom to long for and cherish your more precious gifts, your Word and sacraments, so that your goodness and love may follow us all the days of our life.

Good Shepherd, hear us. Amen.

Offering – During this time, please fill out a Connection Card and place it in the offering plate or the plate on the table just outside the sanctuary. Thank you.

Members of Living Savior support the ministry of sharing the Good News of Jesus through their offerings. Guests may choose to give back to the Lord at Living Savior, through their own congregation, or in other ways that reflect a thankful heart. We are glad to share our joy and hope with you.

Stand

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

CW 551:4 & 5

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Announcements

- Pastor Persons has accepted the call to serve Living Savior Lutheran Church! He will be away for the month of May while selling and packing things in Minnesota. Jean and Pastor will arrive back in Missoula the day after Memorial Day, God-willing. Please pray for safe travels for all involved – thank you!
- Bulletins are already prepared and printed for services in May. The services will be led by our elders Kevin Oberhofer and Michael Knott (one service yet to be covered). We thank them for their service to their Lord and to our congregation! Pastor Scott Martz will be providing the sermons for May.
- Installation service is being planned for June 25th at 4:00pm with a meal to follow. There will be NO morning service that Sunday. Pastor Persons will be leading all the other services in June, beginning with June 4th communion service. May and June “live” communion services in Kalispell will be suspended.
- The first of two grandsons’ weddings in Portland, OR (Tyler) will be July 2; Pastor will be attending and away for about a week. These plans were in place prior to accepting the call to Living Savior. Plans to cover that weekend are pending.
- Please turn in the bottom portion of the *Live-streaming Commitment* sheet by next weekend. Thank you for helping us reach our goals!
- **Looking Ahead:** May 21st is our Preschool Spring Program after church. Meal is provided by congregation members. Watch for the sign-up sheet coming.

Welcome to Living Savior

Welcome! We are glad that you have joined us to worship the Savior at Living Savior.

- Restrooms are located down the second hallway on your right as you leave the church. More restrooms are available in the NW corner of the fellowship hall.
- Please help us be a friendly church by filling out the Connection Card during the service and placing it in the offering plate on the table just outside the sanctuary.
- Would you like to know more about Jesus, the basic teachings of what it means to be a Christian, or the Bible? Please mark the box on the Connection Card or email Pastor Persons for more information: persons@1791.com.
- If you would like to know more about the ministry of Living Savior, please visit our website, livingsaviormissoula.org.

Living Savior Contact Information

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