

Today's Theme for Worship: "Good Shepherd Sunday" reminds us of the special relationship we enjoy with our Savior.

Opening Hymn: 442 Have No Fear Little Flock

1 Have no fear, little flock; Have no fear, little flock,
For the Father has chosen To give you the kingdom;
Have no fear, little flock!

2 Have good cheer, little flock; Have good cheer, little flock,
For the Father will keep you In his love forever;
Have good cheer, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above; Praise the Lord high above,
For he stoops down to heal you, Uplift and restore you;
Praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God; Thankful hearts raise to God,
For he stays close beside you, In all things works with you;
Thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Marjorie A. Jillson, b. 1931. From *Five Hymns*. © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.
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P: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you.

C: And also with you.

Confession of Sins

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear
children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore,
let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have
sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my
Savior, I pray: have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my
sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of
our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May
God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

♪ Oh Taste And See

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless-ed are they who take re-fuge in him.

Your Word, O Lord, is e-ter-nal;
it stands firm in the heav-ens.
Your faith-ful-ness con-tin-ues for-ev-er.

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless-ed are they who take re-fuge in him.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us Pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now by 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.

C: ♪ Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Stephen dies as a martyr. He is killed because he confesses Christ, yet, he dies in peace.

In those days, as the number of disciples was increasing, a complaint arose from the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

²So the Twelve called together the whole group of disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers, carefully select from among you seven men with good reputations, who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this service. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word."

⁵This proposal pleased the entire group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas, a proselyte from Antioch.

⁶They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷The word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. Also a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. ⁹Some men who were from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia) rose up and disputed with Stephen.

^{7:2}Stephen said, "Gentlemen, brothers and fathers, listen!

⁵¹"You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit! You are doing just what your fathers did. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who prophesied the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers— ⁵³you who received the law as transmitted by angels, but did not keep it."

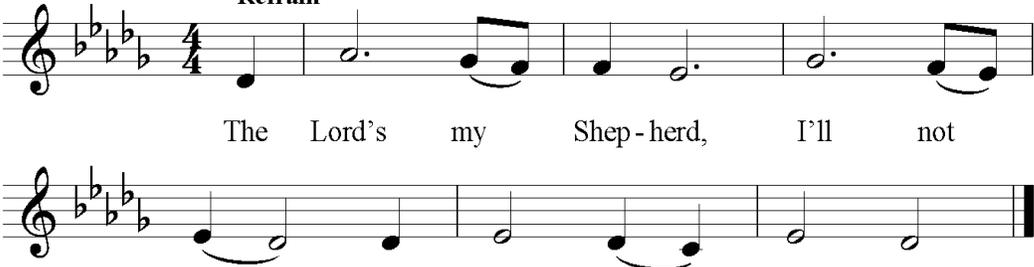
⁵⁴When they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed up into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶He said, “Look, I see heaven opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷But they screamed at the top of their voices, covered their ears, and rushed at him with one purpose in mind. ⁵⁸They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” ⁶⁰Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” After he said this, he fell asleep.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 23 Special Music sings the verses, congregation joins in the refrain
“I will sing of the LORD’s great love forever.”

Refrain



The Lord's my Shep-herd, I'll not
want. The Lord's my Shep - herd.

Refrain

The Lord's my Shepherd,
I'll not want.
The Lord's my Shepherd.

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green, he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

Refrain

The Lord's my Shepherd,
I'll not want.
The Lord's my Shepherd.

My soul he doth restore again;
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Refrain

The Lord's my Shepherd,

I'll not want.
The Lord's my Shepherd.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill;
For thou art with me; thine own rod
And staff me comfort still

Refrain
The Lord's my Shepherd,
I'll not want.
The Lord's my Shepherd.

My table thou hast furnished well
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost oil anoint,
My cup overflows.

Refrain
The Lord's my Shepherd,
I'll not want.
The Lord's my Shepherd.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
In God's own house forever more
My dwelling place shall be.

Refrain
The Lord's my Shepherd,
I'll not want.
The Lord's my Shepherd.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Though innocent, the "Shepherd of our souls" endured unjust punishment so our wounds of sin might be healed.

Christ Jesus was chosen, killed, resurrected, glorified, and revealed to the world. Those who believe in him share in his victory and hope of glory.

¹⁹For this is favorable: if a person endures sorrows while suffering unjustly because he is conscious of God. ²⁰For what credit is it to you if you receive a beating for sinning and patiently endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and endure it, this is favorable with God.

²¹Indeed, you were called to do this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example so that you would follow in his steps. ²²He did not commit a sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. ²³When he was insulted, he did not insult in return. When he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself carried our sins in his body on the tree so that we would be dead to sins and alive to righteousness. By his wounds you were healed. ²⁵For you were like sheep going astray, but you are now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Verse:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus contrasts his role as the Good Shepherd with that of thieves and robbers. While they come only to steal and kill, Jesus comes to give us life in all its fullness.

“Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The doorkeeper opens the door 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 sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰“A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

C: ♪ Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day: Special Music - The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Congregation joins in verses 3 and 6.

1 The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow, My Savior gently leads me;
And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feeds me.

3 Confused and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me
And on his shoulder gently laid And home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With you, dear Lord, beside me;

Your rod and staff my comfort still, Your cross before to guide me.

5 You spread a table in my sight, A banquet here bestowing;
Your oil of welcome, my delight; My cup is overflowing!

6 And so through all the length of days Your goodness fails me never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.
Arr. Koine'

Sermon

1 Peter 2:19-25

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.

Offering Prayer

Electronic Giving! You can give your offerings from your smartphone with the GivePlusChurch app, which can be downloaded for free at Google Play or the App Store. You can also give at holytrinitylutheranwyoming.com by clicking the Offerings link at the top of the page or scan the QR code below. If you have any questions about any of these options, please contact Dave Conrad at dconrad765@gmail.com or 616-406-7172



Prayer of the Church

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

Hymn: 374 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

1 My shepherd will supply my need-Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed Beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back When I forsake his ways
And leads me, for his mercy's sake, In paths of truth and grace.

2 When I walk through the shades of death, His presence is my stay;
One word of his supporting breath Drives all my fears away.
His hand, in sight of all my foes, Will still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows; His oil anoints my head.

3 The sure provisions of my God Attend me all my days;
Oh, may his house be my abode And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest While others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest But like a child at home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Prayer and Blessing

P: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

or

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ A-men.

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: ♪ A-men, A-men, A-men

Closing Hymn: 360 The Lord's My Shepherd; I'll Not Want

1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me The quiet waters by.

2 My soul he doth restore again And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.

4 My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy, all my life, Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore My dwelling-place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650.

Today's Organist: Mr. Jack Vogel