

4th Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday

April 17, 2016

Scriptural Meditation

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:27-28

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude

Alleluia

by W.A. Mozart

Brittany Moleski, Soloist

Call to Worship (from Psalm 23, Rev. 7, John 10)

One: Hear words of comfort—

My sheep hear my voice, and they follow me.

All: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

One: God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

One: I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.

All: I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Prayer of Invocation

* Gathering Song

All Creatures of Our God and King

#15

*Prayer of Reconciliation

Let us stand and express ourselves to God.

One: The Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want.

All: Forgive us, Good Shepherd, for wanting more than we need, and for using more than is necessary.

One: The Lord leads us by still waters, the Lord restores our souls.

All: Forgive us for neglecting our relationship with you.

Too often we have been slaves to our agendas, our desires, and our timetables.

One: When we walk through the darkened valley, we shall not fear. God is with us.

All: You are with us, Lord, but we have not been with you.

Forgive us for letting fear rule our lives.

Teach us to trust you and your way, even when it leads into the valley.

One: The Lord prepares a table in the presence of our enemies.

All: Help us not to hoard your banquet.

Give us the will, the words and the deeds

to share your liberating good news with all whom we meet—

friend and foe, stranger and guest.

In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

*A Time for Contemplation (a private time for you and God)

*Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Do not fear! You can place your trust in God, for God will lead you, comfort you, protect you. You are not alone to face all the difficulties of life. God is with you and will lift you up. Rejoice, for you are loved by God.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri

581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

Tune: Gloria Patri, Henry W. Greatorex, 1851, Public Domain.

God's Word for Little Ears

Heifer Project ~ Recognition of Birthdays and Anniversaries

A Song of Blessing (Adapted from an Irish Blessing, Tune: *Amazing Grace*)

**All: May joy and peace surround you,
contentment at your door,
And happiness be with you now,
God bless you evermore.**

~Hearing God's Word~

Prayer for Understanding God's Word

All: O God of creation, remind us that all we are and all we have is from You. Awaken us to Your Word and empower us with Your truth so that we may be the hands that do the work of Your love and know the richness of life in You. We pray in the name of Christ, the Human One of God. Amen.

First Scripture Lesson

The Acts of the Apostles 9:36-43

page 128

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Look at the World

by John Rutter

Nathan Thomas, Conductor

1) *Look at the world, everything all around us; Look at the world, and marvel every day.*

Look at the world; so many joys and wonders, So many miracles along the way.

Refrain: *Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,*

Give us thankful hearts, that we may see:

All the gifts we share, and every blessing, All things come of thee.

2) *Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower; Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain; Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, Valley and flowing river, field and plain.* (Refrain)

3) *Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold. Everything grows, everything has a season, Till it is gathered to the Father's fold.* (Refrain)

4) *Every good gift, all that we need and cherish Comes from the Lord in token of his love; We are his hands stewards of all his bounty; His is the earth, and his the heavens above.*

(Refrain)

New Testament Epistle The Revelation of John 7:9-17 page 249
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson John 10:27-30 page 104
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Message *A Fail-Safe GPS System* Pastor Kim Nelson

~Responding to God's Word~

***Affirmation of Faith**

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, And 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, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

[The Apostles Creed]

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad.

Offertory Hymn *We Lift Our Voices/We Are an Offering* #710
Scott Harrison and Alex Mitchell, Guitars

***Doxology** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow/Doxology*

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen 1623 Public Domain. [Adapted from #609]

Prayers of the People followed by Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Prayer Response *Come and Fill Our Hearts* (#466)

All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace,

You alone, O Lord, are holy,

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

Words & Music: Jacques Berthier © Les Presses de Taizé (France).

~Going Forth to Serve God~

Life in Our Church Community

***Song of Sending Forth** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (Ps. 23)* # 803

***Benediction**

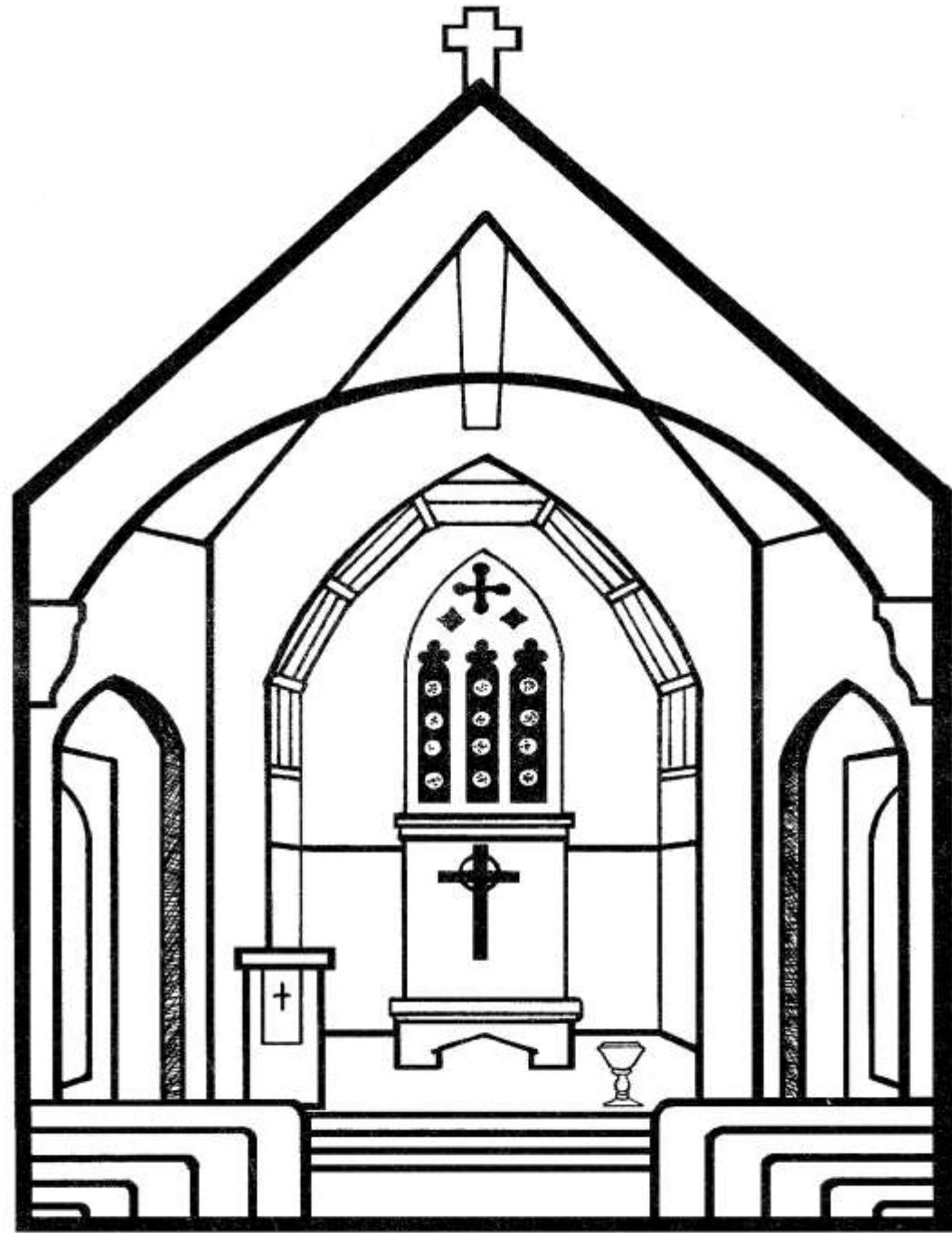
***Postlude**

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**Please stand, if you are able.*

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.

Music printed and recorded for congregational use only under CCLI # 11373529



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