

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for May 3, 2020

4th Sunday in the Season of Easter

Welcome by Pastor Kristen

Call to Worship: Psalm 23

1The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

2The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

3You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

4Though 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.

5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm Song "All of My Days (Psalm 23)" by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Chorus: All of my days, God's mercy follows

All of my days, God's love surrounds

All of my days, all of my days

1. Into green pastures, beside the still waters,
along the good paths, and through the dark valleys **Chorus**
2. Among my enemies, you call me to table
Your deepest blessing, my cup overflows **Chorus**
3. Always in God's heart, I shall be forever
Always in God's heart, we shall be forever **Chorus**

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.

Children's Sermon

Gospel: John 10:1-10

[Jesus said:] 1“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. 2The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Sermon

Hymn: Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

**1 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.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.**

2 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.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.**

**3 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.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.**

**4 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.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.**

Prayers of Intercession

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Shepherding God, we thank you for the work of all who teach and learn during these unconventional times. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning sites. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, and to make good decisions for the benefit of all people, especially those who have been affected firsthand by COVID-19. We pray that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering, especially health care workers, those who are at high risk or chronically ill, and those who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and their families and friends. Grant hope to all who are lonely, those who have lost income, those who are worry about income, and those who are currently in places that are not safe. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sustaining God, guide the work of scientific researchers who are seeking treatments and cures. Encourage the work of public health officials as they try to understand the coronavirus and to provide guidance for our communities in these strange times. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

Special Music: Surrexit Pastor Bonus by Orlando di Lasso; Performed by The
Wartburg Choir, Lee Nelson, conductor

The Good Shepherd is risen! Who gave his life for his sheep
And was deemed worthy To die for his flock. Alleluia

Blessing

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Go in peace and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!
And have fun doing it! We will! Amen!

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All Of My Days
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