

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Blended Praise

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**AS WE GATHER** This Sunday in the Church Year is often called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” The appointed Psalm for the day is Psalm 23, which is among the most well-known psalms. The Gospel from John 10 records Jesus revealing Himself as the Good Shepherd. While fewer and fewer people are familiar with what it is like to take care of sheep, this metaphor of God’s protection and provision has become a great source of comfort and hope. God grant that you find such blessed comfort as you dwell securely here in the house of the Lord.



**PRELUDE** “Our God Saves”

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Sing to the King”

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!  
**P** He is our Good Shepherd. **C** He leads us to green pastures and still waters.  
**P** He is our Good Shepherd. **C** We listen to His voice.  
**P** He is our Good Shepherd. **C** He lays down His life for the sheep.  
**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** In this Easter season, celebration is always near our lips. We are glad to shout Alleluias in worship, but when we leave we do not always recognize our neighbors in need. We may close our hearts to them. We may reject them. We may fail to follow the example of our Good Shepherd. As we draw near to the Lord, let us consider our sins and ask God for His forgiveness.

**P** Heavenly Father, **C** we have sinned against You and against our neighbors in our thoughts, words, and actions. You know our sins, and they are ever before You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us as a shepherd leads his sheep.

**P** God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Good Shepherd. He has laid down His life for our forgiveness and has taken His life back up again in His glorious resurrection. As a called and ordained servant of the risen 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.

**C Amen. The Lord restores us and leads us in paths of righteousness. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise “All Hail the power of Jesus’ Name” LSB 549 st 1, 5 & 7**

**SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.** **P** Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:1-12** (Jesus is the stone that was rejected and has become the cornerstone)

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 23 A PSALM OF DAVID**

**C The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**EPISTLE 1 John 3:16-24** (Love one another as Christ has loved us)

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN “By Faith”**

**HOLY GOSPEL John 10:11-18** (Jesus is our Good Shepherd)

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter. **C Glory to you, O Lord.**

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**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C Praise to You, O Christ.** (Sit)

## HYMN OF THE DAY “Above All”

### SERMON

### NICENE CREED

*(Stand)*

**I** believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Response for prayer petitions:

**P** Lord in your mercy.

**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### OFFERING & OFFERTORY

### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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

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

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary .... evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS LSB 161

**☩ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### LORD'S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI & AGNUS DEI

**☩** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **☩ Amen.**

**☩ Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## DISTRIBUTION

### THANK THE LORD

**☩ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**☩** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **☩ Amen.**

## BENEDICTION *(Stand)*

**☩** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **☩ Amen.**  
*Numbers 6:24-26*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN "That's Why We Praise Him"