

Service of the Word

St. Mark Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 22, 2020

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "We all need God's Help" Pastor Katy Fast

INVOCATION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together as one Body of Christ, distanced by location but united in love and concern:

Gentle Shepherd, come to our aid. We seek your comfort in the midst of confusion, and peace in this time of fear. Remind us, Lord Christ, that you are the Shepherd who lay down his life for his own, redeeming us for light and life today and always, for you live and reign with God our Creator and Sustainer, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

VIDEO PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

St. Mark Body of Christ

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;

² he makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters;^[a]

³ he restores my soul.^[b]

He leads me in paths of righteousness^[c]

for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,^[d]

I fear no evil;

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff,

they comfort me.

⁵Thou preparest a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil,

my cup overflows.

⁶Surely^[e] goodness and mercy^[f] shall follow me

all the days of my life;

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

for ever.^[g]

SERMON

Seminarian Anne Harman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Guide me, — O shep-herd of my heart; lead me
home-ward through the dark, in - to ev - er - last - ing
day. Show me — the way of truth and
light; keep me al - ways in your sight. May my life nev - er
part from the shep-herd of my heart.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music in a single system. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. There are some rests and a fermata over the final note of the first line.

Trusting in God's faithfulness and remembering the words of Matthew "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible", we lift before God the prayers of God's faithful people:

Shepherd of our hearts, we pray for all the healthcare workers and their families. We pray for positive leaders to come out and guide in the midst of this global crisis. We Pray for our nations first responders and healthcare workers who are on the front lines, dealing daily with not only personal issues but governmental uncertainties and the wickedness of the Coronavirus. Lord God, watch over the vulnerable and invisible during this time of great need. Open our eyes to the best way we can serve them and protect them. Show us the way of truth and light...

God we find our home in you. Surround those for whom being away from college or their normal routine is challenging. Bless students, staff, teachers, and school administrators with your peace in this time of uncertainty. Give shelter to those who are without, give food to those who are without, and help us to share our household items with our

neighbors who need them. Give us good courage as we live more confined in our homes and give encouragement to those who are homebound or in a nursing home and don't have as much human contact. Show us the way of truth and light...

Dear God, please be with our St. Mark family. Help us to stay connected and support one another in love and care as we are physically separated. Also, be with Sue Nelson as she mourns the loss of her beloved dog Maggie who crossed the Rainbow Bridge this week. Be with Clayton and Carol Stoots and their family as they wrestle with many of life stresses, including finding affordable and safe housing for their family. Be with all those who grieve, especially Jeanne Plaskett on the loss of her relative Heather Mackin. Give her your peace in this time of loss. Show us the way of truth and light...

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SHEPHERD OF MY HEART

Guide me, — O shep-herd of my heart; lead me
home-ward through the dark, in - to ev - er - last - ing
day. Show me — the way of truth and
light; keep me al - ways in your sight. May my life nev - er
part from the shep-herd of my heart.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Shepherd of My Heart". It consists of five staves of music in a single system. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats. The music is written in a simple, melodic style. The lyrics are: "Guide me, — O shep-herd of my heart; lead me home-ward through the dark, in - to ev - er - last - ing day. Show me — the way of truth and light; keep me al - ways in your sight. May my life nev - er part from the shep-herd of my heart." The score ends with a double bar line.

Refrain

My shepherd is the Lord, for nothing shall I want; green are the pastures where I'm led to repose.

Near waters still and deep God will refresh my soul. I am led onward in ways true to the Name.

Refrain

If I should walk one day into the vale of darkness, no evil shall I fear with God at my side.

There with your crook and staff you give me strength and comfort; you spread a banquet in the sight of my foes.

Refrain

You anoint my head with oil; my cup is overflowing; goodness and kindness crown the days of my life.

Within the Lord's own house I dwell in peace forever; within the house of God my soul is at rest.

Refrain**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us lift our hearts in prayer

As one people,

One church,

To the heart of the Shepherd

Who leads us and guides us

Today and always.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from

the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time.
Now is the day of salvation.
Holy God,
speaking, spoken, and inspiring,
✠ bless you, unbind you,
and send you in love and in peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister: Pastor Connie Bonner

Preacher: Seminarian Anne Harman

Minister of Music: Beth Kendall

Cantors: John Kinder & Seminarian Anne Harman

Video Producer: Pete Horvath

Shepherd of My Heart

Based on Psalm 23

Words and Music by Francis Patrick O'Brien

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