



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER,
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
MAY 8, 2022

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040

www.stpauloaklawn.org

Sun., Pastor John Moeller

Wed., Pastor George Mrochen

Director of Music Ruth Sievers

As We Gather

It is Good Shepherd Sunday, and the beautiful Twenty-Third Psalm is echoed all through our worship. Our Lord went through the valley of the shadow of death in our place, leading us from death to eternal life. Following our Shepherd means confessing our faith throughout our lives, even as death's shadow falls on us. It also means vigilance against wolves that would attack Christ's flock, as Paul warns in the First Reading. But in his vision, John tells us the wonderful Good News that Christ is now the victorious Lamb on His eternal throne. We can be confident that what we believe by faith we shall see with our own eyes in the unending joy of heaven.

Prelude

"Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs"

F. Hark

Opening Hymn

"This Is the Day the Lord Has Made"

#903, sts. 1-2; 4-5

1 This is the day the Lord has made;
He calls the hours His own.
Let heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad
And praise surround the throne.

4 Blessèd is He who comes to us
With messages of grace;
He, in the Lord's name, comes to us
To save our fallen race.

2 Today He rose and left the dead,
And Satan's empire fell;
Today the saints His triumphs spread
And all His wonders tell.

5 Hosanna in the highest strains
The Church on earth can raise.
The highest heav'ns, in which He reigns,
Shall give Him nobler praise.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Text: Public domain*

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Sentences

Psalm 23:1, 6b; Revelation 7:17

P The LORD is my shepherd;

C I shall not want.

P For the Lamb in the midst of the throne

C will be their shepherd,

P and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

C And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

We pause to remember our sins before our Righteous and Almighty God

P Lord, our God,
C we confess that we have strayed from hearing the voice of Your Son, our Shepherd and Savior, who went from death to eternal life for us. We have failed to trust in You with our whole hearts. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us and renew us in faith and hope, and grant that we always hear and listen to our Shepherd's voice and follow wherever He leads, until we see Him with You in Your eternal kingdom.

P Brothers and sisters, fellow followers of our Good Shepherd, our Lord Jesus was God's sacrificial Lamb and has indeed gone from death to life. He has paid for the sins of all, and He now reigns in eternity. Therefore, in His stead and by His command, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 78:70–72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

P I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Hymn

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

#740 St. 1

1	I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am; For my Shepherd gently guides me,	Knows my need and well provides me, Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.
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P He chose David His servant and took him from the sheepfolds;

C from following the nursing ewes He brought him to shepherd Jacob His people,
Israel His inheritance.

P With upright heart he shepherded them

C and guided them with his skillful hand.

P But we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give You thanks forever;

C from generation to generation we will declare Your praise.

Hymn

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

#740 St. 2

2	Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay. When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,	Into pleasant pastures leads me; When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.
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P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me,
and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Hymn

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

#740 St. 3

3	Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd's lamb? And when my short life is ended,	By His angel host attended, He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.
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Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray: Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, who has gone victoriously through death and into eternity for us,

C lead us through whatever trials we may endure in this life until we join to praise You forever in Your kingdom;

P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

✠ Paul Speaks to the Ephesian Elders ✠

Acts 20:17-35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears.

³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem of Praise Solo

"Christ Be My Leader"

Hymn #861

Epistle

✠ A Great Multitude from Every Nation ✠

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the

throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

✠ I and the Father Are One ✠

John 10:22-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

✠ Confession of Faith ✠

Nicene Creed

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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Sermon Hymn

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

#710

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 furnishèd
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, 1650, Edinburgh

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at www.stpauloaklawn.org. For information about regular electronic giving, please contact the church office.*

Offertory Meditation

✝ SACRAMENT ✝

Preface

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.

Proper Preface

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

- P** Hear us now as we pray together as He has taught us,
C Our Father who art in heaven...

Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

✠ DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT ✠

"Lamb of God"

#550

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod,
And to become the Lamb of God. Refrain | 2 Your Gift of love they crucified,
They laughed and scorned Him as He died:
The humble King they named a fraud,
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. Refrain |
|--|--|

**ref O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

- 3 I was so lost, I should have died,
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod,
And to be called a lamb of God. **Refrain**

Text: Twila Paris, 1958

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"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

#711

- | | |
|--|--|
| 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours. | 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You. |
| 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.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray. | 4 Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still. |

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.

Text: Public domain

Communion Blessing

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

Closing Prayer

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we give thanks for the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that we have received in this Sacrament.

C **Keep us strong in the faith, so that nothing would separate us from You as we follow our Good Shepherd, who leads the way to eternal life;**

P 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.**

Benediction

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

“Now Thank We All Our God”

#895

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers’ arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace

And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

△ 3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav’n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

G. Kaufmann

Thinking of Shepherds and Stewardship...

John 10:27 – “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” On their own sheep are in great danger. They need a shepherd to guide them. The sheep know the Shepherd’s voice, and we delight to go where He leads. Of course, the world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh want to pull us in another direction. Namely, they want to pull us in the direction of death. But following the Shepherd means life. So, no matter how difficult the path is, let us follow the Shepherd!

Announcements & Notes:

If you need to purchase a Mother’s Day card, the Ladies Guild will be selling Mother’s Day cards after the service in the narthex.

***Faith in Action** is looking for volunteers for Sat., May 14th through Sat., May 21st. On the 14th to help pick up food from the post office, and then through the week to help sort and date food donations from the Annual Postal Drive. “Stamp Out Hunger Drive” is just around the corner! Remind your family, friends, and neighbors to leave a bag of nonperishable food by their mailbox on Sat., May 14th. The letter carriers will handle everything! You may also bring a bag to church and drop it off in the Timothy Room.*

***Ladies’ Guild** – there is a signup sheet on the counter in the narthex for the Meeting and Potluck on Tues., May 17th. Please sign up to attend and / or bring a main dish, salad or dessert.*

***Ladies’ Guild** is also teaming up with Operation Barnabas as a project in celebration of the 80th anniversary of the LWML. The theme is “80 items for 80 years of God’s grace to the LWML, but if we go over 80, no problem! There is a list of items needed on the table in the narthex.*

***The next Voters Meeting** is Tuesday, May 24th at 7pm in the church.*



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

Vocalist: Julia Volk

Lector: Louis Frank

Altar Care: Sunday—Denise Murray; Wednesday—Sandy Barry

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Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family:

Betty Kruckow	Cathy Gleason
Dawn McNicholas	Janet Varnagis
Janice Przybycien	Kevin Hickey
Mary Ann Colander	Art Hornburg
Melva Smith	Laverne Abraham
Carol Small	Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski	Beverly Sellers
Lenore Curran	Betty Beegle
Delphine Cherry	Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank	Deb Skopec
Herta Iversen	Loretta Frank
The Giacobbe Children	Marge Rochlitz
Ron Hickey	Julie & Larry Gurga
Ingrid Lesko	Katherine Hice
Gloria Meyer	Jan Briede
Delores Stegemann	Connie Braun
Kurt Seehofer	The Polezoes Family
Lincoln & Parker Alex	Patricia Murdoch
Gloria Crook	Lois Kaminske
Warren Miller	Mark Landstrom
Denise Murray	Roy Hodgeman
	Paul Moeller

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

For Laverne Abraham celebrating a birthday today
(May 8th)

Please pray for these friends and family of our members:

Andrew Mrochen	Vern Howe
Eugene Marcinkowski	Roberta & Carlos Owens
Denise DeLaurentis	Dorothy Kroll
Eric Kessler	Barb & Emily Feehan
Bob Hessert	Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta	Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow	Janet Trierweiler
Alan Hecke	Kim Lamberth
Matt Favero	Sandra Wilson
Michelle Mitchell	Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi	Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher	The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross	Brenda Gurgel
Gloria Folsom	Autumn Kessler
Shirley Fairchild	Simeon Hoppe
Ron Lunt	Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath	Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres	Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo	Henry Bonder
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.	Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter	Fred Raddatz
Allyson Seehofer	Selma Carmichael
Bernadette & Rich Trusk	Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson	Guillermo Ramirez
Paul Noffke	Sue Sortino
Pam Brown	Lisa Sanders
Shawn Harland	Ann Herold
Barb Potter	Wayne Volk
Charley Heitz	Sharon Bryant
Doris Potts	Brad Benfield
Doreen Holford	Janice Hernandez
Judy Collins	Phyllis Hicks
Maryann Krieg (Wilke)	Katherine Zeleny
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.	Monica Iversen
Cathy Becker	Ken Matz
Jean & Al Zirbel	Heather & Josh Turro
Mary Ann Rafidi	Pastor Mark Willig
Joe Thomas	Patrick Pasqua Sr.
Debbie Guarascio	Sophia Salus
Justin & Ashley Fasel	Frank Coglinase
Nora Maculitis	Gene Wawrzynikowski
Kimberly Rooney	Rhonda Scott
Robert Gonzalez	Theresa Kostecki
Pam Kirk	Vicki Warren
Jenny Bond	Paul Moeller

**Please let the church office know when your
need for our congregational prayers is over
(708) 423-1040.**