

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

***Putting Jesus' Way of Life into Practice by...
Encountering God, Loving One Another,
& Reaching the World.***

*Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024*



Lamb in Groningen, Netherlands by Ger Bosma. ©2022 Getty Images Plus . Used by permission.

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

Welcome to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

(Congregational responses are in bold print.)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

GATHERING SONG

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST READING: ACTS 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 23 (read responsively)

¹The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The 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.

⁴**Though 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.

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

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18

The holy gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

**“YOU DID WHAT?!?”
PASTOR MIKE PETERSON**

HYMN OF THE DAY

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living 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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: God of grace,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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**

COMMUNION

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

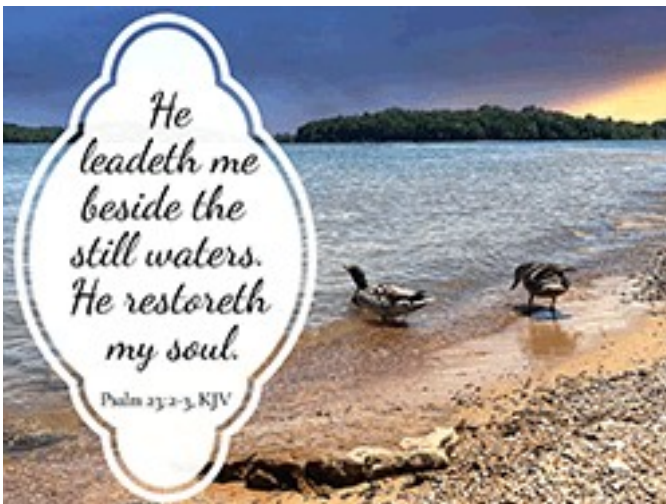
Amen

SENDING SONG

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.





Flowers Today
Given by Tim & Sarah Kelvie
to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary
and grand-daughter's 3rd birthday

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!

Greeter: Katie
Welcome Desk: Extravagant Generosity
Ushers: Mike & Sue
Reader: Linda
Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter
Communion Assistants: Grace
Musicians: Revelation
Coffee Servers: Jacquelyn & Karen

PRAYER REQUESTS...

We pray for those in need of healing and mercy:

Leroy, Carol W., Kayla, Roger, Gary (Uncle of Sue), Sarah, Carol L., Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter), Jane (Grace's friend), Sylvia, Roberta, Dorothy (Mother of Linda), Patty (sister of Mike), and Anna.

(Please call the church office with any prayer concerns or updates.)



♪♪♪ *THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!* ♪♪♪

Thank you for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may donate online on our website: www.cslcvh.org/tithe. Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk.



Cross & Cradle News

Community Life

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Today: April 21 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - CSLC Bible Study
- 9:30 AM - CSLC Worship
- 10:30 AM - CSLC Fellowship Time
- 11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School
- 12:30 PM - EFLC Worship

Monday, April 22

- 9:00 AM - Package bread & deliver
- 10:30 AM - Caring Friends (FH)
- 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Piecemakers (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, April 23

- 7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (Fellowship)
- 8:30 AM - Bread Distribution + Coffee Get-Together (FH)
- 6:30 PM - AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, April 24

- 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM - Bible Study (FH)
- 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Senior HiLites (FH)
- 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM - Youth & Confirmation
- 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM - AA (Class A)

Thursday, April 25

- 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM - YogaDevotion (S)
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Revelation Rehearsal (S)

Friday, April 26

- 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Rummage Sale (S)
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM - EFLC Choir Practice (Class A) ??

Saturday, April 27

- 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Rummage Sale

Sunday, April 28 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - CSLC Bible Study
- 9:30 AM - CSLC Worship
- 10:30 AM - CSLC Fellowship Time
- 11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School
- 12:30 PM - EFLC Worship

Welcome to our Bible Studies...



Sunday Bible Study
Every Sunday at 8:30 AM.

Wednesday Bible Study
Next Wednesday, April 24, 10:00 AM.

Women's Bible Study
Next Saturday, April 20, 9:30 AM.



Rummage Sale! Friday, April 26 (4 PM - 7 PM) & Saturday, April 27 (9 AM - 3 PM)

As you clear out the old, remember that your junk could be someone else's treasure! Help is needed, sign up in the Welcome Area.



A new **Yogadevotion** class will begin on Thursday, May 2 through June 20, meeting weekly at 3:45 PM, in the sanctuary. A signup sheet is available in the Welcome area. All are welcome!



Blood Drive at CSLC

The next blood drive at Christ the Servant is scheduled for Monday, May 20, from 11 AM to 5 PM. Signup at CSLC or online at redcrossblood.org.

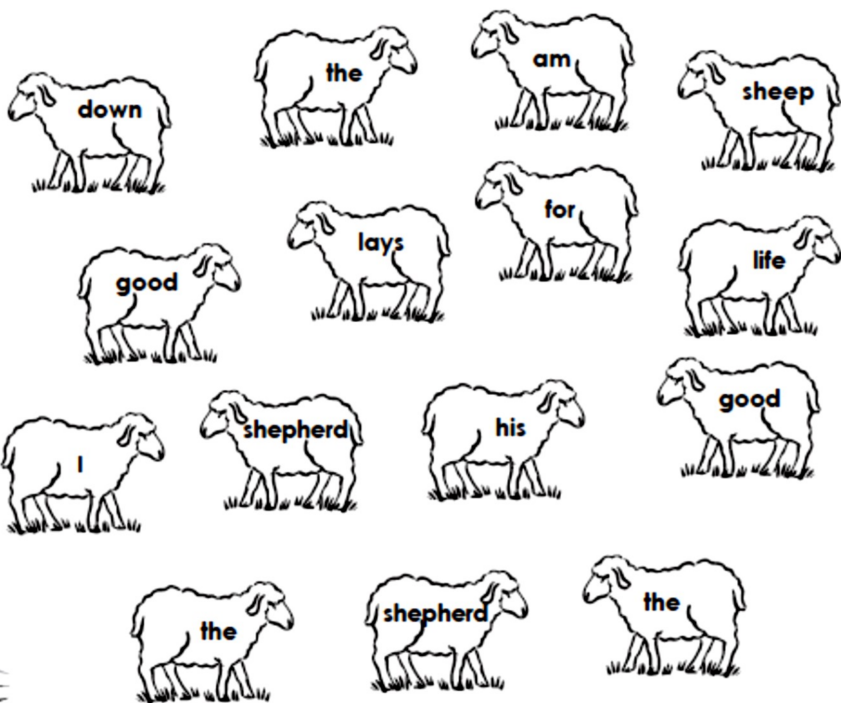
Help the shepherd put his flock back in order. Each sheep has a word of this week's memory verse, but the flock has moved around! Put the words from each sheep in the right order to discover the memory verse. Write each word in the blanks below.

Memory Verse



“ _____

_____” —John 10:11.



Shepherding is one of the world's oldest occupations—over 6,000 years old! Shepherds spent every hour of their day watching, tending, protecting, and grooming their sheep. In Bible times, shepherds did not always have their own homes because they traveled around with their sheep.

Did You Know?

Always Room for One More

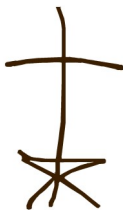
When Jesus says “I am” in the Gospel of John, he unlocks a new perspective on his love. In today’s reading, when Jesus declares, “I am the good shepherd,” we can imagine our Lord caring for us and guiding us. We picture ourselves as his sheep. It’s reassuring to hear that we aren’t alone to navigate the dangers and challenges of this world. We have a loving shepherd who is looking out for us.



Jesus loves us so much that he goes above and beyond the shepherd’s role as a caretaker. He gives up his own life so our sins can be forgiven and we can receive eternal life. That’s what being a good shepherd means—having such a close relationship with the sheep that the shepherd will stop at nothing to protect them. The shepherd will lay down his own life so his sheep can have life.

When we hear Jesus’ promise to be our good shepherd, we must not miss his commitment to gather up the sheep that aren’t yet part of his flock. They, too, will listen to Jesus’ voice. Responding to his loving call, they will become part of the one flock that follows Jesus as their good shepherd, their Savior, and their Lord. No matter how many sheep are already jostling for space, there is always room for one more. Just like there is always room at our holy communion table for one more person to eat the bread, drink the wine, and receive the gifts of God’s mercy and grace. We can always squeeze closer to the sheep around us to let one or more sheep enter Jesus’ flock, thankful that the flock is growing and that we get to listen to the loving voice of our good shepherd, together.

From sundaysandseasons.com.
© 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

3676 Centerville Road, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Phone 651-429-6595

Email: office@cslcvh.org Website: www.cslcvh.org

Pastor Jon Yurk

Phone: 612-231-2111 Email: Pastor@cslcvh.org