

*Fourth Sunday
of Easter*



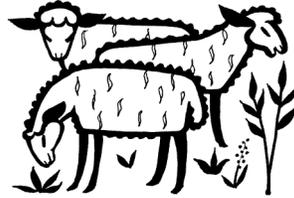
In-Person/Live Service

April 25, 2021

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021



*Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV.
MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels:
For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1*

Call to Worship

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- C We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
- P Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever
and our confidence alone.
- 2 To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your lovingkindness,
hear your people as they pray;
and your fullest benediction
shed within these walls today.
- 3 Grant, we pray, to all your faithful
all the gifts they ask to gain;
what they gain from you forever
with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.



Apostolic Greeting

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

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P 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.

C Amen.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

A The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

A You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C 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.

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

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

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

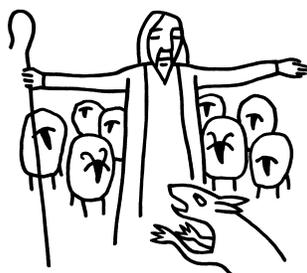
In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner



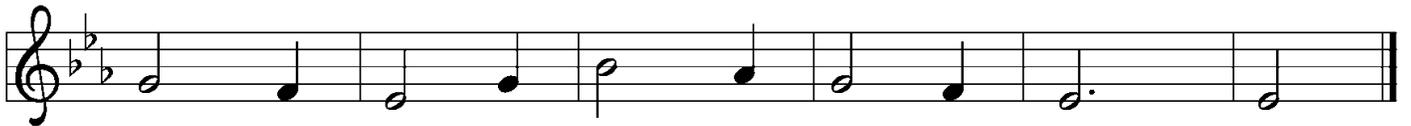
The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877

Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

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Apostles' Creed

A Let's confess the faith of the Church together using the Apostles' Creed:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the Church

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need, especially the people named on our Prayer List, and those we name either silently or aloud. Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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 Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Let's go in peace, remember the poor, and serve our risen Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: April 25-May 2, 2021

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 4:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck at Amherst High School
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 12:30 pm: Staff Meeting via Zoom
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
3:00-6:00 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Community Meal Share
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:40 am: Congregational Meeting immediately following the In-Person service
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Attendance last week: YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 57 Offering: \$3,361.00

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Marion Alexander: Tennyson Court, #127 in Memory Care Unit, Williamsville, NY 14221

Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Christopher Magin: 22 Dale Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

Mary Elizabeth Stewart: 69 Washington Highway, Amherst, NY 14226

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Ira Striejewske; Shirley McNamara (Nancy Simon's sister); Ralph Vahue; Thomas Maier

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: We resumed Sunday in-person worship beginning at 10:00 am. As we previously handled in-person worship, reservations are requested if you plan to attend any of the in-person services. You will still need to wear face masks, maintain limited capacity in the sanctuary, and adhere to current Covid-19 protocols. Please contact the Church Office at 716-835-0407 to make your reservation. If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Zoom Coffee Half-Hour: Effective April 25, the Zoom Coffee Half-Hour following the WNY Church Unleashed service has been canceled until further notice.

Covid-19 Restrictions: While zone designations (yellow, orange, red) remain in various areas, we ask that you not stop by the Church Office unannounced. If you need to come to the office or meet with Pastor Steve, please call ahead and make an appointment (716-835-0407). This way we can continue to keep you and our staff safe during this difficult time.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The May Pantry hours are Thursday 5/6 and 5/20 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and Saturday 5/8 and 5/22 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Donations for May are: condiments, rice, and cereal.

Daily Bread Food Truck News: The DBFT will be parked in the Amherst High School front parking lot every Monday from 5:00-7:00 pm, to hand out free meals to the community. A number of neighborhood eateries will be teaming with the DBFT to “host” these meals. If you would like to volunteer to help out on Mondays, please contact Katie at 835-0407.



Annual Congregation Meeting: The Annual May Congregational Meeting will take place Sunday, May 2 immediately following the 10:00 am church service. You will be able to attend the meeting in-person or via Zoom (Zoom link will be sent with the May 2 Worship Links.) During the meeting, updates on the building renovations will be given; we will vote for three Council members from the following candidates for 2021-2024: Kathryn Francis, Matt Fricano, Cheryl Gillen, Sharon Hoffman, and Gerri Horton. (Sue Renken-Mintzer is completing her second term, and Vern Stein will not be running for a second term.) There will also be a vote on a Constitutional Amendment at follows: Proposed Constitutional Amendment: C21.05.01. and C21.05. We want to modify C21.05 from, “Endowment funds will consider a percentage of the balance at year-end to be the income for that year. The percentage will be set in the bylaws, but must be between five (5) percent and ten (10) percent.” to “Endowment funds will consider a percentage of the balance at year-end to be the income for that year, as needed. The maximum percentage will be ten (10) percent.” C21.05.01 should be modified from, “The income percentage shall be six (6) percent of the ending balance each year.” to “The income percentage will be as proposed by the Finance Committee and approved by Council at the December meeting.”



+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Debbie Regan-Howe Vice-President: Janell Andersen

Secretary: Cheryl Gillen Treasurer: William Niblock

Susan Epstein Nick Hazlett Susan Mintzer David Schunak Robert Simpson Vern Stein

Pastor at St. Paul's: Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Parish Administrator: Katie Basham

E-mail: katie@stpaulseggertsville.org

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org