

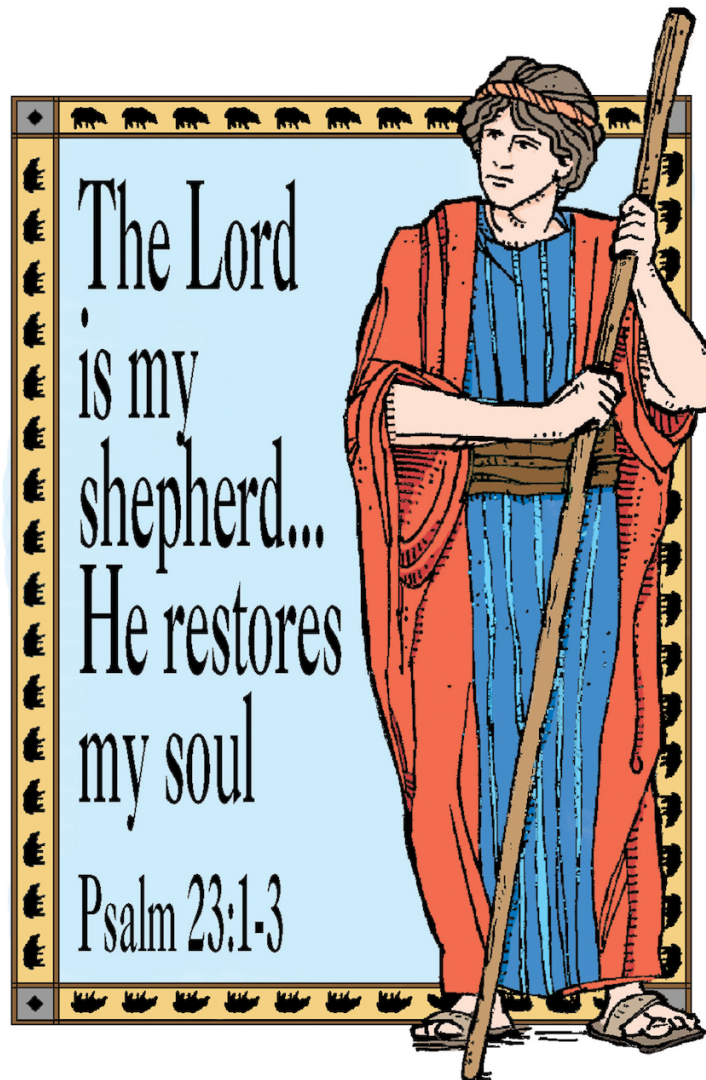
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Sunday School Superintendent: Mike Sprengeler



www.denverlutheran.com

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Church of the Lutheran Confession
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4th Sunday of Easter – April 30, 2023

Good Shepherd Sunday

Order of Worship: Service of the Word

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler

Ushers: Mark Hartmeister, Don Claeys

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 23 (pew bible, p.491)
- ◆ The Hymns: 465, 710, *422, *51 (*printed on pp.6-7)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Acts 6:1-9, 7:2, 51-60; 1 Peter 2:19-25
- ◆ Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed (liturgy insert, p.15)

Sermon Text – John 10:1-10

The Risen Savior Is Our Good Shepherd

1. He gives us victory over the thieves and robbers.
2. He blesses us with life to the full.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (51, printed on p.6)



Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Acts 6:1-9; 7:2,52-60

6:1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." 5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. 8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. 9 Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia. These men began to argue with Stephen. | 7:2 To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me! ... You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! 52 Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him — 53 you who have received the law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it." 54 When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. 55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." 57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Easter Acclamation

P The Lord is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P "My sheep hear My voice. I know them, and they follow Me.

C **I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish."**

P The Lord is risen indeed!

C **You were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

P The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.
C **And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.**
P Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.
C **The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want.**
P And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
C **The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their Shepherd, and He will guide them to springs of the waters of life.**
P And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
C **The Lord is risen indeed!**

Second Lesson – 1 Peter 2:19-25

19 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. 21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Sermon Text – John 10:1-10

1 “I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. 3 The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them. 7 Therefore Jesus said again, “I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

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A Warm Welcome To Our Worship Guests. It is our prayer that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. St. Paul is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC is represented by congregations throughout the United States and Canada, with affiliated churches in Africa, India, and neighboring nations. All of our churches confess the Bible to be the inspired and unerring Word of God. We invite our Guests to record their visit by signing the Guestbook and to come worship with us again.

This Week at St. Paul

Today (4/30)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
Tue	9:00 am	Pastoral Study Conference at Loveland
Sat	8:00 am	Spring Clean-Up Day (till noon)
Sun (5/7)	8:30 am	Elders' Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Bible Class & Sunday School

Upcoming Synod Events

West-Central Delegate Conference, Watertown SD: Tue-Thu, May 23-25
CLC General Pastoral Conference, Eau Claire WI: Tue-Thu, June 20-22

Please mark your calendar for the **Spring Clean-Up Day** scheduled for this Saturday, May 6, here at St. Paul. Time: 8:00 am to noon. There are a number of clean-up projects on tap for sprucing up our church building and grounds. Come help if you can! If you have questions on what you can do to assist with a project, see one of the trustees, Mike Sprengeler or Don Claeys.

Missionary Bruce Naumann is posting regular updates on his work in Tanzania. You can view them at: clc-tz.blogspot.com. You can also view his journal entries (and those of Missionaries Todd Ohlmann and Peter Evensen) by visiting lutheranmissions.org and scrolling down to the bottom of the page.

Savior, I Follow On

422

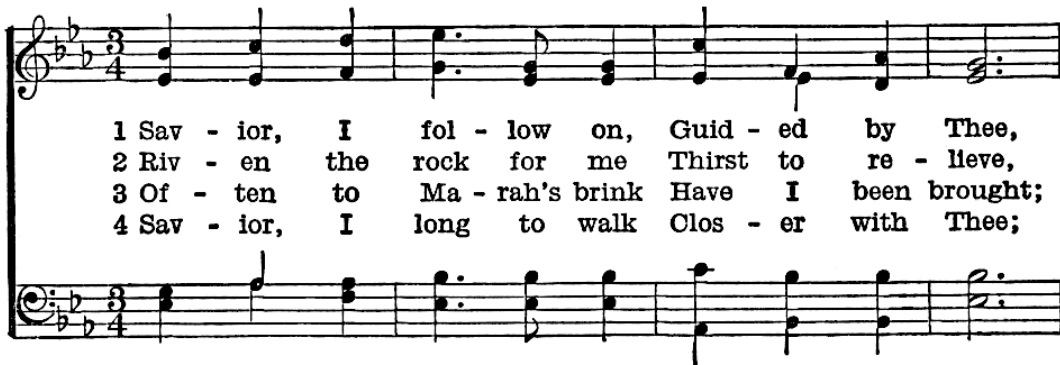
Ex. 15: 23

Charles S. Robinson, 1862

6. 4. 6. 4. 6. 6. 4.

Winterton

Joseph Barnby, 1898



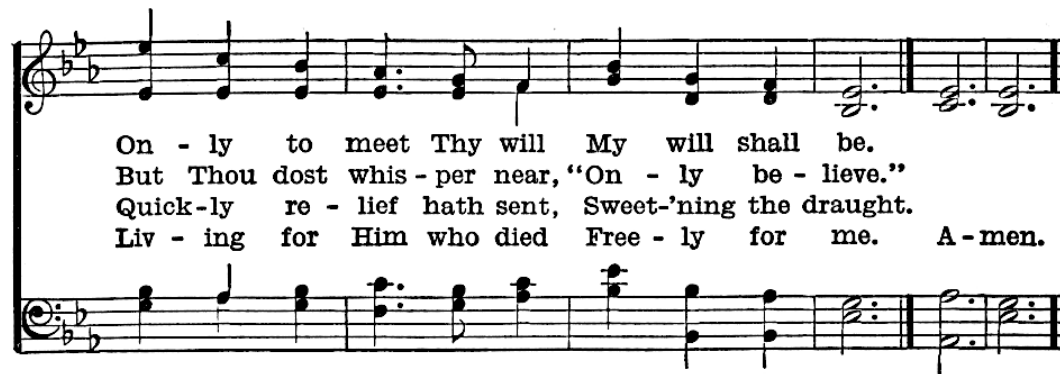
1 Sav - ior, I fol - low on, Guid - ed by Thee,
2 Riv - en the rock for me Thirst to re - lieve,
3 Of - ten to Ma - rah's brink Have I been brought;
4 Sav - ior, I long to walk Clos - er with Thee;



See - ing not yet the hand That lead - eth me.
Man - na from heav - en falls Fresh ev - 'ry eve.
Shrink - ing the cup to drink, Help I have sought;
Led by Thy guid - ing hand, Ev - er to be



Hushed be my heart and still, Fear I no fur - ther ill,
Nev - er a want se - vere Caus - eth my eye a tear
And with the prayer's as - cent Je - sus the branch hath rent,
Con - stant - ly near Thy side, Quick - ened and pu - ri - fied,



On - ly to meet Thy will My will shall be.
But Thou dost whis - per near, "On - ly be - lieve."
Quick - ly re - lief hath sent, Sweet - 'ning the draught.
Liv - ing for Him who died Free - ly for me. A - men.


51

How May He Who from the Dead



Heb. 13:20, 21
John Newton, 1779

7. 7. 7. 7.


Buckland
Leighton G. Hayne, 1863



1 Now may He who from the dead Bro't the Shep-herd of the sheep,
2 May He teach us to ful - fil What is pleas-ing in His sight,
3 To that dear Re-deem-er's praise, Who the cov-'nant sealed with blood.

Je - sus Christ, our King and Head, All our souls in safe - ty keep!
Per - fect us in all His will, And pre - serve us day and night!
Let our hearts and voic - es raise Loud thanksgivings to our God. A - men.




Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; May 1-6, '23

Mon John 12:20-23 During Holy Week, when some Greek-speaking worshipers want to see Jesus, we are reminded that His death and glorious resurrection are not just for His own people, but for the whole world.

Tues John 12:24-26 Jesus goes through suffering and death for the fruit that will result for mankind: forgiveness and life. Similarly Jesus' followers go through whatever suffering is necessary, knowing that their life in Christ will survive when this world's life is long gone.

Wed 1 John 4:9-12 We know God loves us because He sent His Son into the world to live and die and rise again for us. One of the fruits of His resurrection is that we also love God and show that love by loving those whom He so loved.

Thur 1 John 4:13-14 A fruit of Christ's resurrection is that we share the testimony about God's sending His Son to save us all. This sharing of the Gospel is the Holy Spirit's doing, who has brought us to see our Savior with the eyes of faith.

Fri Isaiah 40:26-28 When we look at the stars above, we see evidence of God's wisdom and strength. He knows every star (by name, v26). Why then, would His people think that He did not know their troubles or understand? His power we can readily see. His understanding is also unsearchable.

Sat Isaiah 40:29-31 The Lord God, who raised Jesus from the dead, is the source of power for the faint, even for those with no strength at all. This is His promise to us also, both now and when we pass through the valley of the shadow of death.