

**LAMB OF GOD**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH 

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**April 30, 2023**

**Today's theme:  
He Lives to be My Good Shepherd**

**Welcome, guests!** God’s love welcomes you—no matter who you are or where you come from— and so do we. We believe that Jesus Christ is the true Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection he saves all sinners even without our help. Jesus Christ makes us special people, right with God and ready for life! We learn this from the Bible, God’s authentic message of grace and guidance for us. Whether you are a first-time guest or a curious observer with little religious background, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

If you would like to know more about Lamb of God, visit our website [www.lambofgodlafayette.com](http://www.lambofgodlafayette.com), like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Lamb of God is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS ([www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)) est.1850.

**Children’s “My Worship Notes”** are included in another document. They can be used by children of any age to keep notes during the service.

### **He Lives to be My Good Shepherd**

Every culture has the concept of an ideal citizen, someone who typifies its values. For much of the United States’ history, the ideal citizen was the American farmer: hardworking, innovative, vital to our collective well-being. Even some of our first presidents were farmers. For the people of Israel, the farmer wasn’t their ideal citizen. It was the shepherd. Sheep were an invaluable source of clothing and food. But they were hard to keep in the Judean countryside. Its sparse grasslands are intermixed with desert. For sheep, food is sparse, but predators are plenteous. The survival of sheep was dependent on their shepherd. There he is. Weatherbeaten. Sleepless. Armed. In the dusk, he scans the land, counting his sheep, making sure they are

all accounted for, every one of them on his heart. You see why Jesus chose the shepherd to illustrate how he cares for us. He feeds us with his Word. He protects us from that roaring lion, Satan. Jesus is leading us into the green pasture of eternal life. For centuries, the Church has observed this Fourth Sunday of Easter to celebrate that he lives to be our Good Shepherd.

## Invocation

*[We invoke, that is, call upon the name of the Triune God to be with us this morning. The name of the Triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshippers of their baptisms.]*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

CW 471

*Please stand*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "O Lord, o - pen my lips." The notes are G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), and a whole rest. A triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) is marked above the notes. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "And my mouth shall de - clare your praise." The notes are G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), and a whole rest.

O Lord, o - pen my lips.

**And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.**



Hasten to save me, O God.



**O Lord, come quickly to help me.**



Give glory to God, our light and our life.



**Come, O come, let us wor - ship.**

## Come, Oh, Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

*\*Congregation will sing the refrain. Leader will sing the verses.*



Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,



let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;



come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,

*Repeat for use with canon*

come, enter in with thanks - giv - ing.

*Verses*

1. You are a great and a wondrous God,

2. Come, let us worship and, bow - ing low,

cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.  
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.

You made the hills and the moun - tains high,  
You are the God whom we call our own,  
you made the seas and the dry land. *to Refrain*  
we are the flock that you shep - herd. *to Final Refrain*

## Confession

Dear friends, as we gather in God's house to praise him today, we must admit our sinfulness and unworthiness before him. Let us confess our sins to our holy God.

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart. I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.**

Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

**Yes, I believe.**

Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

**Amen.**

## The Word

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

*[The early Church was marked by devotion to apostolic teaching and genuine love for one another. And the Good Shepherd's flock grew.]*

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Shepherd Me, O God

Psalm 23B

*\*Soloist will introduce the refrain. Congregation will repeat the refrain.*

*Soloist will sing the verses. Congregation will sing the refrain.*

*Refrain*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the words "Shep - herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -". The second staff continues the melody for "yond my fears, from death in - to life." The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

- 1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. **Refrain**
  
- 2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name. **Refrain**
  
- 3 Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,  
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. **Refrain**
  
- 4 You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. **Refrain**
  
- 5 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my  
life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. **Refrain**

Text: Marty Haugen

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## SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

*[St. Peter calls us to follow our Shepherd and Overseer, even if it means that we suffer for doing good.]*

<sup>19</sup>For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.



<sup>22</sup>“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

<sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” <sup>25</sup>For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

*\*Soloist will introduce the refrain. Congregation will repeat the refrain.  
Soloist will sing the verses. Congregation will sing the refrain.*

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the refrain. Both staves are in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' written below. The second staff is identical to the first, also in D major, and ends with a double bar line.

I am the good shepherd;  
I know my sheep and my sheep know me. **Refrain**

Tune: © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 732573

## **Gospel**

*John 10:1-10*

*[Jesus is not only our Good Shepherd. He is the gate through which we enter into the green pastures of salvation.]*

<sup>1</sup>“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

<sup>7</sup>Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **Children’s Sermon**

*Children are invited to sit in the front of the church.*

**The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

**CW 552**

# Sermon

based on I Peter 2:19-25

## To This You Were Called

*Please stand*

### You are God; We Praise You

*[Te Deum Laudamus - We praise you, O God. This song has been sung by the Christian church since the 6th century. The text of the song is taken from these scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-3; Daniel 7:13-14; Philippians 2:6-11; Revelation 4:8; 6:9; 7:9-12.]*

*\*Congregation will sing the refrain and "We praise you!" "We sing in endless praise!" Leader will sing the verses.*

#### *Refrain*



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa-ther ho - ly, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise.

#### *Verses*



1. With the an - gels in heav - en,
2. Cre - a - tor of all things, **We praise you, we**
3. O Christ, King of glo - ry,



praise you! With the cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim, We  
 O Je - sus Christ, the Son of God,  
 You be - came a man to set us free;



praise you, we praise you! With a - pos - tles and proph - ets, We  
 O Spir - it, most ho - ly,  
 You have ris - en to free us;



praise you, we praise you! With the mar - tyr's and your  
 To the Trin - i - ty most  
 And with all your saints in



ho - ly Church, *to Refrain*  
 bless - ed, We sing in end - less praise! *to Refrain*  
 glo - ry, *to Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa - ther ho - ly, all cre - a - tion of - fers praise,



**all cre - a - tion of - fers praise,     all cre - a - tion of - fers praise.**

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*Be seated*

## Offering

If you wish to give an offering you may do so on our website, [www.lambofgodlafayette.com](http://www.lambofgodlafayette.com) and click **GIVE** in the upper right corner or text any dollar amount to **84321** to give or mail a check to the church—1893 E 600 North West Lafayette, IN 47906, or you may scan this QR code:



## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

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.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

# Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

CW 551

## Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God,  
You have brought us safely to this new day.  
Defend us with your mighty power,  
And grant that this day we neither fall into sin  
or run into any kind of danger;  
And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight,  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.



## The Blessing





**L** The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



**C** A - men.



**L** The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



**C** A - men.

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**Serving at Worship (4/30)**

Pastor Paul Horn  
Vicar Jonah Schlomer  
Piano: Liz Schmidt  
Flute: Laura Sanford  
Vocal Leader: Chris Miller  
Livestream: Amanda Schoonmaker  
Usher/Greeter Steinhoff Family  
Acolyte: Lauren Schoonmaker  
Refreshments: Diane Brady

**Serving Next Week (5/7)**

Pastor Larry Schlomer, WELS World Missions  
Pastor Paul Horn  
Vicar Jonah Schlomer  
Usher/Greeter: Dawn Sanders / Diane Brady  
Acolyte: Dax Graves  
Livestream: Henry Horn  
Refreshments: Kennedy Family

**SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**

**Family Bible Study Hour - Sunday Mornings at 9:15am**

**Adults and Teens - Our current class: Prepared to Answer**

**Pre-K—8th Grade - Bible history stories, apologetics, crafts, games, songs and more!**

**Worship Service - 10:30am**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****Property Improvements - Help Needed**

If you have the time and ability to improve the church property, please consider these opportunities as a way to serve!

- building shelves in the new shed
- tending to the pile of brush that needs to be burned
- spreading gravel
- installing new skirting around fellowship hall
- weeding the flower beds/mulch beds
- lawn care

Please contact the church office for more information.

[loginlafayette@gmail.com](mailto:loginlafayette@gmail.com)

**Music and Art Camp, June 12-16<sup>th</sup>** - At Music and Art camp, kids ages 5-12 will learn music theory, how to play the ukulele, art techniques, drumming rhythms, build their faith in Jesus, make new friends, and have tons of fun!

- Dates: June 12th-16th
- Time: 9am-12pm
- Location: Lamb of God Lutheran Church
- Cost: \$75 for first time campers (includes t-shirt, ukulele), \$50 for repeat campers (includes a t-shirt)

Music and Art camp concludes with the kids performing their songs on the ukulele and bucket drums during the Sunday service following camp (June 18<sup>th</sup> - 10:30am) with a cookout to follow... and... your child will take their ukulele home with them after camp!

For additional information and to register go to: <https://lambofgodlafayette.com/event/art-and-music-camp/>.

*Note: Scholarships are available. Please contact the church office at [loginlafayette@gmail.com](mailto:loginlafayette@gmail.com)*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

*"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)*

### **Keep in your prayers this week:**

For Jeff and Jen Holmes who lost their baby to miscarriage; for Chris Huggett who completed his ILE military course; for our Purdue students as they take their finals this week; April is the Month of the Military Child, that our gracious Father would provide for the needs of the 1.6 million military children.

For all those in our midst who may be dealing with physical ailments, including Kyle Correll, (son of Judy and Don), Jim Holmes, Joan Bonnet, Stacy (daughter of Mike and Bev Beights) and Dianne Degner ; for all those who are suffering from abuse in the home, that they might seek help.

That the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of all those who join us for worship each Sunday. That our Lord would give us the means to show the love of Christ as we support our neighbors in need.

For all of us to reach out to those struggling with mental health that we might be a listening ear and compassionate voice of encouragement.

Since each of us is called to proclaim the good news of Christ crucified and risen, that the Holy Spirit would help us to build bridges to the unchurched so that we might build a bridge to Jesus; that we see in our FRAN network (Friends, Relatives and Neighbors) these opportunities to build those bridges and have the courage and joy to bring them with us to bible study, worship or a church event.

For all military families who are separated by deployment or other training/schools.

For the Lutheran Church in Ukraine and their pastors; for those suffering in Sudan; the conflict in the South China Sea.

That as we pray "give us our daily bread" our Almighty King would grant us good government, honest and faithful leaders, judges, a strong armed forces to defend and protect us, health of body and mind, good neighbors, godly spouse, godly children and Christian friends.