



May 03, 2020

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
38801 Blacow Road
Fremont, CA 94536
Church: (510) 793-6285

May 03, 2020
4th Sunday of Easter
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

[Click here for a video of the full service.](#)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

SINGING BOWL

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

P: Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed!

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the life beyond all death, the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.

All: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We enter a virtual gathering space once again this season.

All: We worship together in spirit and in truth, though not in person.

L: We pray, sing, and listen to God's Word despite the fear that pervades our community.

All: We trust Christ's peace, a peace given freely, despite our doubts and fears.

L: We know the Holy Spirit is among us, blowing with a hopeful wind of change.

All: We feel the presence of Christ, the one who died and rose again, and brings us eternal life.

L: We submit to God's leading in this time of transformation.

All: We experience the joy of Easter morning when we celebrate all God has in store for us.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life.

All: Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden.

All: In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.

P: When we did not know the way,

All: you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

P: At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,

All: and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

P: We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

All: Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

P: Satisfy the thirsty and give us the life only you can give.

All: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

INVOCATION

P: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. The God who created the world and fills it with life is with you all.

All: And also with you.

LITANY . . . Celebrating Our Shepherding God

L: O Lord, our Shepherding God, come close to us now

All: Come near us in our time of need.

L: Shepherding God, we need you in our time of anxiety.

All: We need you in our time of economic uncertainty.

L: We need you in a time of a worldwide disease.

All: We need you to bind our wounds, and pour your healing ointment on our heads.

L: We need the briars, and brambles, and burrs

All: pulled out of our fleece and skin.

L: Shepherding God. You guide us with your voice,

All: Help us to listen and follow no matter where your voice leads. Help us to trust you.

L: Shepherding God, protect us from the hired hands that do not really care for us

All: and have neglected or abused us in the past.

L: Shepherding God, thank you for your son who lay down his life for those who follow him

All: and for those who are not in the fold yet.

L: Healing Creator we pray for those who don't know the shepherd, whose life circumstances kept them from knowing the good shepherd.

All: We pray that by our actions, our behavior, and our reaching out into the community, they may come to know you.

L: Shepherding God, renew us, guide us with your love

All: and renew us with your peace. Amen

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death.

All: Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

PSALM . . . *Psalm 23*

L: The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

**All: He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

L: He restores my soul and leads me
In right paths for his name's sake.

**All: Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies; you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**All: Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life
long.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPEL

L: Listen for the word that stands the test of time. Listen for the word that lives and moves among us.

All: We will listen for the word that God is speaking to us this day.

GOSPEL . . . *John 10:1-10*

[Jesus said:] “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

L: Keeper of our souls, when we go astray, help us return to you, shepherd and guardian.

All: May the words we have heard resonate within us like a drum in the valley, and may its echo never fade. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME . . . *Pastor Tim*

HOMILY . . . *Pastor Tim*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways.

All: Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational ministries of your church. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning sites. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Guiding God, no one should be in want. Bid the nations to return to your paths of righteousness and inspire our leaders to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

All: 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: Go now and embrace the hope to which God has called us. Recognize Christ in friend and stranger,

All: As Christ has been gracious to us, so we will be gracious to those in need.

P: May God give you a place of rest on rich pasture; May Christ Jesus be the shepherd king who binds your wounds; And may the Holy Spirit give you wisdom and reveal to you the fullness of the one who fills all in all.

All: We go in peace to love and serve The Good Shepherd.

DISMISSAL

L: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

SINGING BOWL

Pastor: Tim Huff
Lay Liturgist: Karen Narveson
Lector: Cheryl Hall
Music: Leilani Camara and Dean Sieglaff
Video Editing: Carmen Blair

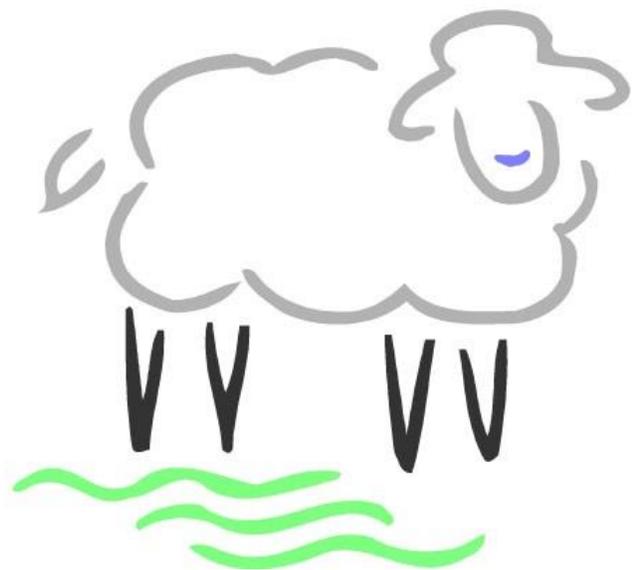
I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.



THE GOOD
SHEPHERD

LAYS DOWN HIS

LIFE FOR
THE SHEEP.



JOHN 10:11