Welcome to Peace Lutheran! We're glad that you are here today!

+ FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER +

May 11, 2025

672 JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN



Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Alexander C. Ewing, 1830–95, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C Amen.
- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

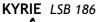
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

- **P** I am the good shepherd.
- I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.
- P He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds;
- from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.
- P With upright heart he shepherded them
- and guided them with his skillful hand.
- P But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever;
- **G** from generation to generation we will recount your praise.
- **P** I am the good shepherd.
- I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.





as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.





■ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



819 SING PRAISE TO GOD, THE HIGHEST GOOD



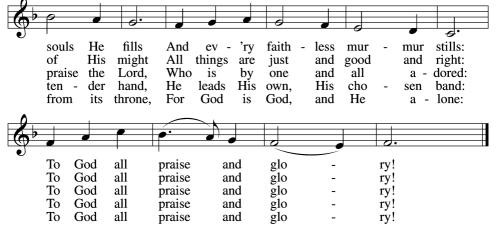
4 He nev - er shall for - sake His flock, His cho-sen gen - er - 5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, Give God the praise and





His sleep eye is nev er ing. peace And came with to cheer us. Their peace and their sal tion. va loud won - drous sto ry.

heal - ing With halm our With - in the king - dom For this we thank and As with moth - er's a Cast ev - 'ry



Text: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1640–90; (sts. 1–3, 5): tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, adapt.; (st. 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, adapt.

78, adapt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615 Text and tune: Public domain

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST READING

Acts 20:17–35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33I

coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 23; antiphon: v. 4

- **A** The LORD is my shepherd;
- **C** I shall not want.
- A He makes me lie down in green pastures.
- **C** He leads me beside still waters.
- A He restores my soul.
- **G** He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- A Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
- **C** 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; my cup overflows.
- A Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
- and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

EPISTLE Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple;

and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them,

nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA LSB 190



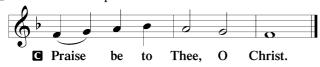
HOLY GOSPEL John 10:22–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.



²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ++ everlasting. Amen.

737 REJOICE, MY HEART, BE GLAD AND SING



- He only will with patience chide,
 His rod falls gently down;
 And all your sins He casts aside
 In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain Nor falters nor mistakes.

All that His counsels may ordain A blessèd ending makes.

7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand, And trust His guiding love; Then like a rock your peace shall stand Here and in heav'n above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt. Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON "Challenging Yet Comforting Goodbye" Acts 17:20-35

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.



OFFERING.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the Holy Spirit in rich measure, that hearing and following Christ, our Shepherd, we would pass through every tribulation to our eternal heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For faithful men to pastor the Church of God, that in the face of fierce opposition and twisted speech, they would not shrink from proclaiming the kingdom of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the gift of mothers who raise their children in all things good, a mirror of God's love, that they may be strengthened in their calling and sustained through weary and difficult times, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all peoples, nations and tribes, that under God's rule, they may faithfully promote good and punish evil, and that God would reform them when necessary, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the sick, the suffering and the dying, <u>especially</u>, that the Lord would deliver and comfort them, guard them against despair, and grant them patience in the days of our trouble as we await His perfect healing, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For faith to endure the tribulations of this life and pass through death to join the saints in the ceaseless praises of heaven, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P O Lord, You promised to raise up a shepherd to deliver Your sheep from all their enemies. We give You thanks for giving us Your own Son to be our Good Shepherd. Grant us to hear His voice, know Him by faith and follow where He leads, that He may deliver us into Your arms forever; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

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.

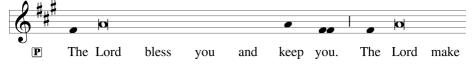
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

- Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us perfectly to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the way, the truth, and the life; that following His steps we may steadfastly walk in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202





His face shine upon you and be gra-cious un - to you



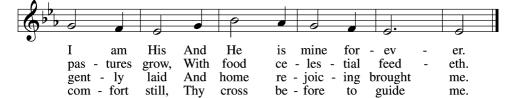
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



709 THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS







5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!

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, 1821–77 Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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