

FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER
The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep
Mother's Day
May 11, 2025
8:00 am



Zion Lutheran Church
1400 S Duluth Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-338-5226
www.zlcsf.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

AS WE GATHER

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came from the Father and became flesh among us in order to rescue us, His sheep. He laid down His life for us and took it up again in order to give us eternal life. By the preaching of His Gospel, He calls His sheep to Himself and keeps them with Him forever. As they hear His voice and follow Him, “they will never perish” (John 10:28), for “no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand” (John 10:29). In the same way, faithful pastors (literally, “shepherds”) “care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood” (Acts 20:28), “testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 20:21). Therefore, with all the company of heaven, the Good Shepherd gathers His flock in worship, as they cry: “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” (Rev. 7:10).

WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 812 Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs

- 1 Come, let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one.
- 2 “Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry,
“To be exalted thus!”
“Worthy the Lamb,” our lips reply,
“For He was slain for us!”

- 3 Jesus is worthy to receive
Honor and pow'r divine;
And blessings more than we can give
Be, Lord, forever Thine.
- 4 Let all creation join in one
To bless the sacred name
Of Him who sits upon the throne
And to adore the Lamb.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: my sheep hear my voice and I know them,

People: and they follow me.

Pastor: I give them eternal life

People: and they will never perish.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In remembrance of our Holy Baptism into Christ and in view of the promised inheritance in the new heavens and earth, let us confess our sin and need for god's mercy period.

Pastor: We come humbly before You, O Lord, recognizing that we have not always responded to Your grace in faithfulness and obedience. Often, we feel we deserve more or better, forgetting and rejecting Your Word and Your works of salvation.

People: At times, we are lured by the world's deceptions, consumed by greed, passion, and desire. We fail to be thoroughly grounded in Your Word. Forgive us, dear Lord,

for rejoicing in the temporal treasures on earth instead of the eternal treasures of heaven.

Pastor: We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

People: Forgive my impatience and my neglect. By Your Spirit, lead me to greater faith, obedience, service, and repentance until Your call to eternal glory comes.

Pastor: Our Lord invites us to come and see what He has done— He has given us solid promises that guard our faith in days of sorrow, suffering, confusion, conflict, and pain. He has sent His Son to be the Word of life. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and through the work of our Savior Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

INTROIT: Mother's Day Litany (based on Proverbs 31)

Pastor: A woman is a blessing to her husband and children.

Men: She brings her husband good, not harm; all the days of her life.

Pastor: She welcomes all children, for they are gifts from God.

All: She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family.

Pastor: Her words are wise; her compassion knows no boundaries.

All: She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

Pastor: She manages her household and nurtures her family.

All: She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.

Pastor: Her husband rejoices in her diligence and faithfulness.

All: She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Pastor: She teaches her children through daily example.

All: She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.

Pastor: Her hands work to serve the Lord our God.

Women: a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised

Pastor: She remains ever vigilant; she protects her family.

All: She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.

Pastor: She welcomes the future, for her faith is unyielding.

All: She is worth far more than rubies.

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

All: And His mercy endures forever.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People (sing): Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: LSB 933 My Soul Rejoices

1 My soul rejoices, My spirit voices— Sing the greatness of the Lord!

For God my Savior Has shown me favor—
Sing the greatness of the Lord! With praise and blessing,
Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
His mercy surely Shall rest securely
On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

2 His arm now baring, His strength declaring—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
Oppression halted; The meek exalted.
Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
Here is the token All that was spoken
To Abr'ham's offspring God is fulfilling—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

ALL: O God, the inexhaustible fount of life, you accepted the offering of your Son, sacrificed for the salvation of the world. Consecrate us in that unity which is your Spirit's gift, that we may abide always in your love and become witnesses of the resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

TIME IN THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 20:17-35

From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. When they arrived, he said to them: “You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing by the plots of my Jewish opponents. You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace. “Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you. For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears. “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak,

remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!” Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?” I answered, “Sir, you know.” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 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. ‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,’ nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; ‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’ ‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE

People (Sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: John 10:22-30

People (Sing): Glory to You, O Lord.

Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

Reader: This Is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (Sing) Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: LSB 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before 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!

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THE SERMON

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.

OFFERING | TREASURE BOX

OFFERING HYMN: God Gave Mothers (Tune: LSB 700)

- 1 God gave mothers to protect us,
 and to guide us in love's way.
 They were with us from our cradle,
 teaching us to watch and pray.
 Precious Savior, bless our mothers;
 or our mothers' memory.
 Precious Savior, help us honor
 those who gave us love so free.
- 2 As we grew they stayed beside us,
 listening, loving constantly.
 They spoke to us words of wisdom,
 though, at times, so hard to see.
 Precious Savior, bless our mothers;
 or our mothers' memory.
 Precious Savior, help us honor
 those who taught us how to be.
- 3 Precious Savior, Lord, we ask you
 be our helper and our guide.
 Give us courage, bless our efforts,
 let us live love deep and wide.
 Precious Savior, keep us faithful,
 teaching, leading, loving, true.
 Precious Savior, thanks for children;
 they are precious to you too.

-- written by Delores Jenson (alt. by David Schütz)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 711 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.

- 2 We are Yours; in love befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.

- 3 You have promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.

4 Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.

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SEND OFF

Pastor: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out,
strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!