

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Walworth, WI.**

**May 3, 2020**

(Sing x2) **Sanctuary**

*Oh Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true*

*With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

## **READING**

**1 Peter 2:19-25 (NRSV)**

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

23 (NRSV)

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL (NRSV)

**John 10:1-10**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## REFLECTION

(sing x2) **Lord, Listen to your Children Praying**

*Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your spirit in this place,  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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.

*A brief silence.*

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, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world, encourage them in this time of anxiety. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering, especially those infected with COVID-19 and their caregivers. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and local grocery store workers. May none of our neighbors lack basic needs. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Everlasting God, your beloved have heard your voice; you have called them by name and guided them to your side in death. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

### **BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*Service modified from Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, Elkhorn, WI. 's bulletin, reflection by Vicar Lily Brellenthin*

