


Elim Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 25, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Recorded Worship

A photograph of a person's hands holding a wooden shepherd's crook. The crook is made of light-colored wood and has a large, smooth curve. The person's hands are visible, with the left hand gripping the handle and the right hand supporting it from below. The background is a solid dark blue. The text "The GOOD SHEPHERD. Lays down his life for the sheep..." is overlaid on the image in a white serif font.

The
GOOD
SHEPHERD.
Lays down
his life
for the sheep...

John 10:11 NRSV

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Pastor: We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN: GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE AND SING!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

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GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: O Lord Christ,

All: good shepherd of the sheep,
you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us,
and we shall be satisfied;
heal us, and we shall be whole.
Make us one with you,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

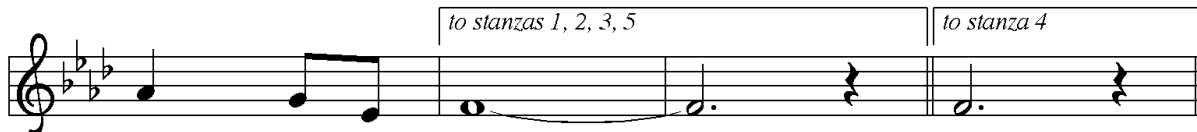
PSALM 23 - SHEPHERD ME, O GOD

Refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23
Music: SHEPHERD ME, Marty Haugen
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READING: 1 JOHN 3:16-24

Leader: A reading from the book of 1 John.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON:

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson -

HYMN OF THE DAY: SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847

Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Leader: Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God.

All: **Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Comfort those who lost a loved one in the recent tragedy in Indiana. Bring peace to the shooter's family as well, and wisdom for our elected leaders regarding this issue. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need, especially, those listed, those battling the coronavirus and those we name silently and aloud (brief silence). Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: O God, bless all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations of all kinds, this week. Fill our hearts with love and acceptance, Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

Leader: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

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**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Wellspring of joy,
All: through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

Response after blessing: **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: OH HOW I NEED YOU

Intro

Lord I find You in the seeking
Lord I find You in the doubt
And to know You is to love You
And to know so little else

Chorus

How I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You

Verse 1

Lord I find You in the seeking
Lord I find You in the doubt
And to know You is to love You
And to know so little else

Chorus

How I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You

Verse 2

Lord I find You in the morning
Lord I seek You ev'ry day
Let my life be for Your glory
Woven in Your threads of grace

Chorus

How I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You

Bridge

Light glorious light I will go where
You shine
Break the dawn crack the skies
Make the way bright before me
In Your light I will find
All I need all I need is You

Light glorious light I will go where
You shine
Break the dawn crack the skies
Make the way bright before me
In Your light I will find
All I need all I need is You

Chorus

Oh How I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You

CCLI Song # 6369101

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EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

SENDING

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Next Week:

Sunday, May 2, 2021 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Theme: This Sunday’s image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ’s living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ’s life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Read Ahead: Acts 8:26-40 / Psalm 22:25-31 / 1 John 4:7-21 / John 15:1-8



Thank you to the following people
for contributing to today’s service:

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Lauren Haile	Announcements
Andy Hohenner, Johann Hohenner	Extinguishing of Candles
John Sedlander	Sender
Barb Villa	Bulletin and Copyrights
Erin Hetrick-Hohenner	Communications
Kevin Prime	Producer

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