

DIVINE SERVICE

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Opening Hymn

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

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Confession and Absolution

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.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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

Introit

Ps. 95:1–3, 6–7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good I shepherd.*
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life I for the sheep.
Oh come, let us sing I to the Lord;*
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- I vation!
Let us come into his presence with thanks- I giving;*
let us make a joyful noise to him with I songs of praise!
For the Lord is a I great God,*
and a great King a- I bove all gods.
Oh come, let us worship and I bow down;*
let us kneel before the Lord, our I Maker!
For he I is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep I of his hand.
**Glory be to the Father and I to the Son*
and to the Holy I Spirit;
as it was in the be- I ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. I Amen.**

I am the good I shepherd.*
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life I for the sheep.

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

LSB 152

C **Lord, have mercy.**
 P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
 C **Lord, have mercy.**
 P 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.
 C **Lord, have mercy.**
 P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
 C **Lord, have mercy.**
 P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
 C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
 C **And also with you.**
 P Let us pray.

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.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

Psalm

Psalm 23 (antiphon: v. 1)

¹The Lord is my | shepherd;* | I | shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green | pastures.*
 He leads me beside still | waters.

³He re- | stores my soul.*
 He leads me in paths of righteousness
 for his | name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil,
 for you are | with me;*
 your rod and your staff,
 they | comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me
 in the presence of my | enemies;*
 you anoint my head with oil;
 my cup | overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days | of my life,*
 and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

for- I ever.

Epistle

Acts 17:1-9

¹Now when they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." ⁴And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus." ⁸And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. ⁹And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Musical Interlude

pianist, Tony Robinson

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Bidden by our Shepherd, let us come before His throne of grace in prayer on behalf of all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

Blessed Shepherd, You established Your Church with Your sacrificial death and mighty resurrection. Grant us devotion, that we may abide in the teaching of the apostles and honor the fellowship of the Church. Guard us against all enemies of Your Word, and keep us within the care of Your flock and staff forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Shepherd, You loved the world enough to shed Your blood, and You desire that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Inspire and equip Your Church and her ministers to speak faithfully and boldly Your Word, and bless all those who serve us on Your behalf. We pray especially for Grant Sorenson and the Call you bestowed upon him. Equip him to serve, and bless him especially when he is persecuted for the faith or suffers for the sake of the good that honors You so that he may remain obedient to Your Word throughout his ministry. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Shepherd, Your wounds are our healing and Your voice calls us to You in time of need. Hear us on behalf of all those who suffer in body or mind, who grieve those whom they love, and to whom death draws near. We pray especially for those we name in our hearts. We remember publically this day the Levenhagen family, especially Fritz, who mourns the death of his brother. We also remember Cindy Weyant and her family as she mourns the death of her mother. Grant them Your peace and the hope of the new and everlasting life to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O great Good Shepherd, we pray You to hear Your sheep and answer our prayers with mercy, granting us those things profitable for us and our salvation and keeping from us all things harmful; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**C 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

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

482 This Joyful Eastertide