

**Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
**Good Shepherd Sunday**

April 13, 2008 - Pastor Mark S. Voss

**Today We Celebrate "Good Shepherd Sunday."**

The picture of Jesus as a shepherd with his lambs is a loving and tender one. No matter what our age, what a joy and privilege for each of us to say and sing, "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb."

**Opening**

*P: Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*

*All: Jesus, we have gathered as your lambs. Thank you for your security surrounding us. Nourish us today, so that when we leave in a little while, we might not go astray. Amen.*



*"Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep"*

**436 - Opening Hymn**

**Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep, Who your Father's flock does keep,  
Safe we wake and safe we sleep, Guarded still by you.**

**In your promise firm we stand; None can take us from your hand.  
Speak -- we hear -- at your command, We will follow you.**

**By your blood our souls were bought; By your life salvation wrought;  
By your light our feet are taught, Lord, to follow you.**

**Father, draw us to your Son; We with joy will follow on  
Till the work of grace is done, There to live with you.**

**We, in robes of glory dressed, Join th' assembly of the blest,  
Gathered to eternal rest In the fold with you.**

*Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

**Affirmation of the Baptism of Gavin Borchardt**

**Confession of Sins**

*P: Jesus, as our Good Shepherd you know each one of us by name. You call but often we do not listen to your voice. Instead, we listen to our own voice or the voices of temptation. Listen to us as we confess our sins, and snatch us back from Satan and our sinful flesh.*

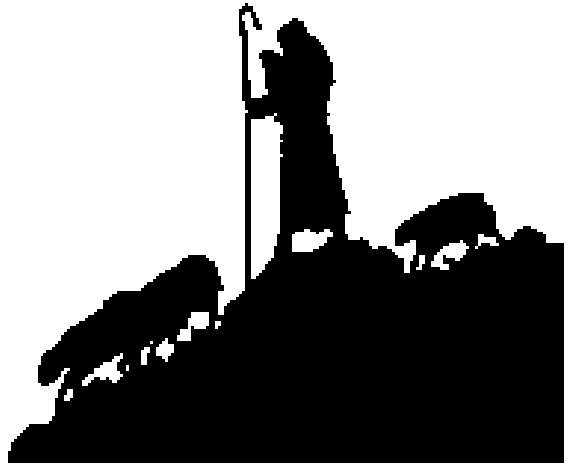
*C Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful. I have sinned against you with my thoughts, words and actions and justly deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins and sincerely repent of them, and for the sake of my Savior Jesus Christ I pray: Lord have mercy on me, a poor sinner.*

*P: Jesus grants you full pardon for all your sins and commissions you to go forth as a blessing to all people. May his Spirit abide in you and give you new freedom and power to live for your Good Shepherd. Amen.*

R: (sing – CW432 vv 1 & 2)

**I am Jesus' little lamb;  
Ever glad at heart I am,  
For my shepherd gently guides me,  
Knows my needs and well provides me,  
Loves me ev'ry day the same,  
Even calls me by my name.**

**Day by day, at home, away,  
Jesus is my staff and stay.  
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,  
Into pleasant pastures leads me;  
When I thirst, he bids me go  
Where the quiet waters flow.**



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### ***Prayer for the Day***

*P: The Lord be with you.*

*C: (sing) And also with you.*

*P: Let us pray.*

*C: (sing) Amen.*

### ***Responsive Lesson – “Our Favorite Picture of Jesus” Old Testament prophecy in Psalm 23 gives way to New Testament fulfillment in John 10.***

*P: I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

*C: The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*P: The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.*

*C: Even 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.*

*P: I am the Good Shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.*

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

*P: The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.*

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

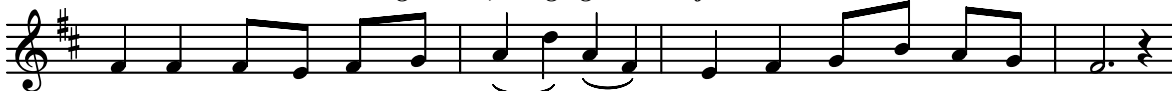
**Musical Selection**

**“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

Text and tune: Public Domain

**8a Congregation**

**10:30a Grade School Choir will sing verse 1, Congregation will join in on verses 2 and 3**



Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we need your ten - der care.  
 We are yours; in love be - friend us, Be the guard - ian of our way;  
 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, Ear - ly let us do your will;



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 Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, With your love our spir - its fill.



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 loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are yours.  
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**The Confession of Faith** I believe in God our Lord and Father in heaven, who made us the crown of his creation, and preserves us with every good thing, that we may live before him in peace and joy.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God's only Son from eternity, who became a man for us sinners. Who redeemed us from Satan's power with his holy precious blood, rose from death, and made us his own to live with him now and forever.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who draws us to our Savior by the Gospel, who keeps us united in the true faith, forgives our sin, and at the end of the world will raise us from death to eternal life. I believe in the Triune God. Amen.

*CW339 Sermon Song*

*“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”*

*Sermon*

*“Life To the Full”*

*John 10:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup>The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. <sup>3</sup>The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them. <sup>7</sup>Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

*Offering*

*Hymn of the Day*

*“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

**The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness fails me never;  
I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow, My Savior gently leads me,  
And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feeds me.**

**Confused and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid And home, rejoicing, brought me.**

*CW 375 vv 1-3 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

**Lord's Prayer** – Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

*Blessing*

*C: (sing) Amen, amen, amen.*

*375vv 4-6 Closing Hymn*

*“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill With you, dear Lord, beside me,  
Your rod and staff my comfort still, Your cross before to guide me.**

**You spread a table in my sight, A banquet here bestowing;  
Your oil of welcome, my delight; My cup is overflowing!**

**And so through all the length of days Your goodness fails me never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever!**

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