



The Lutheran
Church-Missouri
Synod



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The Missouri
District, LCMS



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The 4th Sunday of Easter

25 April 2010

8 & 10:30 a.m.

*"I give them eternal life,
and they will never perish,
and no one will snatch them
out of My hand."*

Learn this and the rest of the Gospel so that you can live your whole life and die in holy faith in Christ! Our lives are fraught with peril all around. There is much which is beyond our control: elections, economic downturns, wars, etc.



Even what we think we control (education, investments, health, families, etc.) usually turn out to be beyond our control. On top of it all, the devil seeks to lead us away from God, death and illness stalk us, etc. Be comforted (and let faith be awakened by God's love!) as Pastor preaches on **JOHN 10:24-30** on the theme: **"THE FEARLESS SHEPHERD FOR THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH!"** †

✚ **Pre-Service Music**

✚ **The Ringing of the Bells & Lighting of the Candles**

✚ **Pastoral Welcome & Announcements**

✚ **The Call to Worship**

WELCOME, GUESTS! We are delighted to have you join us for worship this morning. Please avail yourself of the chance to "sign in" on our attendance pad. The people around you, and Pastor, look forward to meeting you! Please come worship with us again — and often!

P This Sunday of the Church Year is one of the most beloved Sundays.

C God's Word reassures us again of the unwavering love of God for us!

P Jesus is the Shepherd and we are the sheep. Sheep are not as foolish as they are often depicted to be.

C But sheep have no defenses. They cannot blend in to their surroundings. They do not have strong claws or big teeth. They cannot jump high or run fast.

P This is why sheep so desperately need a shepherd. It is why we need the Good Shepherd.

C Jesus faithfully shepherds those who belong to Him, and He appoints undershepherds to serve in His church!

*"A Family of God's People Dedicated to Bringing the Gospel of
Jesus Christ to Everyone!"*

OUR WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Sunday School & Bible Classes: **Sundays, 9:10 a.m.**

DIVINE WORSHIP: Sundays, 8 & 10:30 a.m.

Many other worship, Bible study, and fellowship opportunities.

Worship Services BROADCAST LIVE: Sundays, 10:30 a.m. on Radio KYMO FM 105.3

THE LUTHERAN HOUR — Sundays, 8:00 a.m. on Radio KSIM AM 1400

† **The Hymn** — “*I Walk in Danger All the Way*” — LSB 716

† **The Divine Service, Setting One** — LSB 151 †

† **The Invocation, Confession, and Declaration of Grace** — LSB 151

† **The Introit** (Ps. 78:70–72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b)

P *I am the good shepherd.*

C **I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.**

P *He chose David His servant and took him from the sheepfolds;*

C **from following the nursing ewes He brought him to shepherd Jacob His people, Israel His inheritance.**

P *With upright heart he shepherded them* **C** **and guided them with his skillful hand.**

P *But we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever;*

C **from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**

A L L **GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE † SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT; AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.**

P *I am the good shepherd.*

C **I know My own and My own know me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.**

† **The Kyrie** — LSB 152-153

† **The Hymn of Praise** — “**This is the Feast**” — LSB 155

† **The Salutation and Collect of the Day** — LSB 156

A L L (spoken) **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. (sing) Amen.** (Here all may be seated.)

† **The First Reading** — **Acts 20:17–35** — *A pastors' conference (“elder” in the Bible refers to the office of pastor) at which the apostle Paul explains his pastoral service, leaving that as a model to the “under-shepherds-of-Christ” who remain there.*

¹⁷ Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through

the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing

what will happen to me there,²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.²⁴ But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.²⁵ And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again.²⁶ Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you,²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will

come in among you, not sparing the flock;³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears.³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me.³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, **'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'**"

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

✠ **The Gradual**

P *Christ has risen from the dead.*

C **[God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor,**

P *He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands,*

C **He has put all things under His feet.** (adapt. from Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8:6)

✠ **The Choral Anthem** — At the 10:30 a.m. Service, the Choir sings **"The Lord Will Be My Shepherd."**

✠ **The Second Reading — Revelation 7:9–17** — *To the first century church in which so many Christians had died there is this assurance of the victory which is ours in heaven through Christ.*

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, say-

ing, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?"¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."¹⁵ "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."¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

✝ **The Verse and Alleluia** — LSB 156 (At Pastor's invitation, please stand.)

P *Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me. Alleluia.* (Rom. 6:9; John 10:14)

ALL (sing - PAGE 156) **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.** (Please remain standing.)

✝ **The Holy Gospel** — **Luke 10:22-30** — *The Good Shepherd WILL keep His own.*

P *The holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th Chapter:*

C (sing) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²² At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around Him and said to Him, "How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name bear witness about Me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not part of My flock. ²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, Who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*  **C** (sing) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Here all may be seated.)

✝ **A Children's Message** — Here the children who are present who would like to come forward for a short children's sermon are invited to come forward.

✝ **The Hymn of the Day** — "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" — LSB 740

✝ **The Sermon** — **Text:** JOHN 10:24-30

THEME: "THE FEARLESS SHEPHERD FOR THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH!"

✝ **The Creed** — **The Apostles' Creed** — LSB 159

✝ **The Prayers** — after each petition: **P** *Let us pray to the Lord . . .*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

✝ **THE OFFERING** — DURING THE OFFERING, WE INVITE ALL OUR WORSHIPERS TO PLEASE PASS AND AFFIX THEIR NAMES TO THE ATTENDANCE PAD (located at the center aisle end of each pew), passing it down the pew for others to sign, and then returning it to the center aisle end again. Be sure to note those who are worshiping with you and greet them in the Lord! Visitors, we especially delight in your presence with us here — if you will kindly include your full mailing address, Pastor will send you a personal note. Do you desire a pastoral visit? Kindly check the appropriate column and include your telephone number, and Pastor will contact you. Members, please use this as a way to update your mailing address, telephone number, and/or e-mail address. Thanks to all for their help and cooperation!

✝ **The Offertory Verse** (stand to sing) — As the offerings are returned to the altar, all stand to sing the verse, LSB p. 159

† **The Collect**

P Lord God, creator of heaven and earth, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise You for the abundant mercy that You this day so richly have provided for us, blessing us not only with daily bread for our bodies but also with heavenly food for our souls. Grant that Your living and powerful Word may abide in our hearts, working mightily in us to Your glory and for our salvation.

C We commit ourselves to Your divine protection and fatherly care. Let Your holy angels be with us that the evil foe may have no power over us. Look in mercy on Your Church and deliver it from all danger and adversities.

P By Your Holy Spirit comfort and strengthen all who are in affliction or distress, and grant Your abiding peace to us all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C (SING) **Amen.** (Please remain standing.)

† **The Lord’s Prayer**

P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

ALL OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN,

† **The Benediction —** LSB 166

† **The Sending Hymn —** “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” — LSB 709

† **A Time for Prayer —** *Worshipers are invited to personally and quietly reflect upon God’s Word which has come to them in worship this morning. Then, as Pastor leaves, all may leave on their own or remain to visit.*

† **The Postlude/Recessional**



Soli Deo Gloria!



(To God Alone Be Glory!)

8 and 10:30 a.m. **THE ORGANIST** James Hailey

† I.N.I. †
A SERMON OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION: + If I have to go on a river rapids . . . _____

I. What kind of a shepherd Jesus is . . . _____

II. Why shepherds care for sheep . . . _____

III. Where a good shepherd positions himself when predators threaten . . . _____

IV. The **ONLY** thing which (continually) draws us to God . . . _____

V. Christ provides undershepherds . . . _____

CONCLUDING + “I am Jesus’ little lamb . . .” _____

† I.N.I. †