



Trinity Lutheran Church
Traditional Service
April 19, 2020

***The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want* (LSB-710)**

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

Invocation

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit
People: Amen!

Pastor: Now I have found the firm foundation

People: Which holds my anchor ever sure;

Pastor: 'Twas laid before the world's creation

People: In Christ my Savior's wounds secure;

Pastor: Foundation which unmoved shall stay

People: When heaven and earth will pass away.

Pastor: Though I be robbed of every pleasure

People: That makes my soul and body glad

Pastor: And be deprived of earthly treasure

People: And be forsaken, lone, and sad,

Pastor: Though my desire for help seem vain,

People: His mercy shall with me remain.

Pastor: Though earthly trials should oppress me

People: And cares from day to day increase;

Pastor: Though earth's vain things should sore distress me

People: And rob me of my Savior's peace;

Pastor: Though I be brought down to the dust,

People: Still in His mercy I will trust.

Pastor: Let mercy cause me to be willing

People: To bear my lot and not to fret.

Pastor: While He my restless heart is stilling,

People: May I His mercy not forget!

Pastor: Come weal, come woe, my heart to test,

People: His mercy is my only rest.

*"Now I have Found the Firm Foundation"
by Johann A. Rothe, 1688-1758
The Lutheran Hymnal #385.1,6,7,9*

Confession of Sin

Pastor: Good Shepherd,

People: Too many times we are fearful and untrusting of Your care. We worry rather than trust Your Word and promises. Please forgive our lack of trust as well as all our other sins.

*Please take a moment of silence to reflect
on your sinfulness and your need for a Savior.*

Words of Absolution

Pastor: As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by Christ's authority,

I forgive you all of your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit!

People: Amen!

The Collect

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: We join together in prayer.

All: Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we thank You for Your presence in our lives. Help us to trust in You for all things, knowing that You watch over us with Your mighty power and work all things for our good. Amen.

The Scripture Lessons

Psalm 23 (King James Version)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. ³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Please Rise for the Holy Gospel

John 10:1-18

¹ [Jesus said,] "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. ² The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. ³ 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. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² 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. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. ¹⁸ 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."

The Apostles' Creed

Pastor: We remember back to our own Baptism as we confess the Creed together. Do you renounce the devil and all of his evil works and all of his wicked ways?

People: I do renounce them!

Pastor: In whom do you believe?

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Today's Message

By Pastor Dave Bolte

Past sermons are available online at www.trinitylcs.org

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. 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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen!

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (LSB-711)

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

We are Yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to You.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to You.

Early let us seek Your favor, early let us do Your will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.

*God the Father has given you God the Holy Spirit to make you
a Biblically-literate, Doctrinally-sound, Mission-minded, and
Passionately-engaged disciple of God the Son Jesus Christ!*



PREACH THE
WORD
It's Still All About
Jesus

Psalm 23

Psalm 23 John 10:1-18

April 19, 2020

Pastor Dave Bolte

There is a story about a Sunday school teacher who asked her group of children if any of them had memorized *Psalm 23*. A little preschool boy raised his hand. A bit skeptical, the teacher asked if he could really recite *Psalm 23*. The little boy came up front, faced the class, made a little bow, and said: **"The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want."** He then bowed again and sat down. Unknown Source

That little boy may have overlooked a few verses, but he captured the meaning of *Psalm 23*: **"The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want."** *Psalm 23* is a Psalm of Trust! Please take a look at *Psalm 23* in your Bible or on the insert. *(Read it!)*

Psalm 23 establishes a relationship in verse one; the Lord is our Shepherd: that means we are the sheep.

On the one hand, being described like a sheep is **not very flattering**. As Isaiah says, **"we all like sheep have gone astray, each is gone his own way."** Our sin takes us *every which way* – but always away from God, and never to Him. In addition, sheep tend to get dirty and easily get themselves into trouble. They are easily frightened, they are defenseless, and they lack strength and understanding. A lost and wayward sheep is a way to describe each of us in sin. *Psalm 23* reminds us of our sin and our need for a Shepherd.

But on the other hand, being described like a sheep is **comforting**. Sheep trust their Shepherd; they look to him for all their needs; they depend on him to protect them; and they know that he watches over them. Being described like a sheep is an image a simple trust in the Lord our God.

That simple trust is the emphasis of *Psalm 23*

Take a look at verses 2, 3, and 4 in Psalm 23.

2 He makes me to lie down in **green pastures**: He leadeth me beside the **still waters**.
3 He **restoreth** my soul: He **leadeth** me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.
4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil**:
for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Psalm 23:2-4

These are figurative ways to describe God's care in your life. He sustains your physical life and provides for your spiritual life.

Green pastures and *still waters* are images of God supplying all of your physical needs and giving you rest. We know and believe that the Lord provides our daily bread. Everything you need to support and sustain your physical life is freely given to you. He gives you good health; He gives you your work and your vocations; He gives you family and friends, and He provides for you through other people and their work and their vocations. Like David, the Good Shepherd *makes us lie down in green pastures and leads us besides still waters* as He provides for our physical needs.

In addition He provides for your spiritual well-being through His *Word and Sacraments*. *He restores your soul through the forgiveness of sins; He leads you in the paths of righteousness* as you learn what is *good, right and true* from His Holy Word. Even death is conquered through the resurrection of the Good Shepherd from the dead on the third day. Because of His life, death and resurrection, *you will dwell in the house of the Lord forever*.

Psalm 23

1 THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD!

I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
3 He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil:

Thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil;
My cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and

I will dwell

in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 23, of course, is ultimately talking about the Lord Jesus Christ: He is the Good Shepherd¹. He is the one who sustains us and protects us; He is the one who stands between you and danger; He is the one who laid down His life for the sheep. *Psalm 23* reminds us that the Son of God became a sheep like us, born of a woman in a manger in Bethlehem. He lived a righteous and holy life at all times → being tempted like us, but without sin.

The Good Shepherd ironically not only lived like a sheep, but He is also the Lamb of God who died to take away the sin of the world! Remember the prophecy of Isaiah:

He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.
Isaiah 53:7

This Lamb of God is our Good Shepherd → the Lord Jesus Christ!!

He willingly laid down His life for you and your salvation. Jesus suffered terribly and was brutally crucified for you. He is now the gate to everlasting life; there is **no other way** of salvation. **No one else** laid down their life for you; **no one else** paid for your sins; **no one else** faced the Wrath of God on your behalf.

The Good Shepherd – the Lord Jesus Christ -- **alone** restores your soul with life and forgiveness. The Good Shepherd **alone** declares you righteous and holy. The Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, is the **only One** who walks with you through the valley of the shadow of death into the brilliant light of eternal life. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who sustains not only your physical life but also your spiritual life.

¹ Notice that the word “Lord” in Psalm 23:1 is the capitalized “LORD”. This capitalization is your English Bible’s way of alerting you that in the original Hebrew of the Old Testament, the Divine Name I AM (יהוה) -- “Yahweh”) is being used. Yahweh is the God of the Exodus (Exodus 3), the God who saved the Israelites in the Old Testament. In the New Testament, Yahweh, the I AM, is Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. Jesus teaches it to us in John 8:48-59. In John 10, Jesus confirms that He is the Good Shepherd.

Psalm 23

calls you to trust your Shepherd.

Psalm 23

calls you to be confident in the Good Shepherd's care for you.

Psalm 23

call you to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ each and every day.

There is no need to fear or to worry as you live your life. Even now as we live with the Coronavirus pandemic. **A Shepherd's vocation is to watch over his sheep.** Jesus specifically used this image of a Good Shepherd to assure you that He is watching over you, that He cares for you, that He provides for you, and that He is using His mighty power to defend you, protect you, and help you. Look at verse 4 again:

I will fear no evil, because You are with me and Your rod and Your staff they comfort me.
Psalm 23:4

There is no need to fear or to worry as you live your life. **A Shepherd's vocation is to watch over his sheep.** Jesus promises to watch over your life as your Good Shepherd!

Psalm 23 calls you to trust your Shepherd.

Psalm 23 calls you to be confident in the Good Shepherd's care for you.

Psalm 23 calls you to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ each and every day.

Regardless of your circumstances, you can trust the Good Shepherd. The pain, the stress, the worry, the problems → whatever you are up against cannot diminish the Good Shepherd's care for you!

It's like the little boy said,

"The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want."

Amen!

Psalm 23

is only 6 verses long,
but its impact is huge
in our lives.

***Why not memorize
these 6 verses?***

Psalm 23

Jesus specifically used this image of a Good Shepherd to assure you that He is watching over you, that He cares for you, and that He is using His mighty power to defend you, protect you, and help you. Today we will study Psalm 23!

1. "The Lord is my shepherd, _____ _____ _____ _____."
2. Psalm 23 establishes a _____ in verse one; the Lord is our Shepherd: that means we are the _____.
3. Being described like a sheep is an image of _____ _____ in the Lord our God. That simple trust is the emphasis of Psalm 23.
4. Psalm 23, of course, is ultimately talking about the _____ _____: He is the Good Shepherd!
5. This _____ _____ _____ is our Good Shepherd!
6. There is no need to fear or to worry as you live your life. A Shepherd's _____ is to watch over his sheep.
7. Psalm 23 calls you to be _____ in the Good Shepherd's care for you!

Psalm 23
is only 6 verses long,
but its impact is huge
in our lives.
Why not memorize
those 6 verses?

Family Talk Time

*This take home tool is designed for parents/grandparents and children to discover Jesus is our Good Shepherd who laid down His life for us!
Use this tool for family faith discussions, adapting for age levels.*

Read Psalm 23. (Consider alternating readers for each verse.
Picture a shepherd and sheep in a field by a creek.)

What a beautiful, comforting image for us as God's children!

Jesus is our Good Shepherd! He is the trustworthy shepherd.

Jesus lovingly cares for us in body, mind, and spirit.

He ensures we have good things to eat and drink
and can lie down/sleep and rest in safety. He is with us and leads us.

This image of God as a good shepherd is throughout the Bible!

When wise men inquired about a newborn king, Jewish priests and scribes told King Herod about a prophecy in Micah 5:2-4, from Bethlehem "*shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.*" Jesus, the Messiah, leads us as a shepherd king!

Isaiah 40:11 gives another picture of God's tender care:

"He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young." Our powerful God loves His children!

We do not have to fear any evil (Psalm 23:4), because God is with us.

We, like wandering sheep, have gotten snared in sin.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6

Jesus saves his sinful sheep through his death and resurrection!

"The good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." John 10:11b

Jesus leads us out of certain death to repentance, forgiveness, faith in Him, and eternal life!

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leads us! Let's follow!

Putting God's Word in our Hearts: Memorize as a Family

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. Psalm 23:1

Mon: Luke 15:1-8 Tues: Psalm 95:1-7 Wed: Psalm 79:13

Thurs: Psalm 100 Fri: Psalm 23

**Sat: For older: Ezekiel 34: 1-10 - prophecy against bad leaders/shepherds
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 25-31 – A picture of heaven under the Good Shepherd!**