

# Fourth Sunday of Easter ❖ April 21, 2024 ❖

TODAY'S MUSIC (IOAM only)

Gathering Hymn: "Morning has broken"

**Blue Hymnal #8**

Song of Praise: Palestinian Alleluia

Gospel Hymn: "Come, my Way"

**Blue Hymnal #487**

Offertory Hymn: "The King of Love my shepherd is"

**Blue Hymnal #645**

Communion Hymn: "My God, thy table now is spread"

**Blue Hymnal #321**

Sending Hymn: "Lord, whose love through humble service"

**Blue Hymnal #610**

❖ Our worship begins in your Easter Season booklet. ❖

Song of Praise (IOAM)

**1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!**

**2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze,  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!**

Short Seasonal Reading

*Read by a child, when possible*

How 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? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

*- 1 John 3:17 - 18*

The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Sunday School Dismissal

**Creator, hear and bless your beasts and singing birds,  
And guard with tenderness small things that have no words.**

*Please be seated for the scripture readings.*

### The First Lesson: Acts chapter 10

*Reader* A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, 'Cornelius.' He stared at him in terror and said, 'What is it, Lord?' He answered, 'Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.' When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, and after telling them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But Peter said, 'By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.' The voice said to him again, a second time, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, 'Look, three men are searching for you. Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them.' So Peter went down to the men and said, 'I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?' They answered, 'Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.' So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him. The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. On Peter's arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshipped him. But Peter made him get up, saying, 'Stand up; I am only a mortal.' And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; and he said to them, 'You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?'

Cornelius replied, 'Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. He said, "Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea." Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say.' Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to

the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

**8AM: Read responsively**

The Holy One is my shepherd;\*

**I shall not be in want.**

You make me lie down in green pastures \*

**and lead me beside still waters.**

You revive my soul \*

**and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;\*

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;\*

**you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*

**and I will dwell in the house of God for ever.**

*10AM: Sung*

## Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God

Refrain

Shep - herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -  
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

## Verses

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.
3. Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff,  
my comfort and my hope.
4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.
5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God for evermore.

Text: Psalm 23; Marty Haugen  
Music: Marty Haugen  
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The Holy Gospel: John 10:11-18

*The congregation stands.*

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own 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 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

IOAM: Gospel Hymn: "Come, my Way"

**Blue Hymnal #487**

The Sermon

*The Rev. Miranda Hassett*