

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E. Lacey, WA 98503

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

WORSHIP

8:15am – Traditional 9:30am – Gather & Grow 10:30am - Contemporary

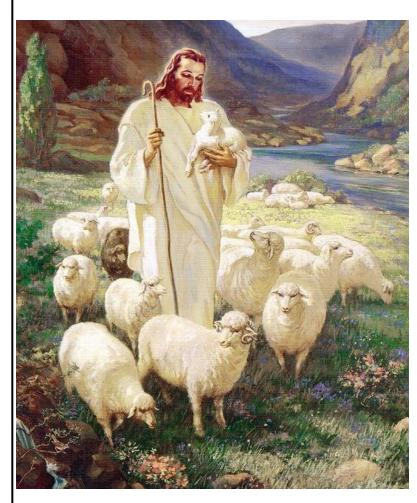
CONTACT

Church: School: Childcare:	360-491-3552 360-491-1733 360-491-1118
Pastor:	Greg Strand 541-231-8166
pastorgreg@fls	

"Raising Up Families and Followers of Jesus Christ"

Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025

8:15 AM



My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27

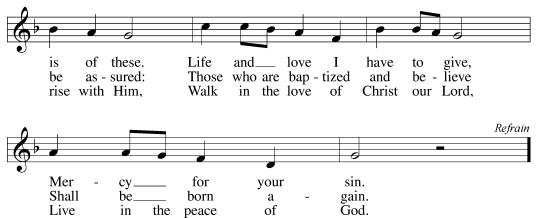
NO ONE WILL SNATCH THEM FROM MY HAND

AS WE GATHER

In our world of constant change and abundant challenges to our faith, we often feel alone, and fear causes us to question where God is and what He is doing. Our Good Shepherd has pledged never to abandon us but to be with us always. More than this, He has promised that no one can snatch us from His hand. He is the powerful Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. Because of the investment He has made in us, He does not surrender us to temptation, trouble, trial, or test.







Text and tune: Robin Mann, 1949

Text and tune: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005394

INVOCATION

Leader	In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation	Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Based on Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 2:24

Leader All we like sheep have gone astray;

Congregation we have turned every one to his own way;

Leader and the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross

Congregation that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

Silence for reflection and examination.

Leader Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Congregation 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.

- Leader 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Congregation Amen.

Leader He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

Congregation Amen.

+ WORD +

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

SALUTATION

Congregation	And also with you.
Leader	The Lord be with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader 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.

Congregation Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 20:17–35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And 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, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews

and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, ²²And now. behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But 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. ²⁵And now, behold. I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore 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. ²⁸Pay 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. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And 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. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In 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."

ReaderThis is the Word of the Lord.CongregationThanks be to God.

PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. ³He restores 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 forever.

EPISTLE Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After 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, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And 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, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I 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. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For 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."

Reader	This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.

VERSE	<i>Romans 6:9; John 10:14</i>
Leader	Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
Congregation	death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.
Leader	l am the good shepherd.
Congregation	I know My own and My own know Me. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPELJohn 10:22–30LeaderThe Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.CongregationGlory to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So 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." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My 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. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

Leader This is the Gospel of the Lord. Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Greg

709 THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS 1 The my shep - herd King of love Whose good - ness is. 2 Where streams liv of ing wa ter flow. My ran - somed _ fool - ish 3 Per verse and oft Ι strayed, But vet in 4 In death's dark vale I fear ill With Thee, dear no eth fail lack if _ nev er: Ι noth ing soul He lead eth And. where the ver dant He love sought me And His shoul der on side Thy staff Lord, be _ me, rod and my His He I And mine for ev am is _ er. With food ce - les - tial feed eth. pas - tures grow. gent - ly laid And home re - joic ing brought me. com - fort still, Thy be - fore guide cross to me. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; And so through all the length of days 5 6 Thine unction grace bestoweth; Thy goodness faileth never; And, oh, what transport of delight Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise From Thy pure chalice floweth! Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

Leader God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

Congregation 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.

OFFERING <u>*Https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online* or text to give, 360-732-8020.</u>

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Father, You have shown Your goodness and mercy in providing for us Your own Son to be our Good Shepherd and to lay down His life for His sheep. Grant us Your grace that we may hear the voice of our Good Shepherd, follow where He leads, and live in peace and quietness all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Father, Your Son has raised up under shepherds through whom He provides His care and protection, guarding us by His Word and nurturing our faith by His Sacraments. Make us attentive to their voice that we may be kept from danger and secured in the truth so that nothing can snatch us from Your hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Father, we have seen Your goodness in the still quiet waters and rich green pastures You daily and richly provide. Give us wise and grateful hearts that we may receive Your grace with thanksgiving and treasure them in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Father, Your watchful care is supplied for us in the governments and leaders of our land. Give to us wise and faithful leaders who will govern us according to Your Word and will work for peace and justice for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Father, shepherd the sick and suffering to healing and relief that they may know Your presence in trouble and Your peace in trial. Hear us especially for all who stand in need of Your grace, and keep them to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Father, give comfort and hope to those who are bereaved, that we may be consoled with the knowledge that those who die in Christ live forevermore. Hear us that they may be sustained in their hour of grief by the hope of the resurrection and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Father, deliver us from distraction and complacency, lest we wander from the arms of Your mercy and lose the blessing of Your shepherding care. Bring us at last with all Your sheep that we may be one flock under the one Good Shepherd, united in doctrine and in faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

Leader Into Your hands, O loving and gentle Shepherd, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation 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 Hebrews 13:20–21; Numbers 6:24–26

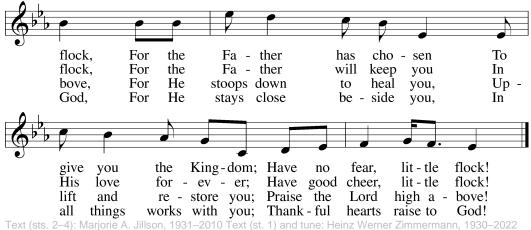
Leader Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Congregation Amen.

Leader 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 † give you peace. **Congregation** Amen.

735 HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK





Text (sts. 2–4): Marjorie A. Jillson, 1931–2010 Text (st. 1) and tune: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, 1930–2022 Text and tune: © 1973 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005394

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.