

Christ The King Evangelical Lutheran Church

“To know... To teach... To share Christ”

Pastor Alan W. Gumm

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How great
is the love
the Father has
lavished on us,
that we should
be called
children
of God!

1 JOHN 3:1, NIV

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 22, 2018**

Our Worship Today

Welcome! We pray that your worship here will draw you closer to your Savior and equip you for a continuing life of Christian discipleship. For your spiritual needs we offer you the Word of Him who can supply all our needs - Jesus Christ, our Savior. Rejoice in His love for you. He cares for you. You are His own dear child.

Prayer Before Worship O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Worship Guide For Today's Service

The Common Service, page 15-25

Our Songs CW 374 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"
CW 360 "The Lord's My Shepherd; I'll Not Want"
CW 365 "Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

Psalm CW 72 Psalm 23

Our Stewardship Last Week

Sunday Worship: 49 Sunday Bible Class: 14 Midweek Bible Class: 7
Sunday Offering: General Fund \$1,881.00

Serving In Worship Today

Minister
Organist
Videographer

Pastor Alan W. Gumm
Jonette Jordan
Larry Martin

Opening Hymn

CW 374 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Guide For Worship

CW Page 15

The First Lesson

Acts 4:23-33

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: " 'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶ The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.' ²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. ³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. (NIV1984)

The Psalm

CW 72 Psalm 23

Congregation sings refrain and speaks the second half of each verse

The Second Lesson

I John 3:1, 2

¹ How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. (NIV1984)

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia.

The Gospel

Please Stand

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings

Glory be to you, O Lord

John 10:11-18

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.” (NIV1984)

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

CW Page 18

Sermon Hymn

CW 360 “The Lord’s My Shepherd; I’ll Not Want“

Sermon

“The Love of God”

I John 3:1-2

Response to God’s Word

CW Page 20 “Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God”

Offering

Our Offerings to the Lord are free will. Let your offerings be a joyful response to God’s grace to you.

Prayer of the Church

The Lord’s Prayer

CW Page 20

The Sacrament

Dear visitors, we request those who are not members of our congregation or a sister church in the WELS or ELS, to refrain from coming to Communion today. We want you at the Lord's table with us, but we ask that there be an opportunity for pastor and you to study God's Word together first. Close Communion is the historic and biblical practice of the Christian Church. The practice has the purpose of ensuring that, as far as humanly possible, those receiving the Sacrament do so to their benefit and not their harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30), and that the oneness that is expressed in receiving the Sacrament is genuine and not contrived (1 Corinthians 10:17).

Please feel free to talk to the Pastor concerning what the Word of God declares concerning the Lord's Supper.

Make sure to indicate your attendance at communion on the communion sign up list in the narthex.

CW Page 21

Prayer and Benediction

CW Page 24

Closing Hymn

CW 365 "Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

Announcements

Christ The King Evangelical Lutheran Church

Today, April 22:	Bible Class, 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion, 10:30 AM
Tuesday, April 24:	Bible Class, 9:30 AM Membership Class, 10:30 AM
Thursday, April 26:	Men's Breakfast, 8:30 AM Church Council Meeting, 9:30 AM Membership Class, 10:30 AM
Saturday, April 28	Work Day
Sunday, April 29	Bible Class, 9:30 AM Worship Service, 10:30 AM
Pastor in the Office:	Thursday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM & 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Barefoot Bookies- All ladies are welcome to come to our Barefoot Bookies reading club. It is fun and very casual. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 11:30. Right now, we are reading "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger, to be discussed at our May 1, 2018 meeting. After May 1st, we will be reading "Don't Go" by Lisa Scottoline to be discussed at the June 5, 2018 meeting. We get our books from the libraries, used book stores or online discount sites like "thrift books". Looking forward to seeing you here.

Dick Clemens, former member of Christ The King, entered eternal glory April 15. Let us continue to pray for Betty and Dick's family as well as give thanks to God for the assurance of the Christian faith which Dick held so firmly in Jesus Christ his Savior.

Serving our congregation:

Church Council; President-Larry Martin, Secretary-Bill Halberg, Finance Chairman-John Smith, Head Elder-Robby Robinson, Worship Chairman-Marlyn Rische, Education Chairman-Ron Gorske, Outreach Chairman-Don Schoening, Properties Chairman-Wally Jordan

Mary/Martha; President-EyVonne Robinson, Vice President-Gloria Rische, Secretary-Jodi Roberts, Treasurer-Jan Boyle, Sunshine Chairman-Stephanie Stromberg, LWMS Reporter-Jonette Jordan

April Birthdays: Samantha Hultgren-7th, Nancy Cravens-10th, Jim Brusehaver-15th, Carolyn Gumm-20th, Sharon Martin-25th

April Anniversaries: John & Rebecca Pueschel-6th,

Prayer List: Ellen Laurencell, Mary Emery, Fran Stecher, Keith Haslam, Marge Krueger, Barb Wiese, Linda Martin, Gloria Rische, Marilyn Yelland



GOD'S WORD FOR THIS WEEK

The readings with this Sunday begin a gradual transition from the Half Year of Our Lord to the Half Year of the Church, from the way that God won our salvation to the way we live our salvation. From now until Pentecost they focus on the nature of our relationship with the Risen Christ through his Word: the relationships of Shepherd and sheep, of Vine and branches, of Friend with friends, of Patron and protected.

First Lesson: Acts 4:23-33

The Good Shepherd never leaves or forsakes us even when persecution, trials, and pain make it appear that he has left us. Kings and nations may rage against him. They only seem to win, just as they only seemed to win when Jesus died. The reality is that he lives and reigns, whether or not we see it or feel it in the way that people did in this reading. We pray Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done! And then we submit to his Spirit in the Word. The only alternative is to rage with the heathen and then to perish with them as well. For the Good Shepherd keeps his flock through life, to the gates of death, and then beyond. But all against him and his kingdom will be destroyed (as the rest of the quoted Psalm declares).

Second Lesson: I John 3:1, 2

The Bible is rich in the variety of ways that it finds to express the intimacy of the relationship that exists between the believer and God. Each word depicting the relationship intensifies the other words. So in this reading the relationship of Shepherd and sheep is taken from the realm of man and animal and raised to the level of family, of Father protecting children. Children are often unaware of that protection. It is nonetheless real. In God's case that is true on a much higher plane and with end results that we will only appreciate in heaven.

The Gospel: John 10:11-18

The whole work of Jesus from Christmas to Easter had this in mind, that he should be and remain our Good Shepherd and we should be and remain his sheep. All in all, it's a bad bargain for the shepherd! The hired hand acts rationally. He is worth more intrinsically and certainly to himself than a hundred sheep and shouldn't die for any of them. In the case of Jesus that is true a thousand fold. But look what happens! Everything is upside down and backwards. He for whom the whole of creation exists freely and willingly sacrifices himself for the sheep who add nothing to his own infinite worth. The Father even agrees with that sacrifice. He loves the sheep, it would seem, even more than he loves the Shepherd! For it is his will that the Shepherd become the Good Shepherd in just this way. So much they love the flock! You would have to be a stone not to be moved by such love for you! Listen to his voice! It gives the life that he laid down and has now taken up again.

OUR SERVICE FOR NEXT WEEK

Fifth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

Second Lesson: I John 3:18-24

The Gospel: John 15:1-8

Sermon Theme: "How Can I Understand"

Liturgy: Service of the Word, Page 38

Hymns: 282, 576, 575, 293

Psalm 67

Sermon Text: Acts 8:26-39