



The Fifth Sunday of Easter 2021

2 May, 2021

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Gathering

This bulletin may look familiar. Since we used the Synod's Easter Service last week, we will observe Good Shepherd Sunday this week instead. The readings celebrate shepherding images in the Word, central to Israel's vision of God's care for them as a people. Jesus took up the image of shepherd and throughout the Gospels he lifts up the Shepherd's love, faithfulness and care. We give thanks and remember God's shepherding love these past months, trusting God to lead us into green pastures of wholeness and peace in the future.

We continue in the Easter season, seven Sundays when we dwell in the mystery of Christ's living presence. Through the Feast of Pentecost we are witnesses as Jesus teaches, strengthens, and encourages his followers into a new heart and life.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

We are gathered in the name of the Father, + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In baptism, by water and the Word, God liberates us from sin and death,
joining us to the resurrection life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God's Easter promise be renewed in us
as we proclaim our faith and renew our baptismal covenant.

-Silence -

Do you reject the devil and all his empty promises,
renouncing the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I do, by the grace of God, and the power of the resurrection.

Walking with God's people, will you seek His ways, showing His saving
grace by faith-filled word and action?

We will, by the grace of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior?

In faith, I turn to Christ!

May God renew us by the life-giving Spirit of the risen Christ,
and strengthen us to walk by faith in newness of life!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WE SING THE GATHERING HYMN, ELW #502 "The King of Love"

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

GREETING

The grace of the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓑ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray *Silence*. O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Word

THE FIRST LESSON is from the Acts of the Apostles, the 4th chapter.

(Acts 4:5-12)

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus

Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is
'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

+ *Silence* +

Psalm 23 is read responsively by verse.

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**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.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running 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. Amen.**

THE SECOND READING is from 1st John, the 3rd chapter.

(1 John 3:16-24)

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How 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?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to John, the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

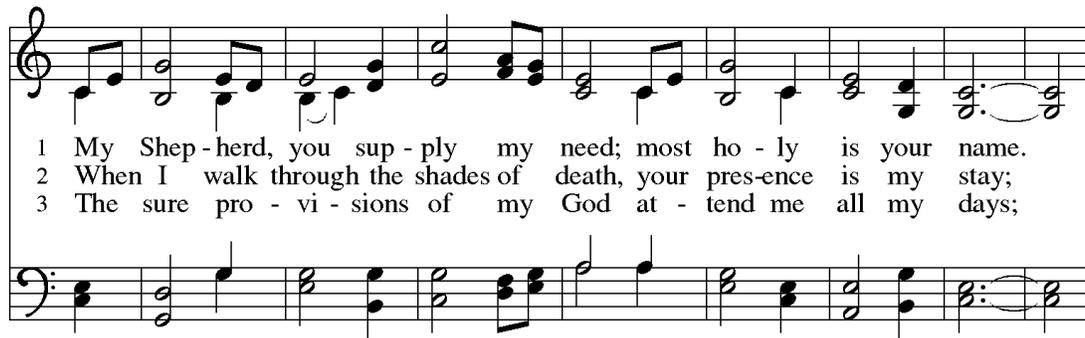
(John 10:11-18)

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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 our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: #782, ELW "My Shepherd, You Supply My Need"



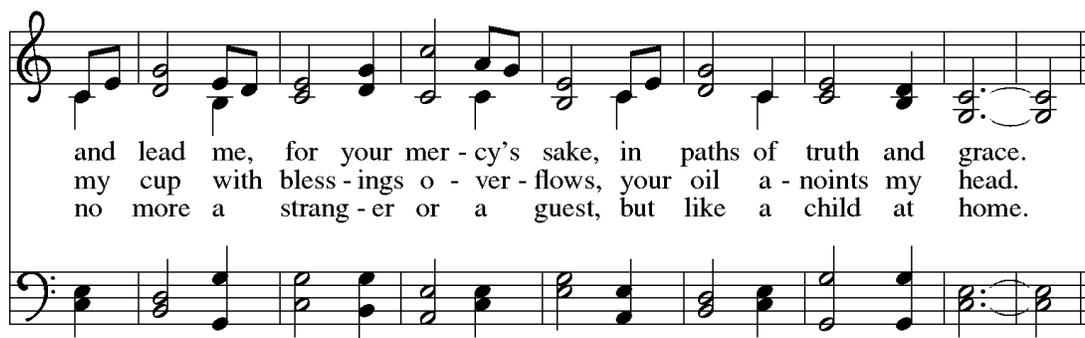
1 My Shep - herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly is your name.
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres - ence is my stay;
3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;



In pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.
one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
oh, may your house be my a - bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan - d'ring spir - it back when I for - sake your ways,
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
Here would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.
no more a strang - er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt., based on Psalm 23
Music: RESIGNATION, North American traditional

I ask you to confess your faith, in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

Do you believe in God, the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the virgin Mary;

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Good Shepherd, by the rod and staff of your Word, teach us to know your promises, trust your presence and live out our resurrection life as a witness and gift. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Creating God, you lead us into green pastures and clear flowing waters. Make shepherding your creation our work of love so all your children now and yet to come will be blessed. Bless individuals and organizations who make creation care their mission and ministry. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Generous God, pour out rain and sun that nourishes both soul and seed, and make us grateful for the gifts and work of those who tend the waters, fields, forests and sky. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You lead us through dark places and difficult circumstances. O Lord, we pray for the lost, the discouraged, and for all who are ill or in need of care and tending. We pray for us and our communities of home and work, school and learning and recreation. Hear us as we pray for...

-all who struggle with illness of body, mind or spirit...

-unity and reconciliation in the face of all that divides us, and those who divide us for power or profit...

-all who struggle to care for the needs of home and family...

-those who grieve, whether for a loved one, or for our nations losses to pandemic, violence or disaster...

-all whose hearts are hardened to the needs around them from fear, selfishness, apathy or any reason...

Heal us, bring us to wholeness and new life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Shepherd, lead us at the last to our eternal home, let us stand with the dying, comfort all who mourn, and give thanks for the faithful departed, that we may be gathered with them to dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy, crying out in hope and joy to you, O Christ, and to the Father evermore:

Amen! Alleluia, Amen!

Meal

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY, AS WE GATHER OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS / ANTHEM

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies. Our tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code.

The Table is prepared



OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of love, **you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.**

Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.

**Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and a joyful thing to give you thanks O God,
holy, almighty and merciful.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

For in the night in which He was betrayed,

He took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

“Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,

saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

God of resurrection and new life we remember and we pray:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence
and reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us and nourish us with this feast
strengthened to live out your mercy, justice and love.

With the whole people of God, we remember and give thanks
praying with trust and hope for the coming of the Kingdom
in the words our Savior taught us:

**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**

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace. Amen!

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

We share in the Lord's Body and Blood. Pastor will say:

This is the Body and Blood of Christ, given and shed for you!

Then consume the Sacrament as you desire. Silence for prayer and reflection as we commune. Then:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Wellspring of hope

All of creation sings for joy in the risen life of Jesus. Fill our hearts with your power and peace

that we may care for one another in love, together thrive in new life and be a blessing to the world.

Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, we pray.

Amen!

Sending

THE BENEDICTION

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.

Amen

THE SENDING HYMN: ELW #789 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;

In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847
 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace, and tell the news that Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

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The Rev. Marie L. Caron, pastor
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Mrs. Cindy Carper, Secretary
Mr. Jeff Cron, Council President

The Announcements

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP can be seen via Zoom and Facebook Live. Watch your email for links to the live-streamed service and the recorded service to be posted to our website (www.christpipersville.org).

THE MAY BULLETINS are presented to the Glory of God in Memory of Michael & Mary Kondyra, and George, Mildred & Bruce Hopf & in Honor of our Children & Grandchildren given by Rick & Genya Hopf.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – The prayer list is printed in today’s insert, the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. Please contact the church office, 215-766-8730 or e-mail, with any prayer needs. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless a new request is made.

WE WELCOME Rich Spotts as today’s organist and thank him for sharing his musical talents with us.

JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The deadline for submitting articles for the next edition of *Christ’s Call* is next Sunday, May 9th. Please place all news items in Cindy’s mailbox or send by email to the church office. Thank you.

LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – It’s time to start mowing the church lawn again. There’s a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or you may call or e-mail the church office or use the link in your email to volunteer for a week. Equipment is provided (or bring your own) & training is available (see Paul Gruver).

WHAT TO WATCH - Looking for something new to watch or want to recommend something? Send your recommendation to christpipersville@gmail.com. We’ll post one family recommendation a week here in this spot. This week’s recommendation is from Meredith Spadaccino: The Blacklist (not for children).

Week of May 2nd at a Glance

- Sun. 05/02 The 5th Sunday of Easter: 9:30AM Live-Streamed Worship
Happy 98th Birthday, Corrine Monesmith!
- Mon. 05/03 10:00AM Worship/Music Committee Zoom Meeting
7:30PM Property Committee
Happy Birthday, Genya Hopf!
- Thur. 05/06 8:30AM Morning Prayer; 9AM Bible Study
- Fri. 05/07 Office Closed – Pastor’s Day Off
Happy Birthday, Bob Hamilton!
- Sun. 05/09 The 6th Sunday of Easter: 9:30AM Live-Streamed Worship
June/July Newsletter Deadline
Happy Mother’s Day!