



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *The 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

*August 27, 2023*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

*-from Sundays and Seasons 2023*

*Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher’s stand.

# † GATHERING †

## Prelude and Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.  
Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings.**

**We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Righteous God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have failed to be honest.**

**We have lacked the courage to speak.**

**We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus the Christ.

**C: Amen**

### Gathering Hymn I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

*(For music see Hymn 619 in the Red Hymnal)*

1. **I know that my Redeemer lives!**

**What comfort this sweet sentence gives!**

**He lives, he lives, who once was dead;**

**he lives, my ever-living head!**

2. **He lives triumphant from the grave;**

**he lives eternally to save;**

**he lives exalted, throned above;  
he lives to rule his church in love.**

3. **He lives to grant me rich supply;  
he lives to guide me with his eye;  
he lives to comfort me when faint;  
he lives to hear my soul's complaint.**
4. **He lives to silence all my fears;  
he lives to wipe away my tears;  
he lives to calm my troubled heart;  
he lives all blessings to impart.**
5. **He lives to bless me with his love;  
he lives to plead for me above;  
he lives my hungry soul to feed;  
he lives to help in time of need.**
6. **He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
he lives and loves me to the end;  
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;  
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!**
7. **He lives and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
he lives my mansion to prepare;  
he lives to bring me safely there.**
8. **He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy this blest assurance gives;  
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

Text: Samuel Medly, 1738-1799, alt. Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

*Greeting* (2 Corinthians 13:13)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

*Gathering Dialog* (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C: a people holy to the Lord our God.**

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

**C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25

B: <sup>19</sup>For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." <sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 23 (*read together*)

**C: The Lord is my shepherd,**

**I need nothing more.**

**You give me rest in green meadows,**

**setting me near calm water,**

**where you revive my spirit.**

**You guide me along sure paths,  
you are true to your name.  
Though I should walk  
in death's dark valley,  
I fear no evil with you by my side,  
your shepherd's staff to comfort me.**

**You spread a table before me  
as my foes look on.  
You soothe my head with oil;  
my cup is more than full.  
Goodness and love will tend me  
every day of my life.  
I will dwell in house of the Lord  
as long as I shall live.**

*Gospel Acclamation (John 10:14)*

**C: Alleluia. Jesus says, I am the good shepherd, I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading John 10:1-21*

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

[Jesus said to his disciples] “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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.”

<sup>19</sup>Again the Jews were divided because of these words. <sup>20</sup>Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?” <sup>21</sup>Others were saying, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

### Children's Sermon

### Sermon

Hymn of the Day The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
(For music, turn to hymn 502 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever**
- 2. Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.**
- 3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.**
- 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still;**

thy cross before to guide me.

5. **Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight  
from the 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

*Response to the Word*

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

D: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.**

*(Jude 20)*

D: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** (*Jude 21*)

D: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;  
behold, everything has become new!** (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

*Prayers of Intercession*

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with:* Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond:* **Hear our prayer.**

*The pastor concludes the prayer:*

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

*Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

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✠ THANKSGIVING ✠

*Special Music*

*Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your Word.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.**



**When my heart is hard,  
break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold,  
warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost,  
lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

*Offering Prayer*

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

**C: Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Lord's Prayer*

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

†      SENDING      †

*Blessing*

P: The God who calls across the cosmos  
and speaks in the smallest seed  
bless, keep, and sustain you  
now and to the end of the age.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn* Rock of Ages

*(For music turn to Hymn 28 in the Songbook binder)*

**There is no rock, there is no god like our God;  
no other name worthy of all our praise.**

**The rock of salvation that cannot be moved,  
He's proven himself to be faithful and true.**

**There is no rock, there is no god like ours. *(Repeat)***

**Rock of ages, Jesus is the rock.**

**Rock of ages, Jesus is the rock.**

**Rock of ages. Jesus is the rock.**

**There is no rock, there is no god like ours.**

Text and Music: Rita Baloché, copyright 1997 Maranatha Praise, Inc. Admin: The Copyright Company; CCLI Song #2240547

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**



**"Didn't expect to be here today, eh? Hey, life's full of surprises. I mean, I didn't expect to wake up this morning with an overwhelming craving for sausage and mushroom, but there you go."**

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers     Bruce and Connie Stevenson  
Acolyte  
Counters                     Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 3**

Greeters and Ushers     Gary Wood  
Acolyte                     Thomas Bullwinkle  
Altar Care                 Gary Boisseau  
Communion Assistant     Rob Stroup  
Counters                     Bruce and Connie Stevenson  
Coffee Hour

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