



~Good Shepherd Sunday~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

THEME:

Jesus, our Good Shepherd, is our soul's salvation and our protection in this earthly life.

HYMN 374: *"My Shepherd will Supply My Need"*

THE COMMON SERVICE — Page 15

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 4:23-33

When the church in Jerusalem heard that Peter and John were ordered not to preach Christ, they prayed that God would give his apostles the boldness to speak the Word to the world, even in the face of danger. The Lord answered their prayer. Their love was apparent with each other, as they freely shared their possessions.

4:23 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 heavens 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN: *"This Is My Father's World"*

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:1, 2

The marvelous love of God has made us his children. We cannot fully grasp the magnitude of our inheritance, but we will when Jesus returns.

3:1 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.

CHOIR: *"His Name Is Wonderful"*

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:1 — 9, 27, 28 (sermon text) (Please Stand)

Jesus depicts himself as shepherd and sheep-gate in two brief parables. First, he is the shepherd who is contrasted with false shepherds. He enters the sheep pen rightfully, is recognized by the sheep, and leads them to pasture. Secondly, he is the gate to the sheep pen through which they exit to find pasture. He is the One who cares for the sheep and protects them.

10:1 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. 3 The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

7 Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

NICENE CREED — Page 18

HYMN 436: *"Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep"*

SERMON THEME: This Isn't a Game of Cops and Robbers

1. The thieves actually want to destroy you. 2. The Good Shepherd truly wants to save you

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART — Page 20

OFFERING HYMN 485 Verses 1 & 2: *"We Give Thee but Thine Own"* (Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER- Page 20

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION — Page 21

HYMN 309 (Before Distribution): *"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"*

CHOIR (During Distribution): *"Take and Eat"*

SONG OF SIMEON — Page 24 (Please Stand)

BENEDICTION

HYMN 375: *"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"*

SILENT PRAYER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

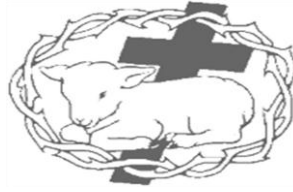
Serving Us Today ~ April 22, 2018

Organist: Marge Schroeder

Ushers: Karl Luft, Dave Leatherman, Marty Waite & Tom Gregory

Altar Guild: Dave & Faye Leatherman & Ruth Reiter

Communion Assistant: John Nieman



During Our Worship Service this morning we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. Non-members are asked to speak with the Pastor before the service prior to communing.

This Morning Our Sunday School Students will play "This is My Father's World" on the hand bells with Hannah Gregory at the keyboard. This will also be our final Sunday School session for the school year. As in past years, we will not hold Sunday School during the month of May due to confirmations, graduations and Mother's Day. Thank you to our Sunday School Superintendent John Nieman and our Sunday School Teachers John Nieman, Edie Nieman and Felicia Krause. This is also the final school year that John & Edie Nieman will serve as two of our three Sunday School teachers. We will be seeking replacements for the Niemans for our 2018-2019 school year. If you are interested, please speak to Pastor. A HUGE THANK YOU to John & Edie for their many years of dedicated service to our Immanuel "little lambs".

The Flowers Adorning our Altar and our worship bulletins for last Sunday were provided by Dick & Joyce Hopp in honor of their 46th wedding anniversary. Congratulations! The flowers adorning our altar this morning have been provided by the Nieman Family in honor of our Sunday School children. Our worship bulletins for this morning have also been provided by the Nieman Family in honor of Christian Education.

Lamplighter Articles for our May issue are due in the church office on Tuesday.

Church Council Will Meet This Morning following our worship service in our conference room.

Our Bible Study after Worship Service Concludes Next Sunday. We will finish studying the book of Amos. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m.

Ladies' Guild April Meeting is Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. Pastor will be quizzing you on Bible facts and stories.

Did You Know? Our church services are available on DVD. If interested, please talk to Karl Luft or Timothy Krause.

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GIFTS		THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL	
Budgeted needed per week	\$3,517.00	Office Hours	Tue., Wed. & Thur. 8:00 a.m. - Noon
Budgeted Received 04-15-18	\$0.00	Today	10:00 a.m. Final Sunday School
Budgeted Need to date	\$52,755.00	Today	10:00 a.m. Church Council
Budgeted Received to date	\$44,397.32	Monday	6:00 p.m. GriefShare
		Tuesday	9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class
		Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Guild Meeting
		Wednesday	5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class
		Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
		Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship Service
GriefShare	6	Sunday	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday Bible Class	12	Sunday	10:00 a.m. Bible Study #6
Confirmation Class	3		