



St

THE LORD IS MY
SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT WANT.
Psalm 23:1

:h

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CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION
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www.ilc.edu/home.htm

PRESERVICE PRAYER: Heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for the salvation which You have provided to a fallen world by sending your Son to suffer and die for us upon the cross. We rejoice in Your grace that in raising Jesus from the dead You have proclaimed Your satisfaction with the ransom price He paid, so that we have remission of sins and everlasting life. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that our faith in Christ as our Risen and Everliving Lord may be strengthened unto eternal life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: (p. 22 Worship Supplement 2000)

Hymn 436: The Lord's My Sheherd, I'll Not Want

1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

2 My soul He doth restore again And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own name's sake.

3 Yea, tho' I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.

4 My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy, all my life, Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Together let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

C: Amen.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 20:28-32

“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. ³¹ Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

³² “So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.” (NKJV)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ¹² But a hireling, *he who is* not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own. ¹⁵ As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

¹⁶ And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

¹⁷ “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.” (NKJV)

THE NICENE CREED (The Lutheran Hymnal p. 22)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn 783: Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

1. Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep, Who Your Father’s flock does keep,
Safe we wake and safe we sleep, Guarded still by You.

2. In Your promise firm we stand; None can take us from Your hand.
Speak! We hear! At Your command, We will follow You.

3. By Your blood our souls were bought; By Your life salvation wrought;
By Your light our feet are taught, Lord, to follow You.

4. Father, draw us to Your Son; We with joy will follow on
Till the work of grace is done, There to live with You.

5. We, in robes of glory dressed, Join th' assembly of the blest,
Gathered to eternal rest In the fold with you.

THE SERMON: 1 John 4:1-6

Theme: Be Sure You're Listening to the Good Shepherd.

- I. Put Spiritual Voices to the Test: Are They Faithful to Jesus?
- II. Remember Who Is Greater, Jesus, not the World.

SERMON TEXT: 1 John 4:1-6

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

²This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit who does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is already in the world.

⁴You are from God, dear children, and you have overcome the false prophets, because the one in you is greater than the one in the world.

⁵They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. That is how we can distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.” (EHV)

OFFERTORY: *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen*

PRAYER; THE LORD'S PRAYER

The offering of thankful hearts will now be received.

Hymn 431: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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, bro't 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, Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh! the transport of delight With which my cup o'erfloweth.

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

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We observe the Scriptural practice of closed communion. We do this in loving concern for all who would desire to commune, that it might be for their spiritual blessing and not their spiritual harm. The Scriptures teach us that communicants need to be able to examine themselves concerning their sin and repentance, and also a proper understanding of the Lord's presence in the sacrament. We ask that only those who are members of this congregation, or one affiliated with us in the CLC, partake of the sacrament. Please speak with the pastor if you would wish to commune with us at a future time.

Prayer:

C: Amen

BENEDICTION:

C: Amen.

Hymn 51 Now May He Who from the Dead

1 Now may He who from the dead Bro't the Shepherd of the sheep,
Jesus Christ, our King and Head, All our souls in safety keep!

2 May He teach us to fulfil What is pleasing in His sight,
Perfect us in all His will, And preserve us day and night!

3 To that dear Redeemer's praise, Who the cov'nant sealed with blood,
Let our hearts and voices raise Loud thanksgivings to our God!

CALENDAR

TODAY: An abbreviated Bible Class will follow the service this morning. We need some volunteers to arrange the fellowship to accommodate funeral fellowship. Chairman and pastor are calling for a brief meeting of the church council. There will also be a brief meeting of the Ladies Aid immediately following the service.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. An abbreviated Bible class in Pastor's absence. Sermon Text: Acts 4:32-37

SUNDAY APRIL 28: Victory service for our departed brother, Norman Schwartz. Visitation is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. with the service at 2:00 p.m. Interment follows at Grandview Cemetery and refereshments at the church follow interment.

MONDAY APRIL 29 through TUESDAY MAY 7: Pastor Barthels will be out of town. Pastor emeritus Paul Fleischer will be covering in case of emergency. Pastor Barthels will be available at his cell number during his absence.

Sunday, May 5: Pastor will be out of town. Pastor emeritus Paul Fleischer has agreed to take the service in Pastor's absence.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: April 14 worship –16, Bible Class 16

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$1,374.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	\$1,430.00	Memorial: Barb Nickson
Needed for Year:	\$20,610.00	Missions \$20.00
Received for Year:	\$16,282.00	

April church cleaning: Nelson

April/May Lawn Mowing: Volunteers needed.

CONGREGATION NEWS: This past Thursday morning April 18, the Lord in His grace called our brother Norman Schwartz to be with Him in heaven. Victory service and Christian burial will here at St. Paul's on Sunday April 28th. Visitation at 1:00 service at 2:00 p.m.

CLC NEWS: Seminary graduate Paul Agenten has accepted the calls from St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran of Iron River, MI and Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI.