

When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

John 10: 4

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 30, 2023

11:00am

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, CONOVER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation with confidence in the Words of our Lord Jesus, who gives not only bread and wine but his true body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1Cor 11:27-29). Reception of Holy Communion here at Concordia is a public confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Those who are not yet baptized, instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

OPENING HYMN "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia" 463

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The Lord is our Good Shepherd;
- C He leads us and restores our souls.
- P He walks beside us through the darkness
- C and never abandons us, even in death.
- P He goes before us and prepares a table for us,
- C and we will dwell in His house forever.

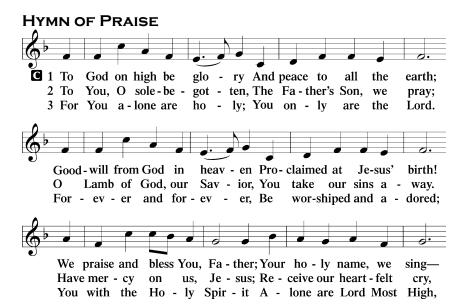
CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P Though our Lord goes before us, beside us, and behind us, we still find a way to run away from His good pasture. We devote ourselves to all sorts of destruction. Still, our Good Shepherd

seeks us out and brings us back to safety. He invites us to confess our sins before His heavenly Father.

Silence for reflection.

- P Heavenly Father,
- C we have strayed from You. We have wounded You with our sin. We have wounded others with our sin. We have wounded ourselves with our sin. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us back to Your good pasture, on account of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Amen.
- P Though we have strayed, Jesus always keeps searching for us. Though we have been lost in our priorities, Jesus is always and ever devoted to us. We see this most clearly as almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die and rise for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen. We are forgiven. Our souls are restored in Christ.





Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

We sit.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

L This is the Word of the Lord.

Pew Bible page 1159

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"A Shepherds Psalm"

Joseph M. Martin

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

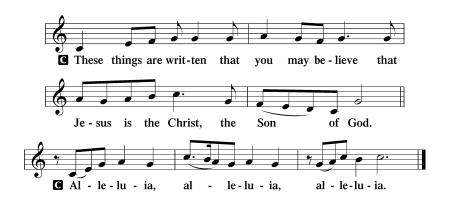
P This is the Word of the Lord.

Pew Bible page 1295

C Thanks be to God.

We stand.





HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

Pew Bible page 1140

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

After the Gospel is read:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

We sit.

HYMN OF THE DAY "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" 709
St 3 low voices; St 4 treble voices

SERMON "Stranger Danger" Pastor Michael Geml

We stand.

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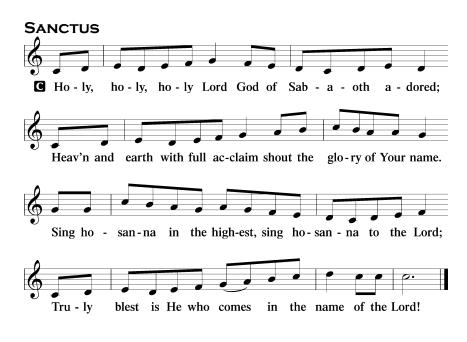
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for He is the Good Shepherd who leads us to the green pastures and still waters of Your Word and Sacraments. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

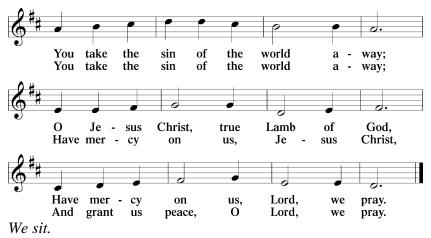
PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE





DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" 770
"Have No Fear, Little Flock" 735

We stand.





POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" 685

POSTLUDE