

Early Service Order of Worship

Divine Service Setting One

As We Gather "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Christ alone secures salvation for believing Jews and Gentiles. He temporally and eternally anchors those persecuted for believing, asserting, and preaching divine truths. In the midst of strife, sin, disease, and death, the Good Shepherd shepherds His people into eternity. As His people, we are sheep listening to the voice of our Shepherd. So also we receive the living waters of Holy Baptism, where He asserts His claim on us forever.

Prelude

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

J.G. Walther
(1684-1748)

Confession and Absolution

Please stand as you are able

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20] LSB 151

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

C Amen.

Easter Proclamation

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 LSB 151

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

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel as you are able

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

John 20:19–23 LSB 151

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please stand as you are able

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 78:70–72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

P I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

C He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.

P With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

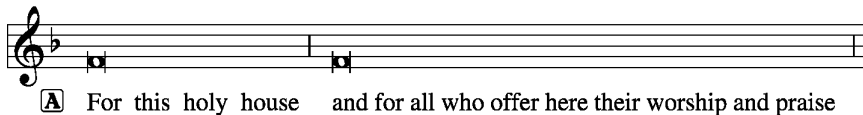
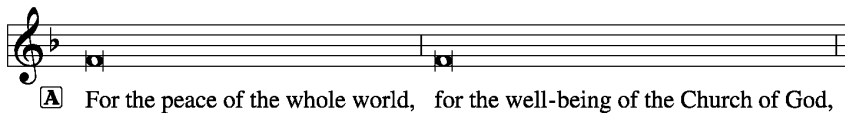
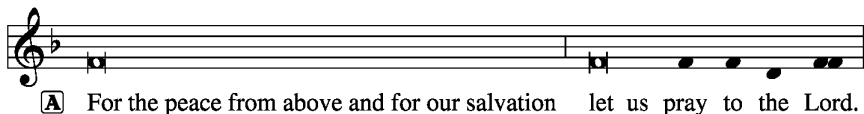
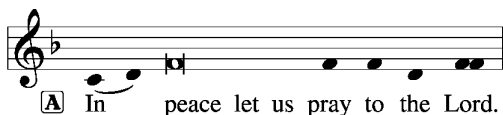
C But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise.

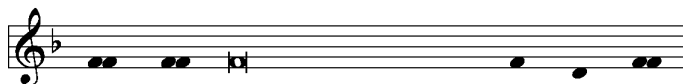
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

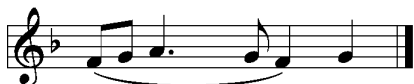
Kyrie

Mark 10:47 LSB 152





A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,



You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



Salutation and Collect of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have awakened 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.

Please be seated

First Reading

Acts 20:17–35

A The First Reading for the Fourth Sunday of Easter is from Acts, chapter twenty.

¹⁷Now from Miletus Paul sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face

again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

LSB 710

Psalm 23



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly

down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



Text and tune: Public domain

Epistle

Revelation 7:9–17

A The Epistle is from Revelation, chapter seven.

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

Alleluia

Be Not Afraid

Repeat as led

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris - en, al - le -

lu - ia! Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Taizé Community
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Holy Gospel

John 10:22–30

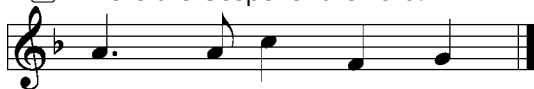
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all,

and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children's Message

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

The King of Loves My Shepherd Is

LSB 709

Please be seated

Sermon

Silence for reflection

Please stand as you are able

Apostles' Creed

LSB 159

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4 LSB 159

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

Offering

During this time, please fill out and pass the blue Friendship Register. Please indicate whether you are a member or visitor. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join the family of believers here at Christ the Redeemer.

Voluntary

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Please stand as you are able

Offertory Hymn *Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free*

LSB 473

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 LSB 162

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.

Collect

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 166

P 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.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

Have No Fear, Little Flock

LSB 735

Announcements

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

J.G. Walther
(1684-1748)

Acknowledgments

Preacher: Rev. Dale Kaster

Liturgist: Rev. Scott Burmeister

Director of Music: Jacob Drengler

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Music Notes for May 11, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Prelude, Voluntary, and Postlude for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday, were written by German organists living and composing during the Baroque period (roughly 1600-1750). The Prelude and Postlude are drawn from a set of variations on the Opening Hymn, "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won" (LSB 490), by Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748), who was, in addition to his work as an organist, composer, and music theorist, was the author of the *Musicalisches Lexicon* (1732), the first dictionary of musical terms written in the German language. The Voluntary, a lyrical chorale prelude on "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won," was written by Walther's more famous cousin, Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), the preeminent German organist and composer of the Baroque period.

During the 10:45 service, the Peace Choir, which comprises CTR students from first through eighth grade, will sing several pieces as part of the liturgy. "Hosanna! Blessed Is He," Carol McClure's (b. 1955) energetic setting of Mark 11:9b, will serve as the Opening Sentences before the singing of the Opening Hymn. "Lamb of God," an expressive musical setting of the *Agnus Dei*, will be sung as the Introit. "The Lord is My Shepherd," a dance-like paraphrase of Psalm 23, the appointed Psalm for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, will be sung by the Peace Choir between the First Reading and Epistle. Finally, the choir will lead the congregation in singing "Easter Affirmation" by Harriet Willoughby (b. 1960) prior to the reading of the Holy Gospel. We are excited for our youngest singers to provide musical leadership in the liturgy this morning!

The Communion Voluntary is a gentle piano arrangement of "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" (LSB 740) by American composer and church musician Sandra Eithun (b. 1963). A prolific composer for handbells and piano, Ms. Eithun has over 600 compositions in publication.