

HEARTS @ HOME



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday April 25, 2021

Easter Week 4

RCL: John 10:11-18

+ GATHERING +

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

AMEN.

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS +

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

AMEN

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done, and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

AMEN.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us, even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. Amen.

+ PRAYER +

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

+ SCRIPTURE +

+ **John 10:11-18**

+ **Spark Story Bible:** The Good Shepherd (Page 436-439)

+ **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin App:** Click the 'Bible' tab at the bottom.

+ REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

Option 1: Click on your congregation's online weekly sermon video & watch it together

Option 2: Use the following questions for in-home conversation or personal reflection

Option 3: Use questions for reflection

Questions:

+ Think of (or share) a story of a time when you truly felt heard by someone when you really needed it.

+ What does it mean to you that Jesus laid down his life for you? For all of humanity?

+ The gospel tells us, "I know my sheep;" what do you want Jesus to know about you?

+ The gospel also tells us "my sheep know me;" if someone were to ask you about Jesus, what would you tell them?

+ APOSTLES' CREED +

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.

+ PRAYERS +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

- + We pray for farmers, for veterinarians and others who care for the animals that we rely on for food, ecological health, and companionship. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + Merciful God, we give thanks for medical staff, for scientists, blood donors, and for researchers who work so hard to keep us healthy and ensure quality of life. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**
- + God of grace, provide comfort and assurance to our neighbors who are struggling with hunger, unemployment, homelessness, and all those who lack a sense of security. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + As we face challenges and changes, grant wisdom and compassion to our congregational leaders, program directors, representatives, and community leaders so that decisions can be made with people's health and well-being in mind. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + *Add your own prayers here...*

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

+ OFFERING +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or the synod – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

+ LORD'S PRAYER +

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth, as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

As we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours,
Now and forever. **AMEN.**

+ BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, dip it in the bowl of water, and make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, "**You are a beloved child of God.**"
Take turns until each household member has been blessed.

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