



## The Order of Worship

### **Pre-Service Music**

#### **Welcome**

#### **Opening Litany**

P: I will thank the LORD with all my heart in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. Great are the deeds of the LORD. They are studied by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic is his work, and his righteousness stands forever. He has set up a memorial to his wonders. Gracious and compassionate is the LORD, our God.

#### ***Congregation sings***

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*Christian Worship 234 st. 1 & 2*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,  
    joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been  
    sent by his gracious ordaining?

P: I will thank the LORD with all my heart in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. The works of his hands are truth and justice. All his precepts are trustworthy, steadfast forever and ever, done in truth and uprightness. He sent redemption for his people. He commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

#### ***Congregation sings***

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*Christian Worship 234 st. 3 & 4*

Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously made you,

Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly  
falling has stayed you.  
What need or grief ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of his mercy did shade you.

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work  
and defend you;  
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
as with his love he befriends you.

*(The congregation will rise)*

P: I will thank the LORD with all my heart in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. All who do his precepts have good understanding. His praise stands forever.

***Congregation sings***

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”  
*Christian Worship 234 st. 5*

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with  
praises before him!  
Let the Amen sound from his people again;  
gladly forever adore him.

### **God Places His Name on Us**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

**C: And also with you!**

### **The Confession of Sins**

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed

him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen!**

### **Song of Praise**

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



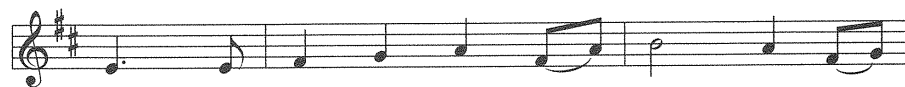
**C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are**



**they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e—**



**ter — nal; it stands firm in the heav —**



**ens. Your faith — ful — ness con — tin — ues for -**



ev — er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless — ed are they who take ref — uge in him.

### Prayer for the Day

P: O gracious Shepherd and gentle Shepherd, your love knows no limits or boundaries. Even when we were foolish sheep wandering from you, you did not abandon us. You searched for us. You rescued us. You restored us to your fold. Give us the faith we need to rejoice in your care and follow you throughout this life. How blessed we are to be able to call you our Shepherd, and to have you call us my sheep. Keep us safely in your care. Protect us from every enemy. Lead us by your gentle voice until you bring us into your fold in heaven. There we will praise you our good and gracious Shepherd—together with your Father and the Spirit—for your goodness and mercy which pursues us all the days of our life.



C: A — — — men.

### The Lessons from God's Word

*"So we say with confidence—the LORD is  
My Shepherd; I will Lack Nothing!"*

### The Power of the Resurrection

*Acts 20:28–32*

<sup>28</sup>Always keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers, to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood. <sup>29</sup>I know that after my departure savage wolves, who will

not spare the flock, will come in among you. <sup>30</sup>Even from your own group men will rise up, twisting the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. <sup>31</sup>Therefore be always on the alert! Remember that for three years, night and day, I never stopped warning each one of you with tears.

<sup>32</sup>“And now I entrust you to God and to the word of his grace, which has power to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

**Verse of Praise**

*Selected verses of Ezekiel 34*

P: I will raise up over them one shepherd, and he will tend them. My servant David will tend them, and he will be their shepherd. I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I, the LORD, have spoken, Then I will establish a covenant of peace with them.

They will know that I, the LORD, their God, am with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the LORD God. You are my flock of sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and you are my people, and I am your God, declares the LORD God.

**Congregation sings**

“How Firm a Foundation”

*Christian Worship 416 st. 1 & 3*

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled.

“Fear not, I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed,  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

**Epistle**

*1 John 4:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God:

Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,<sup>3</sup> and 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.<sup>4</sup> You 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.<sup>5</sup> They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them.<sup>6</sup> We 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.

**Verse of the Day**

*Selected verse of Isaiah 40*

P: Look, God the LORD will come with strength, and his arm is ruling for him. Look, his reward is with him. The result of his work is in front of him. Like a shepherd he will care for his flock. With his arm he will gather the lambs. He will lift them up on his lap. He will gently lead the nursing mothers.

**Congregation sings**

“How Firm a Foundation”  
*Christian Worship 416 st. 4-5*

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,  
For I will be with you your troubles to bless  
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.”

“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love,  
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne.”

**Gospel**

*John 10:11–18*

“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.<sup>12</sup> The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep,

and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them.

<sup>13</sup>Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

<sup>14</sup>“I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me <sup>15</sup>(just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it up again. This is the commission I received from my Father.”

P: This is the Word of our God and the promise of the Good Shepherd.

### Alleluia!



C: Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia!



These words are writ — ten that we may be—lieve that



Je—sus is the Christ, the Son — of God.



Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia!



**Hymn of the Day**

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”  
*Christian Worship 374*

My shepherd will supply my need —  
Jehovah is his name.  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed  
Beside the living stream.  
He brings my wand'ring spirit back  
When I forsake his ways  
And leads me, for his mercy's sake,  
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death,  
His presence is my stay;  
One word of his supporting breath  
Drives all my fears away.  
His hand, in sight of all my foes,  
Will still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows;  
His oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God  
Attend me all my days;  
Oh, may his house be my abode  
And all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest  
While others go and come,  
No more a stranger or a guest  
But like a child at home.

**Sermon**

*John 10:11-18*

**“Jesus is Your Good Shepherd!”**

**The Confession of Faith**

*(we unite in the words of the Apostles' Creed)*

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there 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.**

Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks

**Prayer for the Lord's Blessing**

*(the congregation will read responsively)*

P: Gracious Shepherd, how good you are to us! Even though we deserve nothing from you except your just punishment, you give us everything we need. Not one moment goes by without you graciously and richly providing everything we need for body, soul, and life. Because of your undeserved love and never-failing care, we joyfully confess:

**C:       The LORD is my shepherd. I lack nothing.  
          He causes me to lie down in green pastures.  
          He leads me beside the quiet waters.  
          He restores my soul.**

**He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

P: Loving Shepherd, how good you are to us! You guide us by your gracious Word. You support us with your never-failing promises. You protect us day and night, and from every enemy with which we must struggle. Because of your strength and the promise of your never-failing protection, we gratefully acknowledge:

**C:           Even though I walk through the valley of  
                  the shadow death,  
                  I will fear no evil, for you are with me.  
                  Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
                  You set a table for me in the presence of my foes.**

P: Precious Shepherd, how good you are to us! You have set us apart for your holy purposes. You have anointed us as royal priests to serve you. You have filled our lives with countless good things. How blessed we are to have you as our Good Shepherd. How blessed we are to live with the confidence everything you do is for our good. How blessed we are that after this life you will bring us safely into your heavenly fold where we will live in your presence for all eternity.

**C: You drench my head with oil. My cup is overflowing.  
          Surely goodness and mercy will pursue me  
                  all the days of my life,  
          And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

*Special Requests and Prayers*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**C: 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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”  
*Christian Worship 375*

The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness fails me never;  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
My Savior gently leads me;  
And where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feeds me.

Confused and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid  
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With you, dear Lord, beside me;  
Your rod and staff my comfort still,  
Your cross before to guide me.

You spread a table in my sight,  
A banquet here bestowing;  
Your oil of welcome, my delight;  
My cup is overflowing!

And so through all the length of days  
Your goodness fails me never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
Within your house forever!

### Closing Prayer

P: Gracious Good Shepherd, I was glad to be here, gathered with your flock to worship you and to receive your blessing. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in your paths of righteousness that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. Grant, O Lord:

That the lips which here have sung your praise —  
may continue to glorify you in the world;  
That the ears which have heard your truth proclaimed —  
may be open always to your Word and closed to hatred,  
discord, and deception;  
That the tongues which have freely confessed your name —  
may always speak the truth in love and without fear;  
That all of us who have worshiped together today —  
may be united in true love for each other  
as you have loved us.



C: A ——— men.

### The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
The Lord look on you with his favor; and  
give you peace.



C: A — men. A — men. A ——— men.

### Closing Hymn

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”  
*Christian Worship 333*

Abide, O dearest Jesus, among us with your grace  
That Satan may not harm us nor we to sin give place.

Abide, O dear Redeemer, among us with your Word  
And thus now and hereafter true peace and joy afford.

Abide with heav'nly brightness among us, precious Light,  
Your truth direct and keep us from error's gloomy night.

Abide with richest blessings among us, bounteous Lord;  
Let us in grace and wisdom grow daily through your Word.

Abide with your protection among us, Lord, our Strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us and overcome at length.

Abide, O faithful Savior, among us with your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us to reach our home above.

### **Silent Prayer**

#### **Announcements**

**Today**—*Welcome in our Savior and Shepherd's blessed name!*  
What a privilege it is to know he takes us into his arms and carries us through every challenge and every dark valley as he leads us to life in heaven. If you are visiting this morning, please sign the guest book or a visitor card, and come again—soon!

- Everyone is invited to stay after the service to enjoy some snacks, a cup of coffee, and the gift of fellowship in the Lord
- We thank Pastor Steve Degner for leading our worship service this morning. He is substituting for Pastor Proeber who is in Arizona with his family. May the Lord's richest blessings be with Pastor Degner as he serves the Lord during his retirement.

**Monday**—Handbell Choir practice will begin on April 29th.

**Wednesday**—Christian Education will begin on May 1st with Luther's Table of Duties.

**Thursday**—Pastor and his family will return from Arizona.

**Friday**—Office Hours from 10:30 am—2:30 pm.

**Saturday**—Clean: Everson

- Lawn beginning April 28th—Everson

**Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>—In person and live-streamed Sunday Worship at 9:30 am.** There are many “I AM” statements Jesus speaks throughout his ministry. These not only declare that he and his Father are one, they also reveal Jesus’ great power that works within us. This is especially true when Jesus says, “I AM the Vine.”

- Christian Education will follow the service. This morning we will turn to one of the results of begin grafted to Jesus, the true Vine. We learn how we can become like Barnabas, the son of encouragement.

### Thank You

To Alan Todd, our Hymnsoft operator; to Jim Everson and Josh Schueler for monitoring the audio and live stream; Margaret and Jim Brown for putting flowers on the altar—to the glory of God and in memory of Jim’s father, Robert Brown; and to Jan Scheffler and Margaret Brown for serving snacks after the service.

### Acknowledgements

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