



Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth
The Good Shepherd

PRELUDE

+GREETING

ONE: Please rise.

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

MANY: And also with you.

+CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We are gathered here to pray. Our prayer is woven with silence, scripture, ashes and song.

MANY: Let us be still in the presence of God.

ONE: We are gathered here to be emboldened through Sacred Word, which opens our hearts to our true selves and to one another.

MANY: Let us be still in the presence of God.

ONE: We are gathered here to be welcomed into communion with Jesus Christ, receiving the ashes of humility and mortality.

MANY: Let us be still in the presence of God.

ONE: Rest in the darkness and silence of the evening. God is near.

Brief pause

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE: Loving God,

Your son came, and like a good shepherd, gave his life for your sheep. Receive our humble gratitude for this act of sacrifice and courage.

MANY: AMEN

Please be seated in silence for reflection.

SCRIPTURE

John 10:1-18

Jesus continued: "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with the Pharisees, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

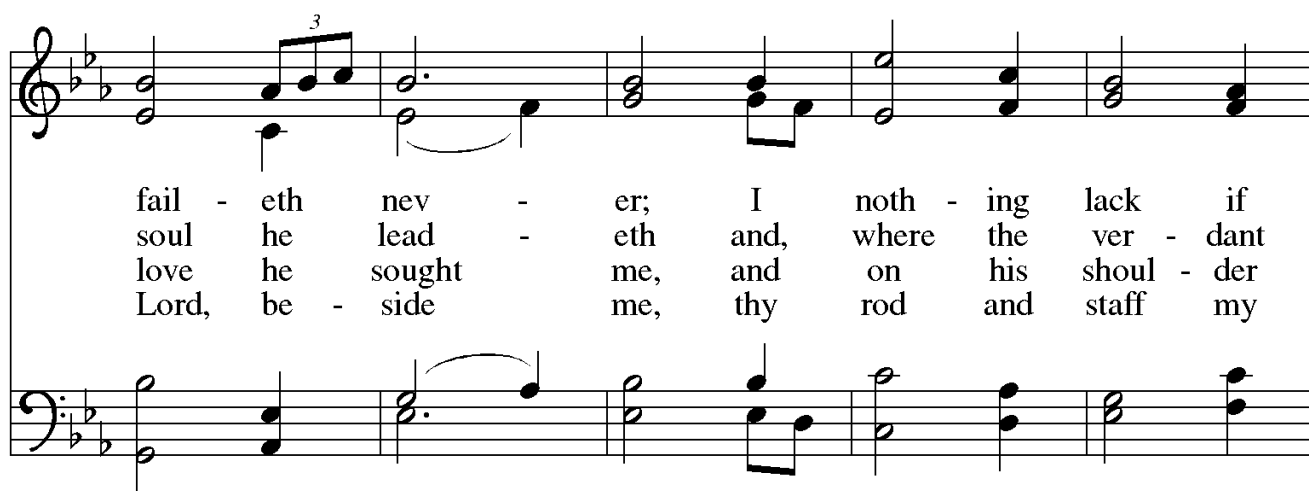
¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

SERMON

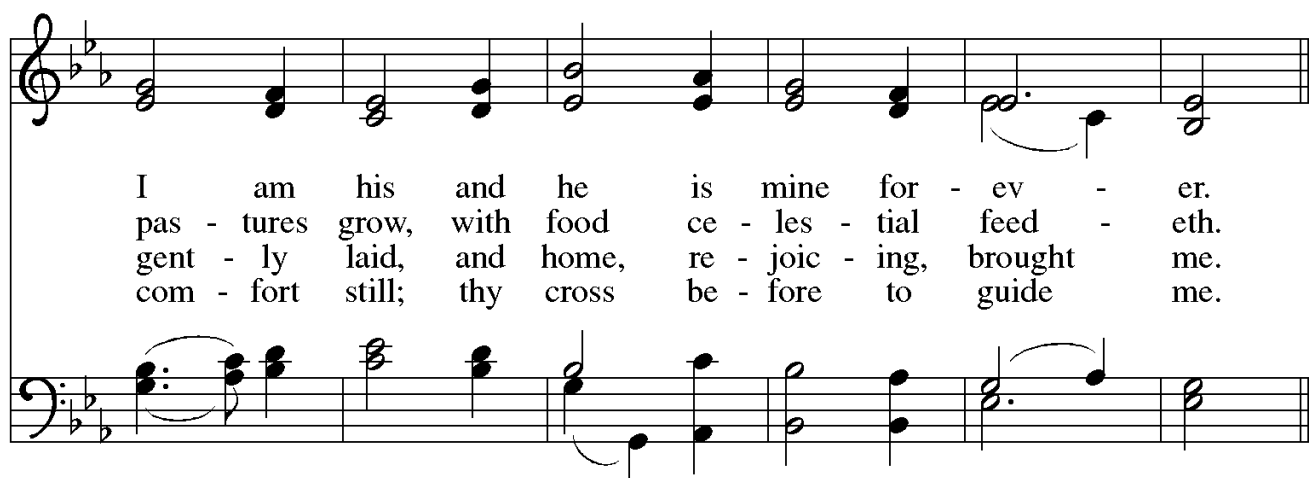
Rev. Kjell Ferris



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

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

+INVITATION TO LENT

ONE: Please rise.

Friends in Christ, today we enter a time of remembering Jesus' journey. Christ has existed from the beginning (John 1), he is everything and is in everything (Colossians 3). But we have made the mistake of limiting the Creator's presence to just one human, when ordinary matter is the hiding place for the Spirit. God loves things by becoming them. God loves things by uniting with them.

Wrongly, we have deemed creation as a mere backdrop for the real drama of God's concern—which, in our sin we've believed, is always and only us. We need to own our broken story and live in the original and continued unfolding goodness of creation. God invites us to life with Christ. A life of: repentance and joy, fasting and prayer, sacrificial giving and love.

CONFESSION OF SIN

ELW p. 252

ONE: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

silence

Most holy and merciful God,

**MANY: we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

ONE: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

MANY: Have mercy on us, O God.

ONE: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

MANY: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Silent prayer and reflection.

INVITATION TO THE CROSS

ONE: Almighty God, who created us from the dust of the earth, invites us now to come to the cross, to the heart of God. Bring your own heart as it is, hardened or cold, broken or empty, fearful or unfaithful, for our God welcomes you and will breathe into you the Spirit of Christ's love. Come forward now to receive the imposition of ashes, a sign of our mortality and penitence, a reminder of our need for the life we find in Christ. Come, all are welcome.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Psalm 51

All are invited to come forward and receive the sign of the cross on their forehead.

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.
Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O God, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased.
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,
then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt-offerings and whole burnt-offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

+PRAYERS

The musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains the lyrics "In peace, let us pray to the Lord." with notes on a whole note and a half note. The middle staff is also in treble clef with a key signature of one flat, containing the lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." with notes on a whole note and a half note. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat, containing the lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." with notes on a whole note and a half note.

ONE: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,
let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times,
let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

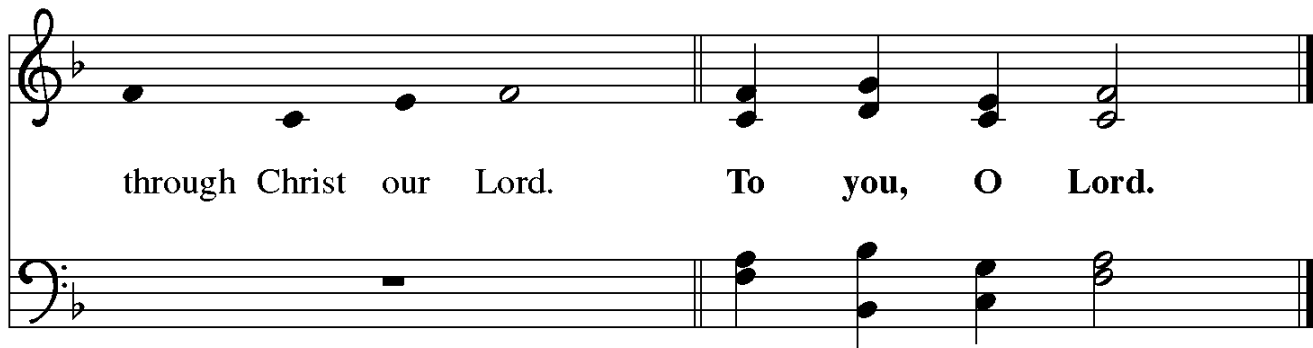
ONE: For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us | pray to the Lord.

MANY: Lord, have mercy.

ONE: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,



+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you always.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

Lord, Create in Me

K. Lee Scott

Please bring your offering to the back of the Sanctuary.

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

ELW p. 64

ONE: Let us pray. God our provider,

MANY: you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US

ONE: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

MANY: **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

+WELCOME TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Shepherd Me, O God

ELW 780

Refrain

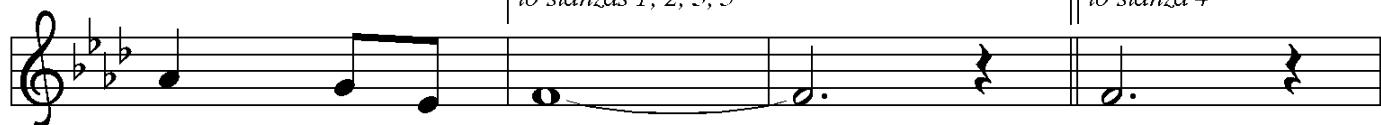
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5

to stanza 4



death in - to life.

life.

Leader



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
2 Gent-ly you raise me and heal my wea-ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan-der the val-ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith-ful-ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ-teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e-vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui-et wa-ters of peace.
spir-it shall sing the mu-sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com-fort and my hope.

Leader

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Refrain

Leader

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

BENEDICTION

ONE: Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

MANY: AMEN

DISMISSAL

ONE: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;
be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honor all people;
love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We depart in silence.

Acknowledgements:

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Serving today:

Preacher

Rev. Kjell M. Ferris

Organist & Pianist

Anne Phillips

Lectors

Don Davidson, Lisa Lukis

Musicians

Adult Choir

Zoom & Livestream Coordinators

Stefanie Fiser Kleven, Steve Johnson, Peter Leppa, Scott Rusten,
Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland

