

P: Shepherding God,

C: thank you for your son who lay down his life for those who follow him and for those who are not in the fold yet.

Lord we pray for those who don't know the shepherd, whose life circumstances kept them from knowing the good shepherd. We pray that by our actions, our behavior, and our reaching out into the community, they may come to know you.

P: Shepherding God,

C: renew us, guide us with your love and renew us with your peace. Amen

~ written by Rev. Abi and posted on her Long and Winding Road blog. <http://vicarofwadley.blogspot.ca/>

OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING - local food shelves

+ OFFERTORY SONG **ELW # 712**
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (verse 1)
Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart; consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.

+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

+ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION

(We welcome all who have put their faith, trust & hope in Jesus Christ to commune here with us.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

ALL: Amen.

Please stand as you are comfortable and receive the blessing.

+ BLESSING AND AMEN

P: May the God of peace, who raised to life the great shepherd of the sheep, make us ready to do his will in every good thing, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

C: Alleluia! Amen. (spoken)

+ BELL TOLL

+ SENDING HYMN **ELW # 595**
Jesus Loves Me!
Chosen by Jed Walsh

+ DISMISSAL

P: Go forth in joy to love and serve God in all that you do.

C: We are sent in the name of the risen Christ.

P: Let us bless our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Baxter & Saron Lutheran Church **Pastor Matt Danielson**
Serving together to make Jesus known in our communities and beyond

Organists: Ardyce Thompson - JoAnn Teichert
Lay Readers: Volunteer - Karen Jacobson
Ushers: Mike Hoime - Steve Jacobson & Scott Jacobson
Acolytes: Ushers



Easter 4 April 21, 2024
Confirmation Sunday at Saron
452 Followers of Jesus Christ

Communion Assistants: Brenda Berends - Michelle May
Altar Committees: Brenda Berends & Tracy Maher - Karen Jacobson & Michelle May
Church Office Physical Address: 802 N. 2nd St. Montevideo Pastor Matt's email: pr.d7033@gmail.com
Mailing Address: PO Box 43 Montevideo, MN 56265 Pastor Matt's cell phone: 320-226-5845
Office phone: 320-269-8260 web site: baxtersaron.weebly.com Office email: baxtersaron@msn.com

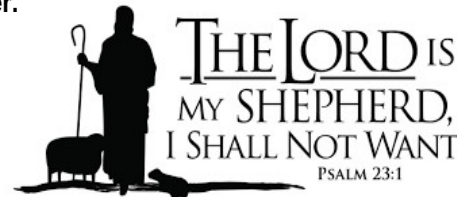
PRELUDE / BELL TOLL / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP **Psalm 23** (spoken in unison)

**ALL: The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.
He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.**



GATHERING HYMN **ELW # 764**
Have No Fear, Little Flock

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
P: Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all.
ALL: We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

P: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

ALL: Amen.



GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Lord, we would follow you wherever you might lead.

ALL: Lord, we would follow you.

Forgive us when we stumble and when we stray.

Forgive us when, distracted we lose our way.

Be the one to whom we turn, whose hand we hold, the Shepherd who leads us safely to the fold.

Lord, we would follow you wherever you might lead.

Lord, we would follow you. Amen.

~ written by John Birch, and posted on Faith and Worship.
<http://www.faithandworship.com/>

Stand up for the shepherd who lays down his life.
Pastor Matt

PRAYER

ALL: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel,

that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ GOSPEL READING John 10:11-18

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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."

P: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON *It's who you know, not what you know.*

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW # 502
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

SARON AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM *(insert)*

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM



BENJAMIN MATTHEW BALDWIN

Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.
Deuteronomy 31:6

KEELEY KARLEEN JAENISCH

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.
Psalms 23:4

CHLOE LYNN SACHARIASON

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9

JED JAMES WALSH

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.
John 3:16

+ BAXTER APOSTLES' CREED
(in back cover of red hymnal)

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: O Lord, our Shepherding God,

**C: come close to us now
Come near us in our time of need.**

P: Shepherding God,

**C: we need you in our time of anxiety.
We need you in our time of economic uncertainty.
We need you in a time of a globe-trotting disease.
We need you to bind our wounds,
and pour your healing ointment on our heads.
We need the briars, and brambles, and burrs
pulled out of our fleece and skin.**

P: Shepherding God.

**C: you guide us with your voice,
Help us to listen and follow no matter where your voice leads.
Help us to trust you.**

P: Shepherding God,

**C: protect us from the hired hands
that do not really care for us
and have neglected or abused us in the past.**