

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Home Devotional May 3, 2020**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Psalm: Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
    He leads me beside still waters.  
<sup>3</sup>He restores my soul.  
    He leads me in paths of righteousness for his  
name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup>Even 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.  
<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
    you anoint my head with oil;  
    my cup overflows.  
<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
    and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**First Reading: Acts 2:42–47**

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup>And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup>And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup>And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 2:19–25**

<sup>19</sup>This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges

justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

**740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

- 1 I am Jesus' little lamb,  
Ever glad at heart I am;  
For my Shepherd gently guides me,  
Knows my need and well provides me,  
Loves me ev'ry day the same,  
Even calls me by my name.
- 2 Day by day, at home, away,  
Jesus is my staff and stay.  
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,  
Into pleasant pastures leads me;  
When I thirst, He bids me go  
Where the quiet waters flow.
- 3 Who so happy as I am,  
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?  
And when my short life is ended,  
By His angel host attended,  
He shall fold me to His breast,  
There within His arms to rest.

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**Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened 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.

**Acknowledgments**

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