

A hand in a white sleeve reaches out from the left, pointing towards a small, fluffy white lamb lying on the ground in a field. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a large, dark, rounded rock formation under a cloudy sky. The text "I AM the Good Shepherd" is overlaid in a golden, serif font.

I AM the Good Shepherd

Ascension Lutheran Church and School
Good Shepherd Sunday ~ April 25, 2021

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

April 25, 2021

WELCOME to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23-30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians, (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine, (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament, and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins.

(Grape juice is available for those who not drink alcohol and gluten free wafers are available upon request.)

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11: 23-30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos, (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino, (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento, y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio.

(El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol y obleas libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición).

P = Pastor, **C** = Congregation, **A** = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

“Our Good Shepherd”

AS WE GATHER

Of all the animals that could have been used to portray humanity, does it feel strange to be called a sheep? After all, it is not the most honorable creature. There are no defense mechanisms to escape a predator, no intimidating roar, and limited ability to fend for one's self when it comes to seeking nourishment, water, and safety. Yet these things reveal the point we are called to understand. It may not be good to be a sheep on our own, but it is great to be a sheep with a Good Shepherd to care for the flock. Jesus is our perfect shepherd who protects and defends, feeds and nourishes, leads and provides all we need in this body and life. Together as His flock, we are blessed to follow Him as by His Word and Means of Grace He leads us to streams of living water and paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

PRELUDE (11:00)

“Shepherd Psalm”

by: Don and Jaree Hall/arr. Mary McDonald
Ascension Choir

*Gentle Shepherd, Lord of all, In Your care, I'll never want.
Lay me down in pastures green; Guide, protect, supply my need;
Guide, protect, supply my need.*

*By the water, still and pure, Cleanse and keep my soul secure.
For Your Name, my way protect, Led in paths of righteousness;
Led in paths of righteousness.*

*Tho' the vale of death be near, Shadows dark, I need not fear.
Care and comfort You provide, Keep in safety by Your side;
Keep in safety by Your side.*

*Goodness, mercy follow me; 'Til the day I dwell with Thee.
In Your house forevermore. Safely home on heaven's shore;
Safely home on heaven's shore!*

*Life below, I leave behind; Son of God, forever shine!
When my time on earth is done, I'll awake to heaven's Sun;
I'll awake to heaven's Sun!*

*Gentle Shepherd, Lord of all, In Your care, I'll never want.
Lay me down in pastures green; Guide, protect, supply my need;
Guide protect, supply my need; my need.*

WELCOME

HYMN

“Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us”

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *1 John 3:16a, 24; John 10:11*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P By this we know love,
C that He laid down His life for us.

P “I am the good shepherd,” says the Lord.
C The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

P Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him.
C And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 23; John 10:11

- P** The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.
- C** **Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we confess to You that we have overlooked all You give us to sustain our bodies and lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
- C** **Like sheep, we are distracted and tend to wander. We fail to respond to Your shepherding in our lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** 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.
- C** **During trials we sometimes struggle to trust in Your presence and protection. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
- C** **As we journey through this sinful world, we often ignore the goodness and mercy that flow into our lives from You. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.**
- P** Jesus, our Good Shepherd, hears our cries and says to us, "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." Receive the forgiveness won for You through Christ's laying down His life and rising from death in victory. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠ THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Acts 4:1–12 (ESV)

(Peter and John witness before the council.)

And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴ But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. ⁵ On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷ And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 3:16–18 (ESV)

(Love one another.)

¹⁶ By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMBS' LESSON

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11–18 (ESV)

(Jesus the Good Shepherd)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the tenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹¹ I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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 And I have other sheep that are not of 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 that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from My Father."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

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.

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.

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.

SERMON

“I GOT YOU”

John 10:11–18
Pastor Jim Sprengle

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

(11:00)

“He Shall Feed His Flock”
Joseph M. Martin
Karon Keup & Brad Hall, duo

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us come before the Lamb and His throne and bring to Him the prayers of all His people and everyone according to their needs:

Shepherd of love, You have delivered us from our sins and from the power of death and made us Your people forever. Give to us Your Spirit that we know the fullness of Your goodness now until we know Your joy forever in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Loving God, we thank You for calling us into Your family and giving us treasures beyond our dreams. Keep our eyes fixed on You in this valley of the shadow of death that we might dwell in Your house forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the ill, the suffering, and all who mourn...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those who are celebrating...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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.**

(8:30 service, please turn to page 12 for the Benediction)

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**We believe in the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.
Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.
(Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol
and gluten free wafers are available upon request.)**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

(Latin for "Peace of the Lord" - the response is, "Amen!", or "So be it!")

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Shepherd Of Love"

Shepherd of love, You knew I had lost my way.
Shepherd of love, You cared that I'd gone astray.
You sought and found me, placed around me
Strong arms that carried me home.
No foe can harm me or alarm me,
Never again will I roam.
Shepherd of love,
Savior and Lord and guide.
Shepherd of love,
Forever I'll stay by your side.

Shepherd of love, contentment at last is mine.
Deep in my heart there's peace and a joy divine.
The future's brighter, burden's lighter,
My cup runs over each day.
Your grace supplied me now provides me
All that I need for the way.
Shepherd of love,
Savior and Lord and guide.
Shepherd of love,
Forever I'll stay by your side.

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

The King of Love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse 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 Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE and BENEDICTION *Hebrews 13:20–21*

- P** “Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.
- C** **Amen.”**
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*
- C** **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN

“Shepherd Of Tender Youth”

(tune: “Come, Thou Almighty King”)

Shepherd of tender youth, Guiding in love and truth
Through devious ways; Christ, our triumphant king,
We come Your name to sing And here our children bring
To join Your praise.

You are the great High Priest; You have prepared the feast
Of holy love; And in our mortal pain
None calls on You in vain; Our plea do not disdain;
Help from above.

O ever be our guide, Our shepherd, and our pride,
Our staff and song. Jesus, O Christ of God,
By Your enduring Word Lead us where You have trod;
Make our faith strong.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

Sections of this service were taken from *Creative Worship*, Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted by permission.

Sections of this service were taken from: Creative Worship Resources, Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise noted, all hymns printed in this service are in the Public Domain.

“Shepherd Psalm” by Don and Jaree Hall, arr. Mary McDonald © 2007 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation. Used by permission under OneLicense #A-729093 All rights reserved.

“Shepherd Of Love”, Peterson, John W. © 1966 John W. Peterson Music Company. CCLI License No. 759893

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 25, 2021

† SERVICES RESUME AT NORMAL TIMES

8:30 and 11:00am with adult education class at 9:45am. Approximately 40 per service can attend. Please call or email the office to save your space! 503-665-8821 or office at alcpportland.org

† ALTERNATIVES FOR HOMEBOUND WORSHIP AND DEVOTIONS

- Radio: KPDQ on 93.9FM Sunday mornings at 7:00am.
- alcpportland.org for Bible Studies and Worship Services

† HELP NEEDED FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you are coming to service, think about offering to be a servant during worship. Let Pastor or Michele know where you can help!

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail:
office@alcportland.org

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Carolyn Erdmann, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, The Family of Randy Arronson, The family of Jim Kuether, Jr., Mary Niska, Larry Hart, The Family of Jack Webber, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, John Eilers and Family, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Lewis Eilers, The Family of Ordena Laxton, The Family of Wayne Rippon, Rich Zahursky, Audrey Bauch, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Elly Brown, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath, All those suffering or infected with Covid-19.

**Home Bound.*

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);

Jon Porath, Air Force — Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas NV (son of Dale and Sherry Porath);

Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);

Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Bob East	4/26	Sasha Harris	4/28
Nekayla Maier	4/28	Ty Fogarty	4/29
Allan Krueger	4/30		
Shorty Bauch	5/1	Mike Fogarty	5/1
Mel Haggard	5/1	Alex Ritchie	5/1
Brooklyn Spencer	5/1		

BIRTHDAYS

Blayne Lambert 4/30

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – None

EVENTS AT ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 25

8:30am Worship
9:45am Adult Education
11:00am Worship with Communion

Thursday, April 29

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, May 2

8:30am Worship with Communion
9:45am Adult Education
11:00am Worship

Thursday, May 6

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

† SERVANTS THIS MORNING

8:30am Service

Door and Offering: Sue Lewis
PP and A/V: Michele Sprengle

11:00am Service

Needed
Laura Potter

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750
Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission”*

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God’s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God’s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

Rev. Jim Sprengle, Pastor
pastor@alcportland.org

Ruberto Ek Yah, Vicar
vicar@alcportland.org

Rev. Dan Critchett, Christian Outreach
pastordan@alcportland.org

Brad Hall, Worship and Music Coordinator
worship@alcportland.org

Michele Sprengle, Office Administrator
office@alcportland.org

Wanda Cassetty, Council Secretary
council@alcportland.org

Bonnie Webber, Treasurer
Rebecca Williamson, Assistant Treasurer
treasurer@alcportland.org

