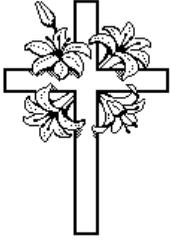


*Victorious*



Good Shepherd Sunday



To the world Jesus seemed like a defeated man... until his resurrection from the dead on the third day. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering our favorite athlete. Rather, we are active participants in Christ's triumph... we are VICTORIOUS. That's the main point of Easter and of the sermons based on the book of Revelation for this Easter season:

Today – Over all that threatens us!

## Grace Lutheran Church

6550 Fairmont Blvd  
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

714-779-2384 / [www.gracelutheran.church](http://www.gracelutheran.church)

*Gathering around GRACE – Growing in GRACE – Going with GRACE  
In the land of gracious living*

We are part of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod, churches throughout the world united to share Jesus.

We are part of the federation of Californian Lutheran High School here in southern California.

Whether you are a first time visitor or back at "home", we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come and worship with us again.

- If you would like more information about Grace Church, we would love to share. Speak with Pastor Sievert or any of our members. You may also want to check out our website [www.gracelutheran.church](http://www.gracelutheran.church).



- Restrooms are located across the breezeway just inside our Grace Hall.

Notice today that The Paschal Candle, lighted during the Easter Season and at every baptism, connects us to the Savior's resurrection. As Jesus lives and is the light of the world, so we have life with God.



## Worship

Easter 4  
May 8, 2022

*This is the fourth Sunday of the Easter Season in the Church Year, a Sunday that is set aside to observe the beautiful picture of God's love in the Bible when Jesus is described as our GOOD SHEPHERD.*

*Today, in the Gospel, Jesus gives his church the Keys, the power to forgive sins in his name. Heaven is open!*

### OPENING RESPONSE

M: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

M: The open tomb proclaims his victory.

**C: Death no longer has dominion; life will reign eternally.**

M: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**[M]** In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**[C]** Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**[M]** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**[C]** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**[M]** When Jesus appeared to the disciples on Easter evening, he told them, "Peace be with you. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." Therefore, as a called 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. *(spoken)*

[M] In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## THE WORD

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

[M] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[M] Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd. You laid down your life for us, your sheep. Lead us now to still waters of your life-giving Word that we may live in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C] **Amen. (*spoken*)**

### FIRST READING

**Ezekiel 34:25-31**

<sup>25</sup> "I will make a covenant of peace with them and rid the land of savage beasts so that they may live in the wilderness and sleep in the forests in safety. <sup>26</sup> I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing. <sup>27</sup> The trees will yield their fruit and the ground will yield its crops; the people will be secure in their land. They will know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke and rescue them from the hands of those who enslaved them. <sup>28</sup> They will no longer be plundered by the nations, nor will wild animals devour them. They will live in safety, and no one will make them afraid. <sup>29</sup> I will provide for them a land renowned for its crops, and they will no longer be victims of famine in the land or bear the scorn of the nations. <sup>30</sup> Then they will know that I, the LORD their God, am with them and that they, the Israelites, are my people, declares the Sovereign LORD. <sup>31</sup> You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Sovereign LORD."

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

<sup>22</sup> Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,<sup>23</sup> and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade.<sup>24</sup> The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

*You are invited to sing the refrain with the choir, after each of the verses.*

<sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me,<sup>26</sup> but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one."

*After the Gospel, we say:*

L. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God, he gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**



## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 23

Setting: Marty Haugen

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -  
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. **Refrain**

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name. **Refrain**

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. **Refrain**

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. **Refrain**

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. **Refrain**

## SERMON

**Revelation 7:13-17**

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

<sup>14</sup>I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne  
will shelter them with his presence.

<sup>16</sup> ‘Never again will they hunger;  
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,’ <sup>[Isaiah 49:10]</sup>  
nor any scorching heat.

<sup>17</sup>For the Lamb at the center of the throne  
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’ <sup>[Isaiah 49:10]</sup>

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’ <sup>[Isaiah 25:8]”</sup>

**WEAR WHAT  
THEY WEAR**



## APOSTLES' CREED

**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 of 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**

## **OFFERING OF PRAYERS**

*We bring our requests before God in a responsive prayer based on Psalm 23. Please refer to the video screen to participate in the prayer.*

*We bring all our other requests to God in the prayer Jesus taught:*

**[ALL] 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 ever.  
Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

L. 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 favor and (+) give you peace.  
**[C] Amen. (*spoken*)**