

squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

**Amen.**

### **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.**

### **Sending Song** *My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW #763*

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

### **Refrain**

**No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?**

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? **Refrain**

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord, my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he  
giveth. **Refrain**

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? **Refrain**

### **Blessing**

May the goodness and mercy of the Lord, our Good shepherd, follow you  
all the days of your life, and may you dwell in the house of the Lord forever.  
**Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Go in Grace, Grow in Faith, Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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FAITH-LILAC WAY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Shepherd Me O God

## April 6, 2022



God pursues us  
with grace.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life.

Psalm 23:6

## Welcome to worship!

See all our worship options and Covid safety protocols on pages 7 and 8!

## Gathering Song See Insert

*O Servants of God | Your Canopy of Vigil Lights, verses 1 and 3*

## Candle Lighting Litany

Jesus, you are the light of the world. Shine the light of your word and your way upon us so that we may see:

In the midst of suffering, pain and sorrow and in all of our joys and in gladness,

### **God is with us.**

Despite our insatiable desires and our fear of scarcity,

### **God is a shepherd who provides.**

When we feel lost, lonely or have lost our way,

### **God leads and guides us.**

Even when we feel ashamed or unworthy or somehow “less than,” God not only makes room for us, but

### **God gives us a place of honor.**

We seek God only to discover that we can trust God’s promises because:

### **God pursues us with grace;**

God provides for us, leads us, and honors us because

### **God loves us.**

We respond with faith. As we light a candle this night, we bring to you all of our cares and concerns for ourselves, our community and the world. We pray especially for...

*You are invited to light a candle in the window as you sing and pray. Please maintain space between each other - there is plenty of time for candle lighting..*

## Prayer Refrain O Lord, Hear My Prayer ELW #751

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and listen to me.**

## Prayer

Let us pray together: Loving God,

**there isn’t anywhere we can go where you are not. Surprise us with moments of grace, with a promise that we don’t earn, and with a blessing to share with the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Scripture

### **Romans 5:6-11 (NRSV)**

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## **Psalm 23 (NRSV)**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name’s sake.

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.

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  
my whole life long.*

## Homily “The Lord Pursues us with Grace” **Vicar Kyle Anderson**

### The 23rd Psalm in Song *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need* ELW #782

My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name.

In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.

You bring my wand’ring spirit back when I forsake your ways,

and lead me, for your mercy’s sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay;

one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.

Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;

my cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;

oh, may your house be my abode and all my work be praise.

Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;

no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

### Faith Practice: Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

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

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have**