

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r 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**

**Faith Practice: Holy Communion & Hospitality**

*Jesus demonstrates hospitality by welcoming you to his table. We can engage in the faith practice of hospitality by welcoming others just as Jesus Christ welcomes us. Reflect on one way you can offer hospitality to someone this week.*

**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** *We Are All One in Christ ELW #643*

We are all one in Christ, we are one body,  
all one people out of many.  
We are all one in Christ, we are one body,  
all one people out of many.  
There is one God, and only one Lord,  
there is one faith, one holy love.  
There is one baptism, there is one Spirit,  
who is God the comforter. **(sing two times through)**

**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

## March 30, 2022

God gives us  
a place of honor.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

**Psalm 23:5**

## Welcome to worship!

**Gathering Song** *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,

**we sometimes forget that you created us just a little lower than the angels and that we don’t have to earn the love that you offer us. Remind us of our gifts, call us to share them in your world, so that we might witness and celebrate the talents of others. Amen.**

### **Scripture**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-27** (NRSV)

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member,

where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

### **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 Gives Us a Place of Honor” **Deacon Kirsten Kessel**

**The 23rd Psalm in Song** *Shepherd Me, O God ELW #780*

**Refrain**

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears,  
from death into 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**