

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5 & 8, 2022

*Fulfilled Works March Victorious Over  
Empty Words*

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**Opening Hymn** .....551, “Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep”

**Order of Service (From Supplement)** ..... Gathering Rite on the Word of God, Page 11

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

### FIRST READING

**Psalm of the Day** .....Psalm 23F

### SECOND READING

**Gospel Acclamation Verse:** Alleluia. *I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.* Alleluia.

### GOSPEL

**Hymn of the Day** .....757, “Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd”

**(Thursday) – SERMON – “The Lamb’s My Shepherd; I’ll Not Want”** .....Revelation 7:9-17

**(Sunday) – EXAMINATION OF CONFIRMANDS**

**Apostles’ Creed** ..... Page 20

**Prayers/Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn** ..... 510, “In Christ Alone”

**Closing Prayer/Benediction**

**Closing Hymn** ..... 746 vv. 1 & 6, “I Love to Tell the Story”

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### FIRST READING: Acts 13:15-16a,26-39

**St. Paul points out that Jesus’ death and resurrection both fulfilled the Scripture. They prove not only that we are forgiven, but also that every promise God makes to us shall ultimately be fulfilled.**

*After the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, “Gentlemen, brothers, if you have a word of encouragement for the people, say it.”*

*Then Paul stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, “Gentlemen, brothers, sons of Abraham’s family, and those among you who fear God, this message of salvation has been sent to you. The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize him, and by condemning him they fulfilled the statements of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. Though they found no grounds for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. When they carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead, and for*

*many days he was seen by those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. These same individuals are now his witnesses to the people. “We are preaching to you the good news about the promise that was made to our fathers. God has fulfilled this promise for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: You are my Son. Today I have begotten you. “That God would raise him from the dead never again to be subject to decay, God said in this way: I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David. “Therefore he also says in another place: You will not let your Holy One see decay. “For David, after he had served God’s purpose in his own generation, fell asleep, was laid to rest with his fathers, and saw decay. But the One God raised did not see decay. “So, gentlemen, brothers, let it be known to you that through this Jesus forgiveness of sins is being proclaimed to you, also forgiveness from everything from which you could not be justified through the law of Moses. In this Jesus, everyone who believes is justified.”*

### SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

**God’s promise to rescue all believers from the tribulation of this world is not just empty words. St. John sees that promise fulfilled through the work of the Lamb.**

*After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. They called out with a loud voice and said: Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb. All the angels stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen.*

*One of the elders spoke to me and said, “These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?” And I answered him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me: These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Because of this they are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again. The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat, for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.*

### GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

**Both Jesus words and his works are identical to that of the Father, for he and the Father are one. Therefore, the protecting hand of the Good Shepherd is almighty.**

*Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple area in Solomon’s Colonnade. So the Jews gathered around Jesus, asking, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered them, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I am doing in my Father’s name testify about me. But you do not believe, because you are not my sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HEAD USHERS:** Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwycgart; next week: Don Koch/Doug Schulz

**ORGANISTS!!** The **May** schedule is hanging on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board. Please look at your calendars in the near future and sign up for the date(s) you are willing to play for us. Thank you!

**ANNUAL GROUNDS INSPECTION:** All church council members are reminded that our annual grounds inspection will take place at the **Wednesday, (May 11)** council meeting. This meeting will begin at **6:30 PM!**

**\*\*\*ELDERS—**please be reminded that your meeting will begin at **6:00 PM** that evening.

**THE EXAMINATION** of this year's confirmation class will take place on **Sunday (TODAY), May 8**. They will be confirmed at the **Sunday, May 15**, worship service. This year's confirmands are: Dietrich Johnson, Christian Neu, Braxton Reible, Logan Robenhorst, and Lucas Wald.

**ALTAR OFFERING:** This year's altar offering will be taken on **Thursday, May 12**, and **Sunday, May 15**. The money received has been designated as follows: 100% to the parking lot repair/replacement project. Please look for the special envelope marked **Altar Offering** in your envelope packets.

**WE WANT YOUR OPINION!** In your mail slots in the school hallway you will find a survey to gauge your interest in a few church-related matters. While we have placed just one copy of the survey in each mail slot, we are inviting and encouraging **ALL CONFIRMED** members of our congregation to complete this survey, so additional copies of it can be found on the table at the back of church should others in your household choose to respond. Please return your completed surveys to the designated basket on the table at the back of church by **Friday, July 1**. Thank you!

**WALL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT:** Our school will be hosting this year's WALL Softball Tournament on **Friday-Saturday, May 13-14**, at the Iron Ridge Firemen's Park. All are invited and encouraged to come down and cheer our team on as well as enjoy the concessions which will be served throughout the tournament. Games begin on **Friday** at **4:00 PM** and on **Saturday** at **9:00 AM**. St. Matthew's first game is at **10:00 AM** on **Saturday**. If you would be interested in helping in any way (i.e. working concessions, grilling, providing donations, setting up, cleaning up), please speak with Kevin Lorge as soon as possible. We need all the help we can get with this big of an endeavor!

**PLANT EXCHANGE:** This year's plant exchange will take place on **Sunday, May 22**. We are handling this event a little differently than in the past. Please check out the sign-up sheet located on the church bulletin board for more information and instructions. If you wish to "exchange" plants on a different date than May 22, please feel free to make alternate arrangements with any parties involved. If you have any questions about the exchange, please direct them to **Wayne Schultz** or **Diane Koch**.

**WE WISH** all our mothers a very happy and blessed Mother's Day on Sunday!

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God by Dave & Ruth Mamerow in celebration of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

**Attendance:** Thursday: 18; Sunday: 119

**Offerings:** \$5,776.05

*(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$6,661.00)*

**Special Funds:** Debt Retirement: \$410.00; Undesignated Memorials (Debt Retirement): \$585.00; Altar Offering: \$200.00; Church Refurbishment: \$25.00; Cemetery: \$100.00; Christian Life Resources: \$20.00; Christian Aid & Relief: \$20.00

**Memorials:** In Memory of Otto Fiedler: \$710.00

## OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday:                   Worship Service (**Examination Sunday**) ..... 9:00 AM  
**Mother's Day**

Tuesday:                School Board Meeting ..... 6:00 PM

Wednesday:           Elders' Meeting..... **6:00 PM!!**  
Church Council (**Annual Grounds Inspection**) ..... **6:30 PM!!**

Thursday:              Communion Worship Service ..... 7:00 PM  
**ALTAR OFFERING**  
Adult Choir..... 8:00 PM  
**SCRIP ORDERS DUE**

Sunday:                 Communion Worship Service (**Confirmation**)..... 9:00 AM  
**ALTAR OFFERING**

# 23F My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Psalm 23F



1 My shep - herd will sup - ply my need, Je -  
2 When I walk through the shades of death, his  
3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at -



ho - vah is his name; in pas - tures fresh he  
pres - ence is my stay; one word of his sup -  
tend me all my days; oh, may his house be



makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.  
port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.  
my a - bode and all my work be praise.



He brings my wan - d'ring spir - it back when  
His hand, in sight of all my foes, will  
There would I find a set - tled rest while



I for - sake his ways and leads me, for his  
still my ta - ble spread; my cup with bless - ings  
oth - ers go and come, no more a stran - ger



mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
o - ver - flows; his oil a - noints my head.  
or a guest but like a child at home.

Text: Isaac Watts, alt.

Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, ed. William Walker

Text and tune: Public domain