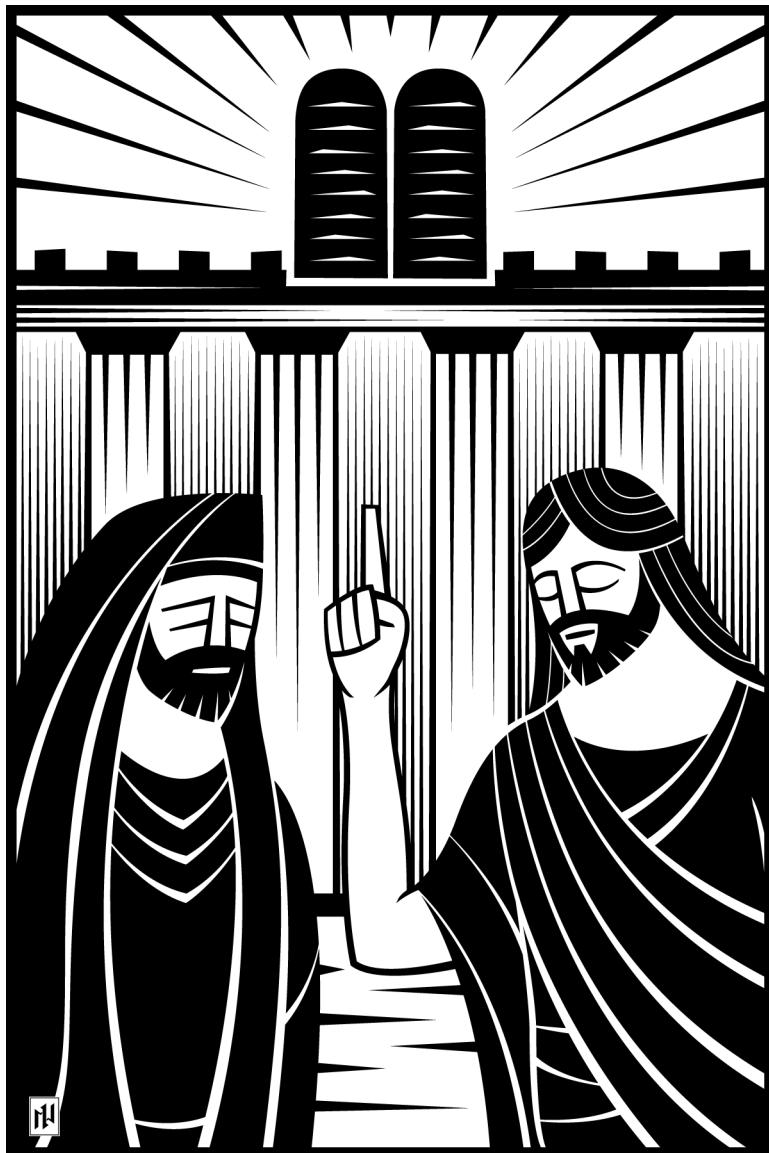


"BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM"



Fifth Sunday in Lent
Living Shepherd Lutheran Church
365 W. Grand Ave Laramie, WY
April 7, 2019



WELCOME TO LIVING SHEPHERD!

A FEW NOTES BEFORE WORSHIP

- *We're so glad you joined us for worship today!*
- *Restrooms are located on your right and on your left immediately after you walk through the double doors next to the fire place.*
- *We love having children in our worship service! However, if your child becomes restless, the café (first door on the left past the restrooms) is a great place to regroup and grab a cup of coffee.*
- *You are our guest! If there is something else we can help you with, please let any one of us know!*
- *Finally, you'll find everything you need for worship printed in this service folder. Lord's blessings on your worship!*

TODAY'S SERVICE

Today, we'll hear the LORD call Moses to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt. Moses is concerned the Israelites will ask him who sent him to lead them out of Egypt and wants to know what he's supposed to tell them. The LORD replies, "say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" Our God is the "I Am" God. He's the always present, eternal God who transcends time and space—who knows all things, possesses infinite power, and loves you with a perfect love that's hard for us to understand. In our Gospel lesson for this morning, Jesus will refer to himself as "I Am," and that's great news for us! God bless your worship!

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, in humility You came to this earth, to bring life to us humans. Use Your word to bring me life today. Fill me with appreciation for Your goodness and Your grace as I see Your humility, winning life for me. Bless my worship, O Savior! Amen.

OPENING HYMN

HYMN 106 — COME TO CALVARY'S HOLY MOUNTAIN



1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho - ly moun-tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean-ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound-ed, par - a -
4 He that drinks shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean-ness,
lyzed, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows to you, to me, to all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break his cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; You shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; He that drinks shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: NAAR MIT ÖIE (87 87 77) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87.

INVOCATION

*The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross
remind worshipers of their baptisms.*

- P: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

CONFSSION

- P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.
- C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

*The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners." For further information see: John 20:21-23.
Also see Luther's Small Catechism, "The Use of the Keys and Confession."*

- P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GOD'S WORD

EXODUS 3:1–15

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.³ So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”⁴ When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”⁵ “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”⁶ Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering.⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.⁹ And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them.¹⁰ So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” ¹² And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.” ¹³ Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.

PSALM 45 (printed on the next page)

HEBREWS 9:11–15

¹¹ When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. ¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

¹⁵ For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

PSALM 45

Refrain



Great are the works of the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone

*



My heart is stirred by a noble theme*
as I recite my verses for the King.

You are the most excellent of men,*
and your lips have been anointed with grace.

Gird your sword upon your side, O Mighty One;*
clothe yourself with splendor and majesty.

In your majesty ride forth victoriously;
let your right hand display awesome deeds.

Refrain

Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever.*
a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

You love righteousness and hate wickedness;
therefore God has anointed you with the oil of joy.

I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;
therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer. © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer (admin.
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HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN 110—*MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN*

(The children may come forward during verse 5 for the children's devotion)



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew his way And his sweet prais - es
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and
5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might
stow, But such dis - disdain! So few The longed - for
sing, Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas
spite? He made the lame to run; He gave the
way. A mur - der - er they save; The Prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my
Christ would know! But oh, my friend, My friend in -
to their King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their
blind their sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at
life they slay. Yet cheer-ful he To suff'r-ing



sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
deed, Who at my need His life did spend!
breath, And for his death They thirst and cry.
these Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst him rise.
goes That he his foes From death might free.

6 In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was his home
But mine the tomb
Wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing;
No story so divine,
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust.
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GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

JOHN 8:46–59

"BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, I AM!"

⁴⁶ Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? ⁴⁷ He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

⁴⁸ The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"

⁴⁹ "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹ I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death."

⁵² At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"

⁵⁴ Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. ⁵⁵ Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and keep his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷ "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!"

⁵⁸ "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

⁵⁹ At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

CONFSSION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The original text here reads "catholic," a word meaning "universal." The Church consists of all believers in heaven and on earth, of every time in history.*

WORSHIP REGISTERS

*Thanks for visiting us today! We'd love to have a record of your visit!
Any information you'd be willing to share would be greatly appreciated!*

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, the people of Living Shepherd offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. To those visiting, you are our guests. While your gifts are welcome, please do not feel obligated to give.

You can also support our ministry by clicking the "give" button at www.LivingShepherd.com

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

We pray on behalf of this church as well as on behalf of God's people throughout our nation and the world.

- P: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.
- C: **We confess that without your love we are lost.**
- P: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.
- C: **Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**
- P: Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.
- C: **By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**
- P: Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.
- C: **Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**
- P: Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.
- C: **Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- P: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- P: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear us and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare. For it was your only Son who taught us 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.**

PREFACE

The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

- P: The Lord be with you.

C:



C: And al - so with you.

- P: Lift up your hearts.

C:



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C:



C: It is good and right so to do.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY –*Sanctus*

Sanctus means “holy.” Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use.
The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.*

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C:



THIS IS MY
BODY
THIS IS MY
BLOOD



LAMB OF GOD—*Agnus Dei*

Jesus is God's Lamb [Agnus Dei], who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. In light of our Lord's clear warning concerning His Holy Supper in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29, we ask you take the opportunity to join us in studying what our God has to say concerning this Holy Supper prior to communing.

SONG OF SIMEON—*Nunc Dimittis*

The *Nunc Dimittis* [“Now dismiss”] is also known as the “Song of Simeon.” Through God’s Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light-en the
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good

A musical staff in G clef, common time. It starts with a quarter note followed by a half note, then a eighth note tied to another eighth note, and finally a quarter note.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

P: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A musical staff in G clef, common time. It starts with a quarter note, followed by a eighth note tied to another eighth note, and then a quarter note.

C: A - men.

BLESSING

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years.

*The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them],
and I will bless them" [Numbers 6:27].*

P: 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.

A musical staff in G clef, common time. It consists of a series of eighth notes followed by a quarter note.

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

*HYMN 125 — WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDEROUS CROSS
(printed on the next page)*

125

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,



On which the Prince of glo - ry died,
 Save in the death of Christ, my God.
 Sor - row and love flow min - gled down.
 That were a trib - ute far too small;



My rich - est gain I count but loss
 All the vain things that charm me most,
 Did e'er such love and sor - row meet
 Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,



And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 De - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
 Tune: HAMBURG (LM) Lowell Mason, 1792–1872.



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Living Shepherd Logo by Rachel Westra — Westra Design

WELCOME!

We welcome everyone here today and thank you for joining us for worship! We hope that you will join us again soon.

TREATS FROM SWEETS BAKERY AND COFFEE!

We hope you can stick around after worship to join us for some treats from Sweets Bakery and some freshly brewed coffee!

WORSHIP SETUP

Thanks to those who helped set up for worship today! Next week, Martinez, Davis, and March families are on for set up. Set up starts at 8:30 AM.

BIBLE STUDY

Next week we'll conclude our study of the New Testament book of Philippians. Join us at 9 AM!

CALL MEETING

After worship today we'll have a brief Bible Study on the Divine Call followed by our first Call meeting.

PHYLLIS DAVIS' 60TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

You're all invited to Phyllis Davis' 60th birthday party after the call meeting today. The party will begin at 1:00pm at Alice Hardie Stevens Center. Food will be provided.

OTHER EVENTS

- LENT SERVICE

WEDNESDAY AT 6:30 PM

Pastor Pete Zaferos

E-mail address: *pastorzaf@gmail.com*

www.LivingShepherd.com

Pastor's Phone: (307) 399-9288

Call or Text Anytime!!

