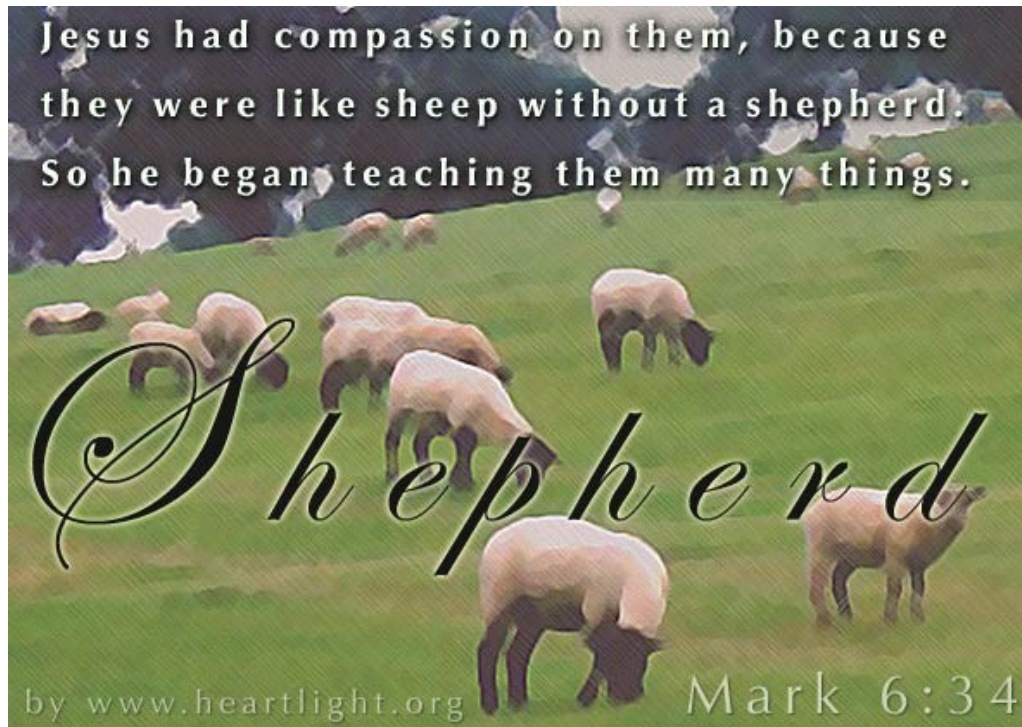


# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost July 21, 2024



**Thought:** Our purpose in life is more than busy-ness and productivity by which we may seek to justify our lives and distinguish ourselves from others. We are called to unity and a willingness to become the people, and the community, where God may build a home and dwell among us.

The so called shepherd psalm, traditionally attributed to David, celebrates trust in God's providence and leading – even in shadowed places and amongst enemies.

**Prelude** – Jill Rimington

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer Concerns**

## Call to Worship

L: Come, let us gather to offer God our praise and thanksgiving.

**C: Here we will remember the blessings God has bestowed upon us through Christ.**

L: Here we will claim the gift of hope and the promise of peace.

**C: Here we will join together as members of the household of God.**

## Prayer of Gathering

P: Lord Jesus come to us as we have come to you this morning.

**C: Reveal to us the truth about yourself. Show us who you are and what you are up to in the world and, while you're at it, tell us the truth about ourselves. Amen**

**Gathering Hymn - "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate" ELW #722 vss. 1-3**

<https://youtu.be/ubDtjCezcrl>

by St. Paul's Lutheran

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

**C: The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."**

P: Let us confess our sins to our good Shepherd, seeking his divine compassion.

*Silence for prayer and reflection*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess to you with contrite hearts that we have sinned. Our thoughts, our words, our deeds condemn us. We have wandered far from your paths of righteousness. For the sake of the innocent sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, we plead for mercy. Forgive our sins that we may follow where you lead, and dwell in your house forever.**

P: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your compassionate Shepherd, your sins are forgiven. Through him peace is restored, and you have access in one Spirit to the Father.

**C: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise** – “My Shepherd, You Supply My Need” ELW #782

<https://youtu.be/igpC4MKro8g>

by Holy Cross Choirs

### **Prayer of the Day**

L: We are like sheep, O God...

**C: without guidance we cannot think what is right.**

L: We are like sheep without a shepherd, O God...

**C: without a shepherd we cannot do what is right.**

L: Send your Holy Spirit into this your flock, O God –

**C: the powerful Spirit of Jesus, our Good Shepherd.**

L: Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now...

**C: and forever. Amen.**

### **The Word**

#### **Old Testament reading – Jeremiah 23:1-6**

*I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them.*

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. <sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

### **Epistle reading – Ephesians 2:11-22**

*Reconciled to God through Christ, our peace.*

<sup>11</sup> Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—<sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup> He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup> So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation ( please stand)**

**Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia.  
(John 10:27)**

**Holy Gospel – Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

<https://youtu.be/6qKqMfGi5x8?si=kt0wKrvWPdHxzG1s>

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you O Lord.**

*Jesus saw the great crowd; and had compassion for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd.*

<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.  
<sup>31</sup> He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.”  
For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup> And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup> Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup> When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup> When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup> and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup> And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**Children of God Time**

<https://youtu.be/icJDBupnXPm?si=gvpRDoDHbp8fVfmM>

**Message – “Compassionate Shepherds”**

<https://youtu.be/U4B4lca3zBI?si=IYUJtMScseEKkrIx>

**Hymn of the Day – “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” ELW #789**

[https://youtu.be/EQd2sh-nQ\\_M](https://youtu.be/EQd2sh-nQ_M)

by Martijn De Groot

## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead,  
on the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

P: One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

L: For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land: Through the One who is the cornerstone of a firm foundation, join us together and build us up as a temple of mercy and peace. In your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: For the creation: Cause new trees to be planted. Restrain the melting of polar ice caps. Save land from destruction. Like a shepherd tends her sheep, raise up from among us caretakers of all you have made. In your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: For the leaders of nations and heads of tribes (*especially*): Where peace seems far off, bring it near. Where justice seems fleeting, bring it to light. Where discord seems relentless, bring harmony. In your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: For the health and well-being of family, friends, and neighbors: Heal those who are sick (*especially*). Give courage to all who struggle with addiction. Touch with your tender care all who reach out to you in pain. In your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: For this assembly and for the faith communities represented this week at the ELCA Youth Gathering: Nurture the faith of young people as they encounter new experiences and people. Break down dividing walls and inspire collaboration among people of every age. In your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: In thanksgiving for those who have died (*especially*): Make us certain that in Christ we are no longer strangers and aliens but citizens with the saints in the household of God. In your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Offering/Offertory Music** – “We All Are One in Mission” ELW #576

### **Offertory Prayer**

L: Into our midst you have sent your Son, heavenly Father.

**C: Into your flock you have sent a Shepherd.**

L: Guide us even now...

**C: ...even in our giving...**

L: ...that we may know and do your will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Preface**

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

### **Consecration**

#### **The 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.

### **Distribution**



**Communion Music** – Jill Rimington

**Post Communion Blessing** – Pastor

**Post Communion Prayer**

L: You have come to your sheep, O Shepherd –

**C: You have led us to this table. You have fed us rich food.**

L: Continue to guide us, O Shepherd.

**C: Continue to lead your sheep.**

L: We bless you now and evermore.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction from Numbers 6** – Pastor

**Sending Hymn** – “In Christ There Is No East or West” ELW #650

<https://youtu.be/1zzS8GjaxY4>

by Panoplyimaging

**Dismissal**

L: Go in peace sharing compassion with others.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude** – Jill Rimington

He  
restores  
my soul  
PSALM 23:3

