

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 18 & 21, 2024

Meaningful Ministry: Jesus Models a Compassionate Shepherd's Heart

In the ancient Middle East, a shepherd needed certain skills to do his job well: knowledge of edible grasses, ability to trim hooves, capacity to fend off predators, competency to birth lambs. However, the greatest qualification of a shepherd is much simpler. A good shepherd needed to care for his sheep. Without that, none of those other skills would be fully utilized.

In Scripture meaningful ministry is often pictured as a compassionate shepherd caring for his sheep: Jesus' care for us; a spiritual leader's care for his "flock." Certainly, gospel ministry requires specific skills: ability to actively listen to people, aptitude for applying the gospel to someone's situation, etc. But ultimately, meaningful ministry requires a compassionate heart—a profound caring for others. An individual might know God's Word backwards and forwards. But if they lack compassion, they will not fully perform meaningful ministry. Today, we ask the Spirit to see how Jesus models a compassionate shepherd's heart so that we might be filled with that same compassion.

Opening Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is CW 375



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My  
3 Con - fused and fool - ish oft I strayed, But  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With  
5 You spread a ta - ble in my sight, A



good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
Sav - ior gent - ly leads me; And where the ver - dant  
yet in love he sought me And on his shoul - der  
you, dear Lord, be - side me; Your rod and staff my  
ban - quet here be - stow - ing; Your oil of wel - come,



I am his, And he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feeds me.  
gent - ly laid And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still, Your cross be - fore to guide me.  
my de - light; My cup is o - ver - flow - ing!

6 And so through all the length of days  
Your goodness fails me never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
Within your house forever!

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen



MORRISON  
ZION  
LUTHERAN  
Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to  
**Glorify God**  
as we  
**Gather**  
around the Gospel  
to help people  
**Grow**  
in the Gospel  
and  
**Go**  
with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

---

## CONFESSION OF SINS

---

M: 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** (pronouncement of forgiveness)

M: 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 AND PRAISE

---

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

*Oh, Taste and See*



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



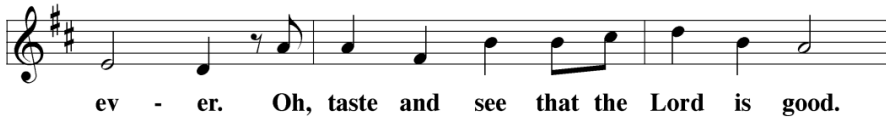
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



## Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who trust in you, mercifully hear our prayers. Be gracious to us in our weakness, and give us strength to keep your commandments in all we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

---

## THE WORD

---

### First Lesson

### Jeremiah 23:1-6

The LORD chastises spiritual shepherds for not bestowing care and compassion on their flock and promises to raise up good shepherds who would tend God's people.

<sup>1</sup>“Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!” declares the Lord. <sup>2</sup>Therefore this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: “Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done,” declares the Lord. <sup>3</sup>“I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. <sup>4</sup>I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>“The days are coming,” declares the Lord,  
“when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch,  
a King who will reign wisely  
and do what is just and right in the land.

<sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved  
and Israel will live in safety.

This is the name by which he will be called:  
The Lord Our Righteous Savior. (NIV)

*Refrain*



The Lord is my shep - herd; there is noth - ing I shall want.

*Psalm tone*



The LORD is my shepherd,\*  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;\*  
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;\*  
he guides me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,\*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

*Refrain*

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

Surely goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,\*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**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: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved.  
Used by permission.

## Second Lesson

**Hebrews 13:7-8,17-21**

In the first reading, the Lord promised to raise up faithful shepherds. That promise is kept when the Lord provides spiritual leaders who point us to the great Shepherd.

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

<sup>17</sup>Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

<sup>18</sup>Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way. <sup>19</sup>I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon.

<sup>20</sup>Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, <sup>21</sup>equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (NIV)

## Verse of the Day

**M:** My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia. (Isaiah 55:11b cf. NIV)

*Stand*

## Gospel

**Mark 6:30-34**

Jesus is filled with compassion for those who go through life like sheep without a shepherd.

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

<sup>32</sup>So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. <sup>33</sup>But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. (NIV)

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be Seated*

## Hymn of the Day

*Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* CW<sup>21</sup> 766



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of  
2 Still your chil - dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry  
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re -  
4 Sent from wor - ship as your ser - vants, forth in your dear



hu - man need, who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,  
cry for bread; still the cap - tives long for free - dom;  
veal - ing light in its height and depth and great - ness,  
name we go, to the child, the youth, the a - ged,



of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, we, your ser - vants,  
still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your  
dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, mak - ing known the  
love in liv - ing deeds to show; hope and health, good -



bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart, con - se -  
deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the  
needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear, stir - ring  
will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, that your



crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift that you im - part.  
love your Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.  
us to tire-less striv - ing, your a - bun - dant life to share.  
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

Text: © 1988 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712597

Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

**Jeremiah 23:1-6**

Pastor Phil Birner

*Stand*

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Be Seated*

## Offering

*Stand*

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

## Prayer of the Church

### 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.**

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

## Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen.

*Be Seated*

## Closing Hymn

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* CW 374



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 wand - '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, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: RESIGNATION (CM D) *A Compilation of Genuine Church Music*, Winchester, VA, 1832.