THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

April 21, 2024

Worship Focus Resurrection Reality The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding

resurrectiön REALity

Calvary Lutheran Church 9807 Church Road Dallas, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567 www.calvarydallas.org



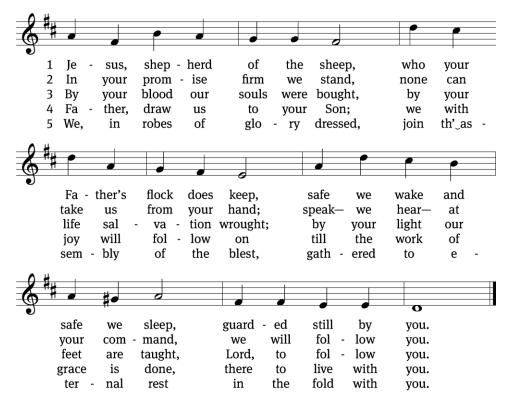
Order of Service for FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Order of Service

The Service: Setting Two

OPENING HYMN

551 – Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep



Stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

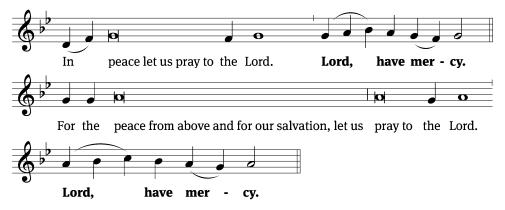
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

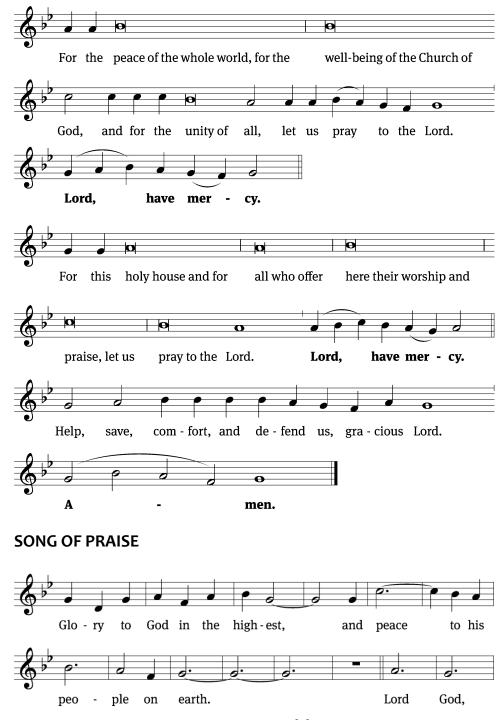
Let us confess our sins to the Lord. Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY (Kyrie)









PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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. **Amen.**

Be seated

✤ The Word ✤

FIRST READING

Acts 20:28-32

The good shepherd asks his sub-shepherds to keep watch over the flock.

^{ACTS 20:28}Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. ³⁰Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

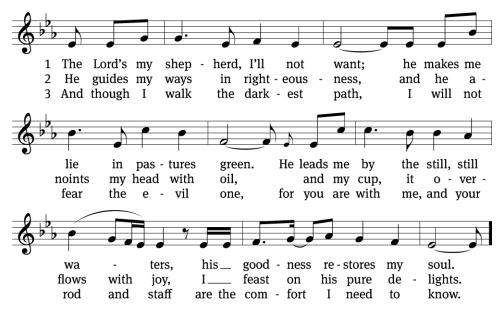
³²"Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

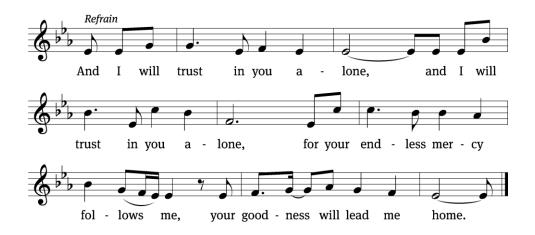
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 554 – The Lord's My Shepherd

Psalm 23

The choir will lead the singing of the hymn. The congregation is invited to join as comfortable.





SECOND READING

1 John 4:1-6 St. John encourages us to test all those who claim to have a spiritual message. Not all such individuals have been sent by God.

¹ JOHN 4:1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

⁴You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL READING

^{JOHN 10:11}"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY 1 The love King of mv shep herd is, whose 2 Where streams of liv ing wa ter flow, my and fool ish strayed. 3 Per verse oft Ι but vale 4 In death's dark I fear ill with no -3--fails noth - ing lack if good - ness me I nev er; Sav - ior gent lv leads where the ver dant me. and in love he sought and his shoul - der vet me on dear Lord, be side rod and staff vou. vour mv me, Ι his, and he is mine for ev am er. tures with food les feeds pas grow, ce -tial me. gent ly laid and home, re joic ing, brought me. com fort still, vour cross be - fore guide to me.

Hymn continues on the next page.

552 – The King of Love My Shepherd Is

- 5 You spread a table in my sight, a banquet here bestowing; your oil of welcome, my delight; my cup is overflowing!
- 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!

Acts 20:32

Now What?...

This is our prayer for you: ______
This is why we pray it: ______

Sermon notes:

Stand

NICENE CREED

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 truly 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.

Be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS and MUSICAL OFFERING

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world. Offerings can be given in any of these ways:

- Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary
- On the Calvary website: https://calvarydallas.org/give/
- Scan the QR code to the right...



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, https://calvarydallas.org or by scanning the QR code above.

11:00 – Service continues on page 13 with the Rite of Confirmation

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (8:00)

You may remain seated for prayer

O Lord, our Shepherd and Guide, our Staff and Song, lead us, guide us, be with us, and take us to dwell in your house forever. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Keep watch over us, and keep us watchful for all dangers to body and soul. Strengthen us in the green pastures of your Word. Refresh us with the quiet waters of your peace. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Build us up in the Word of your grace and prepare us to reach out to those who do not know you, to gather new sheep into your fold and restore the wandering, that together we follow your right paths. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Chief Shepherd, bless all who serve as shepherds, feeding your lambs and sheep. Guide and shepherd them, feed and nurture them so that they can care for your people, seek, guide, correct, and restore them. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Lord Jesus, you came to seek and to save the lost. In mercy look on those who are wandering, who are weak or struggle in faith. Move your people with your seeking love to reach out to them, call them back, and strengthen them. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Seek out the troubled and the wandering, and anoint them with the healing oil of your love. Heal those who are sick, [*especially*...]. Comfort and assure them, even in the darkest times, that they need to fear no evil, for you are with them. Lord our Shepherd, in you we lack nothing. **We will fear no evil, for you are with us.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

O Sovereign and Almighty Lord, bless all your people and all your flock. Give peace, help, and love to us, your servants, the sheep of your fold, that we may be united in the bond of peace and love, one body and one spirit, in one hope of our calling, in your divine and boundless love; for you are the great Shepherd of the sheep, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

8:00 – service continues on page 17 with the Sacrament

RITE OF CONFIRMATION (11:00 am)

Confirmation is a public profession of the Christian faith, following a period of instruction. It is a rite by which one is recognized as properly prepared to receive the Lord's Supper. Those being confirmed approach the altar.

Antonella Gabriela Cardenas Gonzalez

Macy Joy David Ese Gift Emoghene Elijah Mark Koelpin Gavin Jacob Neubert Hailey Lyn Wilkins Lilliana Rose Zajac

ADDRESS

My dear young friends, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word he created faith in your hearts and adopted you into the family of believers. As you matured and heard and studied the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit enlightened your minds and preserved you as children of God.

You have expressed the desire to confess the truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with St. Paul, "I believed; therefore I have spoken." You have learned to examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love. We are bringing our prayers to the Savior's throne of grace and imploring him to keep you faithful to him and his Word until you join us and all believers in the glories of heaven.

RESPONSES

I now ask each of you:

Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshiping with you today? **I am.**

Do you believe in God the Father? Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? Yes, 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? Yes, 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.

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises? **I do reject him.**

Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God? **I do.**

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God? **I do.**

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go? **Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

PRAYER

The pastor speaks to the congregation:

Friends in Christ, the Word of God urges us to pray for one another and especially for the youth of the church. On this special day, it is fitting that we bring our prayers before God, firmly believing that he alone is able to strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit and keep us faithful to the Savior until we die. Let us pray.

Gracious Father, in Holy Baptism you created faith in the hearts of these young people and gave them a new birth as members of your family. Help them remember their baptisms every day and find comfort in your promise that you will never leave them or forsake them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give them strength to put down and drown the sinful nature that lives within them so that each day their faith may triumph in their living and loving and in their words and actions. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lead them to see and believe that in the word of the gospel they find forgiveness for their sins and relief for their guilt. Use the remembrance of your commandments to drive them to the comfort of the gospel and then to guide them as they live for you and others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect them from Satan when he tempts them to be careless with your Word and sacrament, to make plans for this life and not for the life to come, or to find popular theories more appealing than your truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Empower them by the gospel of your Son to live in their world with kindness, humility, and patience that others may see their good works and glorify their Father in heaven. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us provide fitting examples of faithfulness to your Word and sacraments. Lead us to encourage and admonish them in wisdom and love even after they have left our homes and made new homes for themselves. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

When the end comes and we all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, have compassion on us despite our sins and accept us as eternal dwellers in your royal rooms, through the merits of Jesus our Savior, who became sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

INVITATION

The pastor speaks to those being confirmed:

I now invite each of you to come forward to receive a blessing from the Lord and a word of encouragement from the Scriptures.

BLESSINGS

Those being confirmed may approach the altar. The minister may lay his hand on the head of each and speak one of the following blessings. A passage from the Scripture may also be read.

God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, give you his Holy Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge, of grace and prayer, of power and strength, of sanctification and the fear of God.

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your heart and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

The Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, renew and increase in you the gift of the Holy Spirit for your strengthening in faith, your growth in grace, your patience in suffering, and for the blessed hope of eternal life.

The God of peace sanctify you through and through and keep you blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The minister says:

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

11:00 – JUNIOR HANDBELLS

Of the Father's Love Begotten



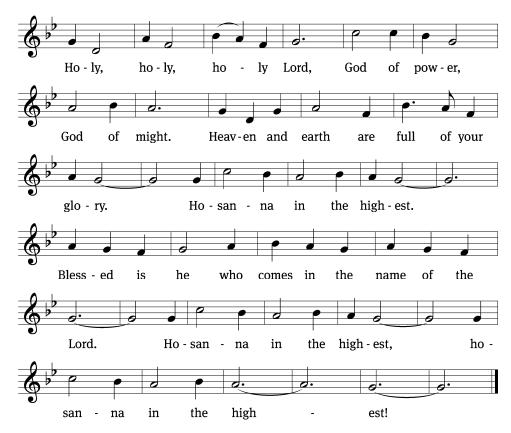
✤ The Sacrament ✤





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 by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Santus)



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

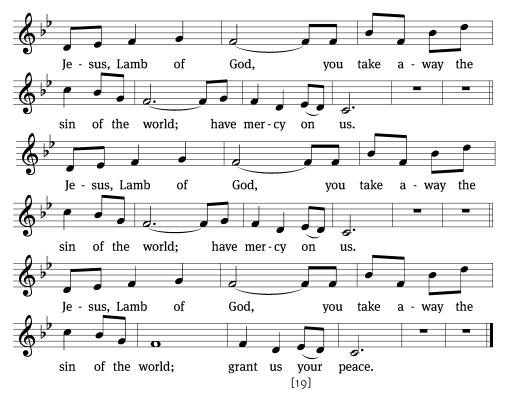
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

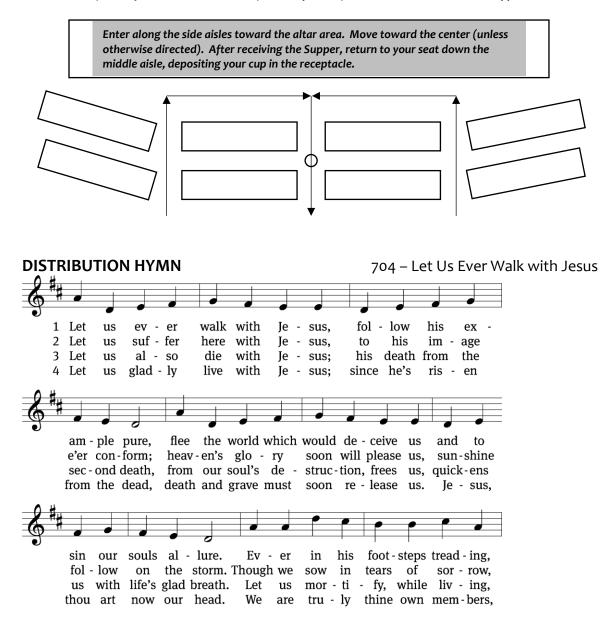
The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen.

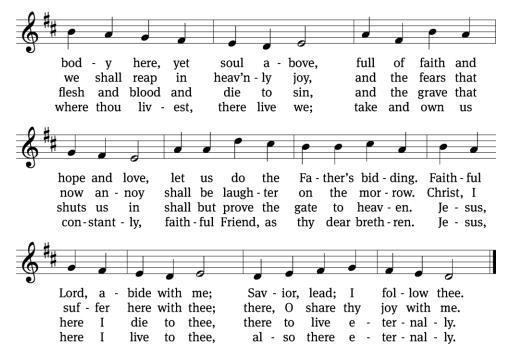
JESUS, LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)



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. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.





Stand

PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; **his mercy endures forever.** Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

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. **Amen.**

His Pride and Joy

ANTHEM (11:00)

Sung by a soloist

Stand in silence and solitude High on a hill or a mountain approaching the heavens As God himself unveils a masterpiece Painted across the expanse of the sky

We can take a stroll through the meadow As we go we'll witness the sound of a sweet morning hymn As soft petals swaying in line with the rhythm Declare a new day in God's grace now begins And all creation joins in the hymn Praising he who created the choir

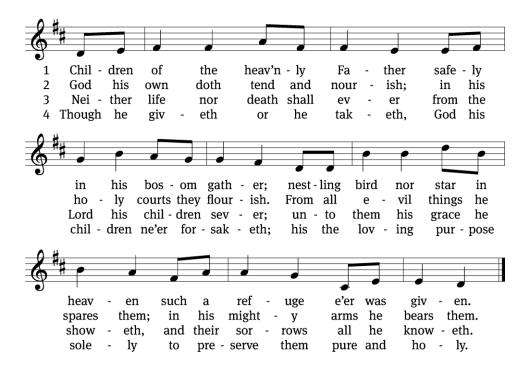
[Chorus] It's beautiful It's beautiful It's beautiful, but baby you're his pride and joy

Feel the warmth of the sun wash you over It speaks of the peace and the solace we find In the love of a maker who keeps us, protects us The great I AM who gave life to it's light

Behold! the sun hides beyond the horizon Benighting our world by removing its glow While the stars break the night by reciting a promise The God of our fathers proclaimed long ago

And all creation joins in the hymn Praising he who created the choir [Chorus]

This life that he gave you to save you Bears proof that he loves you and he'll guide you Through each breath he provides you [Chorus] **CLOSING HYMN**



Be seated

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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> <u>Hymn 551 – Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep</u> Text: Henry Cook, 1788-1868, alt. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804-1876; setting: traditional Scripture references: Jn 10:11-18, 27-30; Ac 20:28; Rev 7:9-17 Text and music: public domain

<u>Hymn 554 – The Lord's My Shepherd</u> Text and music: Stuart Townend, b. 1963 Scripture references: Ps 23; 36:8; 56:3 Text and music: ©1996 Thankyou Music (PRS) (adm. worldwide at CapitolCMGPublishing.com)

> <u>Hymn 552 – The King of Love My Shepherd Is</u> Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, alt. Tune: Irish, 18th cent.; setting: The English Hymnal, 1906, alt. Scripture references: Ps 23; Jn 10:11; Lk 15:4-7; Rev 7:17 Text and music: public domain

<u>Hymn 704 – Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus</u> Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871-1941, alt. Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Scripture references: 1 Pe 2:21; 4:13; Ro 6:1-14; Jn 14:3 Text and music: public domain

<u>Hymn 502 – Children of the Heavenly Father</u> Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, abr.; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958 Music: Lofsanger och andeliga wisor, Sweden, 1873 Scripture references: Jn 10:28,29; Ro 8:14-17; Mt 6:26, 27; Isa 40:11; Ro 8:38,39; 1 Th 5:23,24 Text: ©1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music: public domain

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