

*HYMN*            “Because of Your Love”

As we come into Your presence We remember ev'ry blessing  
That You've poured out so freely from above  
Lifting gratitude and praises  
For compassion so amazing Lord we've come to give You thanks  
For all You've done

Chorus: Because of Your love we're forgiven  
Because of Your love our hearts are clean  
We lift You up with songs of freedom  
Forever we're changed because of Your love (verse)  
(Chorus x2)

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*INVOCATION*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

*EASTER ACCLAMATION*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*OPENING SENTENCES*            Psalm 23:1, 6b; Revelation 7:17

P The Lord is my shepherd;  
C **I shall not want.**

P For the Lamb in the midst of the throne  
C **will be their shepherd,**

P and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.  
C **And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Lord, our God,

C **we confess that we have strayed from hearing the voice of Your Son, our Shepherd, who went through death to eternal life for us. We have failed to trust in You fully. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us and renew in us faith and trust. Grant us to hear anew our Shepherd's voice and to follow wherever He leads, until we see Him with You in Your eternal house.**

P Fellow sheep within Christ's fold, our Lord Jesus was God's sacrificial Lamb and has gone through death, paying for the sins of all people, and He now reigns in eternity. Therefore, in His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son

and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE*** “Christ is Risen”

Let no one caught in sin remain Inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us Freely You've bled for us

Chorus: Christ is risen from the dead Trampling over death by death  
Come awake come awake Come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead We are one with Him again  
Come awake come awake Come and rise up from the grave

Beneath the weight of all our sin You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown No burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign Forever let Your church proclaim (*Chorus*)

O death where is your sting O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light The glory of God has defeated the night  
Singing O death where is your sting O hell where is your victory  
O church come stand in the light Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive  
(*Chorusx2*)

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***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep,

**C grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads;**

**P** through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

***FIRST READING*** Acts 20:17-35

**P** This is the Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God.**

***EPISTLE*** Revelation 7:9-17

**P** This is the Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God.**

***CHILDREN'S MESSAGE***

**HOLY GOSPEL**      John 10:22-30**HYMN OF THE DAY**    “Revelation Song”

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain    Holy holy is He  
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on    Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus:    Holy holy holy    Is the Lord God Almighty  
              Who was and is and is to come    With all creation I sing  
              Praise to the King of kings    You are my ev'rything  
              And I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows of living color    Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder  
Blessing and honor strength and glory  
And power be to You the only wise King    (*Chorus*)

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder    At the mention of Your name  
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water  
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah    (*Chorus*)

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**SERMON****APOSTLES' CREED**

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

**OFFERING****HYMN**    “Goodness, Love, and Mercy”

Oh Lord You're my Shepherd    You make me lie in fields of green  
You lead me by the still waters    You restore righteousness to me  
Though I walk through the valley    I will fear no evil thing  
For You are with me and You comfort me

Chorus:    Surely goodness love and mercy    Will follow wherever I go  
              I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever (x4)

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**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** Psalm 23

P Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various conditions. We pray for those who do not listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd, asking the Holy Spirit to give them opportunity to come to faith and join us in saying:

**C The Lord is my shepherd.**

P We pray for all who lack the food, clothing, and shelter that they need for a fully human life, asking our Father in heaven to meet their needs using His caring people, including ourselves, for we are confident:

**C I shall not want.**

P We pray for those falsely imprisoned or denied true justice, asking our Lord to free them and open doors of opportunity for them, as He so graciously has done for us:

**C He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.**

P We pray for all who are depressed in spirit or unsure of God's will for them, asking the Holy Spirit to lift them up and guide them, that with us they may rejoice to say:

**C He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

P We pray for those who are facing sudden crises or long-term ills, and all who are grieving the loss of loved ones, [including . . .], asking our risen Lord to lift their eyes to His eternal home so that they may each declare:

**C 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.**

P We pray for first responders and police at home and for armed forces deployed, asking our Father in heaven to guide and protect them, and for all who grow crops and tend herds that He would bless them with bountiful harvests so that they may thank Him, praying:

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

P Finally, we pray for ourselves and all who gather around Word and Sacrament, that the Holy Spirit would keep us firm in the faith so that we may joyfully profess:

**C Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER****BENEDICTION** Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

**HYMN** "It is Well With My Soul"

When peace like a river Attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll Whatever my lot  
Thou hast taught me to say It is well It is well with my soul

Chorus: It is well with my soul It is well It is well with my soul

Tho' Satan should buffet Tho' trials should come  
Let this blest assurance control That Christ hath regarded  
My helpless estate And hath shed His own blood For my soul  
(Chorus)

My sin O the bliss Of this glorious tho't  
My sin not in part but the whole Is nailed to the cross  
And I bear it no more Praise the Lord Praise the Lord O my soul  
(Chorus)

And Lord haste the day When the faith shall be sight  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll The trump shall resound  
And the Lord shall descend Even so it is well  
With my soul (Chorus)