

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

May 7, 2006

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 23)

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

You spread a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

And we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Prayer of Adoration

All praise be unto you, O God, Great Shepherd of the sheep. You gather your people as lambs to your bosom; you enfold them with your all-embracing love. You refresh us like a stream flowing freely with living waters; you nourish us like a host whose table is heavy laden. We gather to hear your refreshing word of promise and direction, to honor your name as our guardian and hope. Thanks be to you O God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The Hymn 417

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

*The Prayer of Confession

We have a hard time, gracious God, keeping things together. Times are when we think it is easier just to believe in Jesus than to love our neighbors. We’d like to keep the faith in our hearts and leave the mess out there. Other times, we would like just to settle for love, and not worry about believing. Believing is so hard; love seems, well, not so hard. Yet trusting You less, we are inclined to manipulate others more. Sometimes it is hard for us to tell whether we are more faithless or more loveless. Either way, hard-headed or hard-hearted, it’s hard on everybody. Forgive us our sins. In Jesus’ name hear our prayers.

. . .(time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

At Jesus’ name every knee in heaven and on the earth shall bow.

Every tongue will confess Christ is Sovereign to God’s glory.

I tell you this gospel truth:

Because of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.

Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Epistle* Lesson: *1 John 3:16-24* p. 292 in the pew Bible

The Anthem “*The Shepherd Will Supply My Need*” M. Wilberg, arr.

The *Gospel* Lesson: *John 10:11-18* p. 126 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 387 “*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*”

The *New Testament* Lesson: *Acts 4:5-12* p. 147 in the pew Bible

The Sermon “The Name of Jesus”
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

*The *Apostles' Creed* p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession
The Lord's Prayer p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering
The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication
Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

Source of healing. Bringer of wholeness, you enter the world and cause the light to shine, the lame to walk, the sins of all to be forgiven. Whatever we bring you is a gift of your graciousness. All that we offer, you have poured out upon us. Use us and mold us to conform to your will for all people. Take our talents and apply them to spread the truth of your love. We pray, and witness, and serve in the name of Jesus. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 148 “*At the Name of Jesus*”

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude