

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTERTIDE

## APRIL 22, 2018

### WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**Preparing for Worship:** Good Shepherd Sunday gets its name from the Gospel reading for the day (John 10). In this reading Christ is described as the "Good Shepherd" who lays down his life for his sheep, fulfilling God's prophetic promise in Isaiah 40:9-11.

**Gathering Music & Prelude** "Listen with Your Heart" Choir

**Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Time**

**\*Song** "He Is Lord" 305

#### **\*Call to Worship:**

Jesus the Good Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

**We follow Jesus because we know His voice.**

God's sheep will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.

**All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

**Whoever enters by Him will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.**

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

**Jesus came to lay down his life for his sheep, that we may have life and have it abundantly.**

**John 10:3-10, Isaiah 53:6 (New Revised Standard Version)**

**\*Alleluia** "O Sons and Daughter, Let Us Sing" (Stz. 1) 313

**\*Invocational Prayer**

**Song of Faith** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" 440

**Community and Congregational 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and glory, forever.

### WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

**A Reading from the Early Church** Acts 4:5-12

**A Reading from the Old Testament** Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.**

**He makes me lie down in green pastures;**

**He leads me beside still waters;**

**He restores my soul.**

**He leads me in right paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death**

**I fear no evil; for you are with me;**

**your rod and your staff - they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me**

**in the presence of my enemies;**

**You anoint my head with oil;**

**my cup overflows.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,**

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**Psalm 23:1-6 (New Revised Standard Version)**

**A Reading from the New Testament** 1 John 3:16-24

**\*A Reading from the Gospel** John 10:11-18

**\*Responsorial** "In The Garden" 300

**Invitation & Dedication of Our Tithes, Gifts, and Offerings**

**Offertory** "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want" ~ Choir

**Children's Message** (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and younger to Junior Church)

**Message:** "The Good Shepherd Protecting His Church"  
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

**WE RESPOND IN FAITH AND SERVICE**

**\*Invitation to Christian Faith and Discipleship** – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to follow Christ in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

**\*Song** "What a Beautiful Name" **WT**

**\*Spoken Benediction**

**\*Postlude** "Fully Alive" by William Gaither  
\*Please stand if able

**EASTERTIDE** – The seven Sundays between Easter are called: "Eastertide" or the "Easter Season." During these fifty days (forty plus ten), we celebrate the post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus Christ by repeating the "Easter Greeting" and singing an extra "Alleluia" song in worship. Luke wrote in the Book of Acts, "For forty days after Jesus had suffered and died, he proved in many ways that he had been raised from death. He appeared to his apostles and spoke to them about God's kingdom" (1:3). Eastertide includes the Day of Ascension (Thursday, May 10, 2018) and concludes on Pentecost Sunday (May 20, 2018).



**MISSION:** The vision of West Side Baptist Church shall be that we commit ourselves to continual personal growth, reaching out to win and nurture others in the love of Jesus Christ

**American Baptist Church USA**  
[www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org)

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