



# Psalm 23

*The purpose of our Community is:*

*“Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ”*

## **Prelude**

*Shirlene Everhart*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Invocation**

*Every worship service opens by invoking the name, the presence, and the power of the one true God, the God in whose name and by whose power we became members of the Holy Christian Church in our Baptism.*

*[Pastor]: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**[Everyone]: Amen.**

## **Prayer of Confession of Sin**

*Pastor: Most merciful God,*

**Everyone: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

## **Absolution**

*Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Everyone: Amen.**

## **Opening Hymn**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus'Name, #174*

## **Worship Through Our Giving**

*We express our gratitude to God as we give to support the work of the church so that more people may hear the Good News about Jesus. Please ask an usher if you need an envelope.*

## **Offertory**

## **We Worship Through Speaking and Hearing the Word of God**

*We read the Word of God to strengthen, encourage, and challenge us for the week ahead.*

### **Old Testament Lesson**

*Psalm 23 [NIV]*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, <sup>3</sup>he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

### **Epistle Lesson**

*1 John 4:7-21 [NIV]*

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins, <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. <sup>13</sup>This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup>And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup>This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

*[If you are able, please stand for the reading of the Gospel]*

### **Gospel Reading**

*John 15:1-8 [NIV]*

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup>"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart





**Communion Hymn***Let Us Break Bread Together, #285***We Worship at the table of the Lord's Supper***Communion — If you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please hold up 2 fingers when you reach the person with the cups.**Everyone who confesses Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior is welcome and invited to join us. Together we receive anew the love and grace that God pours out to us through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Come hold in your hands and taste on your lips the love He poured out for you.**Pastor: The Words of Our Lord...(Consecration of the Elements)***Everyone: 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.***Distribution,***Benediction****Sending Hymn***In the Garden, #548**Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.***Everyone: Thanks be to God**

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**Postlude Music**

## ***Things going on during the week:***

**Monday-Friday: 7:15 am to 5 pm Little Blessings Christian School**

**Choir practice is on vacation.**

## ***Birdhouse = Building Fund Donations***

Please place all and any donations for the Building Fund in the Birdhouse. This fund is needed to replace 'The Shack' and build for the future of this church. Being more visible to Mission Avenue we hope to attract Christians looking for a new home and non-Christians looking for what is missing in their life.

## ***Mark Your Calendars!***

### ***May 5, Sunday - Love Offering ... for Missions***

Once a quarter, we will be collecting a special offering in the 'Missions Giving Box' on your way out of the Sanctuary for our Missionaries. This offering is above and beyond our regular giving. In planning ahead, we will repeat the Love Offerings in 2020 on the first Sunday in February, May, August & November.

***May 20, Monday - 9 am Women's Bible Study  
10 am Council Meeting***

***June 17, Monday - 9 am Women's Bible Study  
10 am Council Meeting***

