



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH REDCLIFFE
SERVICE ORDER FOR 25th APRIL,
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
GOOD SHEPERD SUNDAY/ANZAC DAY



WELCOME TO WORSHIP:

Almighty and eternal God,
you have brought back from the dead
the great Shepherd of the sheep,
to call us into his flock through his word.
Send us your Holy Spirit,
so that we may hear the voice of the good Shepherd
and faithfully follow him.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE: John 10:14-15

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.
And I lay down my life for the sheep.”

**“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.
And I lay down my life for the sheep.”**

INVOCATION

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

SONG: LHS 103 I know that my Redeemer lives (click [here](#))

**know that my Redeemer lives; what comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.**

**He lives to bless me with his love, He lives to plead for me above,
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.**

**He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend, He lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king.**

**He lives, and gives me daily breath; he lives, and I will conquer death;
He lives my new home to prepare, he lives to bring me safely there.**

**He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
O the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!**

CONFESSION

*Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins,
and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins, and
repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your
punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the sake
of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious
and merciful to me. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die
for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has
given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. Whoever
believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.*

INTROIT: Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

⁴ Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,^[a]

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ 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.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**Glory to the Father
and the Son
and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now,
and will be forever.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray that we follow our good shepherd.
[silence]

Loving God,
we thank you that your Son Jesus
is the good shepherd
who cares for your people.
Open our hearts to hear his voice,
to know him as he calls us by name,
and to follow wherever he leads.
For he lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12 Peter and John before the council

⁵The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.' ¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24 The Christian's assurance

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18 The good shepherd dies for the sheep

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

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.”

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

Let us pray:
Thank you, Lord Jesus, our good shepherd,
for being willing to die for your sheep.
Lead us to know you and to follow you
Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

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, dead, and 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

SONG: LHS 248 Saviour like a shepherd lead (click [here](#))

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.**

**We are Thine, do Thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear, O hear us when we pray.**

**Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, early let us turn to Thee;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, early let us turn to Thee.**

**Early let us seek Thy favor, early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.**

SERMON

**At this point you may wish to Listen to Sermon, or Read and Discuss the Sermon
For Church YouTube Channel (click [here](#))**

SONG: LHS 301 Lord, take my hand and lead me (click [here](#))

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way; direct, protect, and feed me from day to day. Without your grace and favor I go astray; so take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear; for you, the Rock of Ages, are always near. Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe, for when your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come, I know that you will strengthen my steps toward home, then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend! So, take my hand and lead me unto the end.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As sheep trust their shepherd for guidance and protection, let us turn to our God in prayer, certain that he hears our voice for the sake of Jesus Christ his Son.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all pastors, as they shepherd the flock of Christ. In all their difficult tasks we pray that you will give them strength, wisdom and guidance.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Care for all who are called to lay down their lives and are suffering for their faith. Give them the strength and the faith to endure their hardships, and bring people to faith through their witness. Give to us the faith to stand firm against oppression and persecution and help us to give a strong testimony of our faith at all times.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all rulers and governments around the world. Help them to be faithful shepherds to their people. Make them favourable to your word so that people everywhere may be able to worship you freely.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who have become lost on the path of life. Bring them back to your fold. Help us all to care for our lost brothers and sisters and to help where we can to remind them of your constant goodness and kindness. We pray for your protection over the families of our congregation and for all young people undergoing confirmation instruction. Open their hearts and their minds to hear your voice and to follow you on the right paths.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Watch over the dying and those who mourn. Walk with them through the valley of the shadow of death and bring them safely to your pasture. Comfort those who mourn with the hope that we have in you, that we will all be raised again in the final resurrection from the dead and that with you we may feast in your house forever.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who serve and have served in our armed forces. This ANZAC Day, we pray for those suffering from the effects of war, mental and physical. We pray for those with friends and relatives in current theatres of war, for those mourning people who died in war, and for the carers of returned servicemen and women. Guide those in authority, so that they may engage in war only for the sake of peace. Lord God, we pray that we may love our enemies, just as you love the world.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Shepherd God, you gather your sheep from all corners of the world, and do not allow even one of your flock to be lost. May we and all people hear your voice, and be gathered into the one flock of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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.**

THE BLESSING

Let us bless the LORD.

God be praised forevermore.

The LORD bless us and keep us.

The LORD make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The LORD look upon us with favour, and give us peace.

Amen!

GROWING FAITH AT HOME BIBLE VERSE

John 10:14-15

**"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.
And I lay down my life for the sheep."**

**"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.
And I lay down my life for the sheep."**

GROWING FAITH AT HOME BLESSING

May God's kindness and love be with you
each day of your life, and may you
live forever with the Lord.

**May God's kindness and love be with you
each day of your life, and may you
live forever with the Lord.**

WORDS OF SENDING

Go in peace, and follow the good shepherd.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

SONG: LHS 556 Our god, our help in ages past (click [here](#))

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defence is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream Dies at the opening day.**

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last, And our eternal home.**

HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: Acts 4:5-12

LHS

- 36 Jesus, name of wondrous love* G5
- 159 O for a thousand tongues to sing* G5
- 161 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds G5
- 179 Christ alone is our salvation* G9
- 780 We go to God when we are sorely placed GS
- 783 Christ is the world's light, he and no other G6
- 790 O Lord of light, who made the stars
- 792 They came, knew his name GS
- 796 When to our world the Saviour came (*alt tune 227, G5*)

AT

- 157 Jesus, name above all names
- 188 Reaching out
- 263 Singing all praises
- 342 Jacob struggled for a blessing
- 349 There is a Redeemer

Second reading: 1 John 3:16-24

LHS

151 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me* G5
344 Our God is love, and all His saints* G^
361 Let us ever walk with Jesus* G5
819 Wake us, O Lord, to human need GS
859 Seek, O seek the Lord

AT

177 Love one another
297 Let us talents and tongues employ
300 Practise love
301 May the Father of love
482 His love within the world
506 Oh, let's get up to love and serve

Gospel: John 10:11-18

LHS

91 Christ the Lord is risen today G4
100 Awake, my heart, rejoicing* G5
105 Good Christian men, rejoice and sing* G5
785 In Adam we have all been one GS
827 Good Shepherd, take this lamb (*baptism*)
830 Lord Jesus, once a child G4 (*baptism*)
842 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing G3 (*holy communion*)

AT

55 His name is Wonderful
145 Wondrous love
236 Jesus the Christ said (v 2)
486 Let's praise the Lord