The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church



home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord

Aaron Williams, Composer

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. C: Amen.

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. *C:* Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

The Lord's My Shepherd

ELW # 778

*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ...O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen.

be

to

God on high!

the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Shepherd Me, O God

ELW # 780

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.





Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



*Gospel: John 10:11-18

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own 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 do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY Pastor Traci

*HYMN OF THE DAY My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

ELW # 782

*NICENE CREED

- P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.
- C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
- For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.
- A: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace, C: hear our prayer.
- A: Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace, C: hear our prayer.
- A: Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace, *C:* hear our prayer.

- A: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace, *C:* hear our prayer.
- A: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace, *C:* hear our prayer.
- A: Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace, C: hear our prayer.
- P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

 C: Amen.

*THE PEACE

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

A: Let us pray... Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. C: Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

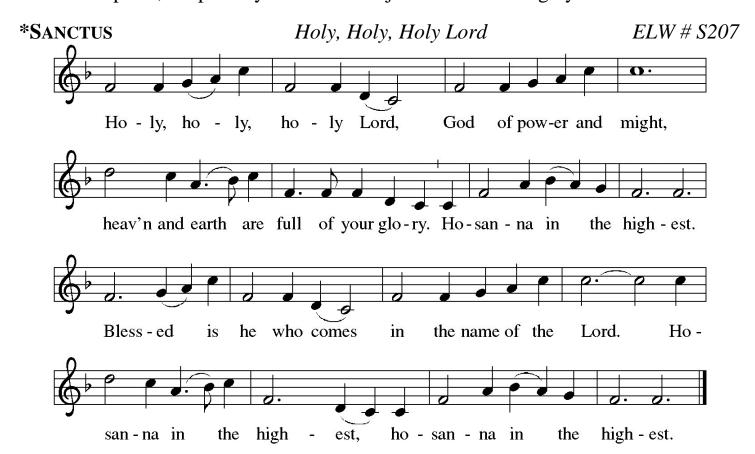
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.
Through the prophets you renewed your promise;
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

- *P*: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.
- C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

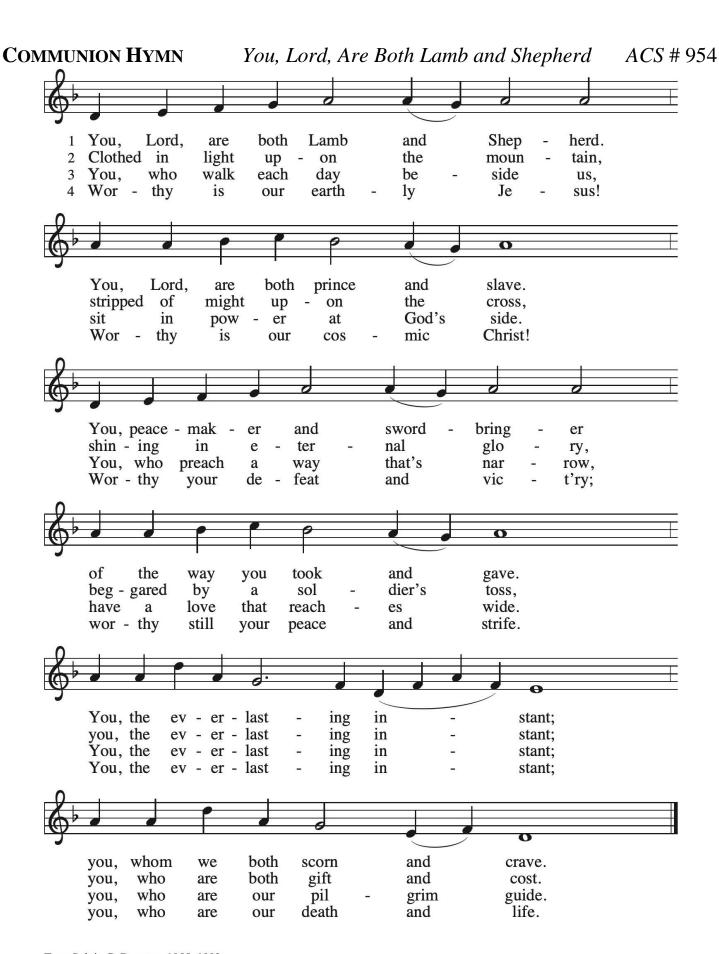
*LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C: 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



*INVITATION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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*BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray... Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. C: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen! C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope

→ bless you now and always. C: Amen.

*SENDING SONG

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ELW # 502

*DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*POSTLUDE

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Raymond Haan, Composer

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Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in memory of Carol J Weyandt from Barry and Carla Brumbaugh.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists - Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Lottie Ebersole

Our Lector - Gavin Kuster

Our Acolyte – Lucy Lightner

Our Usher – Greg Haffling

Our Altar Guild – Jeannie Smith, Cindy Snyder

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Youth & Camping"

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Thurs. 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Jen – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today – 4th Sunday of Easter

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday – Knotty Ladies, Quilting Room 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Wednesday – Pastor Traci away at Spring Convocation in Gettysburg.

May be reached at 814-935-9267 for emergencies.

Thursday – Employee Meeting, Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m.

Sunday – 5th Sunday of Easter

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenberg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Ginny Sell.

Prayer Concerns: Dawn Alexy, Amy & Family, Avery, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Kaye Burket, Tana Byler, Caleb, Diane Cappel, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Greg Dick, Pastor Sharon Erb, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Joe Harteis, Rodger Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Darren Kreutzer, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Ruth Marshall, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Bob & Annette Ritchey, Paul Ruth, Ron Short, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Craig Werner, Emily Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Pat Winston, Tom Woodrow, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.

Away at School: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates, Elizabeth Haffling, Jeff Hoenstine.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).



Ruth Johnson will be celebrating her 96th birthday on Saturday, April 20th. Please help her celebrate by sending prayers, cards, and well-wishes. Thank you!



The property committee will be performing a demonstration on how to operate the new wheelchair lift after worship today and next Sunday, April 28th.



The 2024 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. The following dates are available: 5/26, 7/21, 7/28, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/1. Please sign up now for the Sunday

you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00. If you would like a Sunday(s) you can also call the church office at 814-793-2413.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursdays, May 2 and May 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. It will be open other times by appointment.



Those helping on these Thursdays will be those 3 or 4 helpers from the Martinsburg Church of God in addition to the regular helpers.

Following are items most needed for May:

Beverages, Canned Fruit, Ravioli, Hamburger Helper, and Cleaning Products.

Many thanks for donations of food, paper items, and recent donations of \$785.00 from members!

Linda Smith

St. Matthew Seniors
Are Invited To
A Young at Heart Luncheon



Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 12:00 PM

Held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 115 East Penn Street Martinsburg, PA

Please RSVP to the Church Office (814-793-2413) by July 8



THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2023 and as a result has \$6,072.30 for distribution in 2024. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting Laura Orczeck, chairperson, or committee members: Allen Kuster, Barb Wilt, Beth Garner, or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 26, 2024. Funds will be distributed in June 2024.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

PURPOSE

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as cash, securities, bequests through wills or living trusts, life insurance policies, charitable gift annuities and life estates.

The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

USE OF THE FUND

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines:

- 1. Youth of all ages scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs, and education.
- 2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members, and the ELCA.
- 3. Worship and Music support for the worship of St. Matthew.
- 4. Capital Projects major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

Church Messenger

The April 2024 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.



- The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
- soul he doth re store a - gain, and
- Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet 3
- ta ble thou hast rich - ly spread in 4
- Good-ness and mer cy all

to walk doth make me will ill: I fear no foes: pres-ence of my

my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



pas - tures green; he lead - eth in me the qui - et wa - ters by. righ-teous-ness, e'en with - in the paths of for his own name's sake; with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still: for thou art head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows. my dwell-ing-place shall and in God's house for - ev - er - more my



He lead - eth lead - eth me, he me the qui - et wa - ters by. with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake. for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still. head thou dost with a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows. My oil in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall and be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23 Music: SHEPHERD ME, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



- 1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.
- 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
- 3 The sure pro vi sions of my God at tend me all my days;



In pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream. one word of your sup-port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way. oh, may your house be my a - bode and all my work be praise.

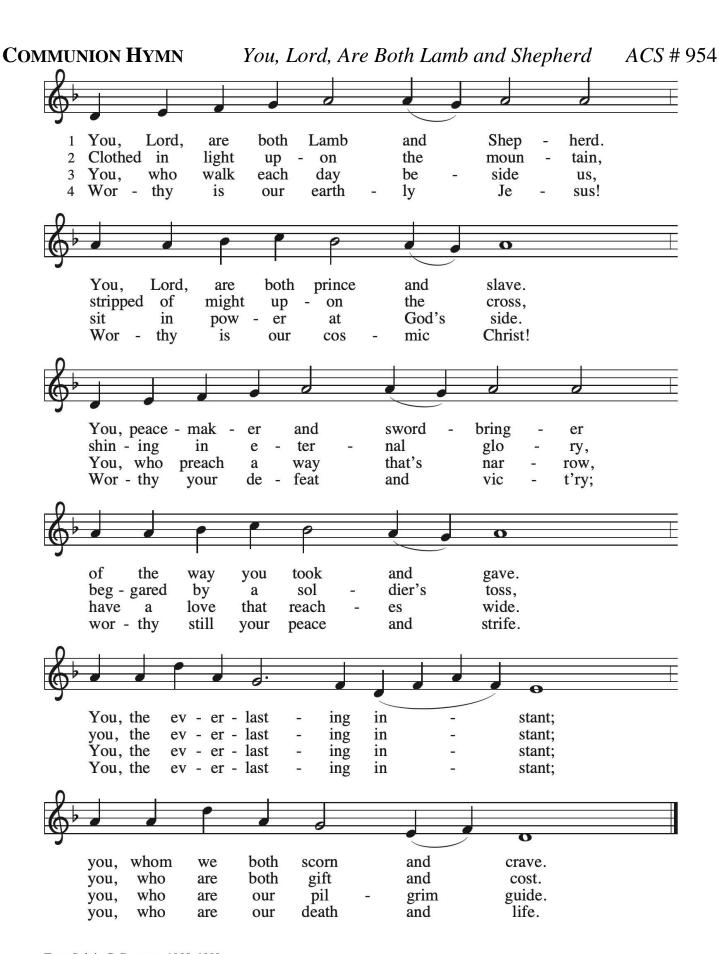


You bring my wan-d'ring spir - it back when I for - sake your ways, foes, does still my Your hand, in sight of all my ta - ble spread; set - tled rest, while oth - ers Here would I find go and come; a



paths of truth and grace. for your mer - cy's sake, in and lead me, with bless-ings o - ver-flows, your oil head. my cup a - noints my strang - er or a more a guest, but like child home. no at

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt., based on Psalm 23 Music: RESIGNATION, North American traditional



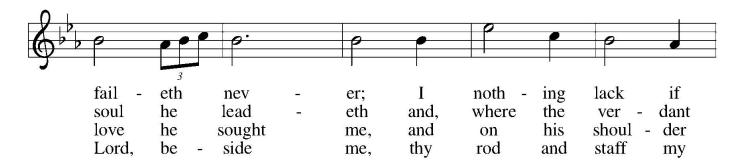
Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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- The love shep - herd 1 King of my is, whose good - ness
- 2 Where streams of liv ran ing wa flow. somed ter my _
- 3 and fool ish oft I strayed, but Per - verse yet in 4
- death's dark vale fear with thee, dear In I no ill,





his and he am with food pas - tures grow, gent - ly laid, and home, still; com - fort thy cross

is mine for ev er. ce - les tial feed eth. re - joic ing, brought me. be - fore guide to me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877 Music: St. Columba, Irish tune