



April 30, 2023 - 10:30 AM  
*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

## Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: Blessings to you, servants of God.

**P: We lift up our hands and bless the Lord!**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude

*"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"* arr. Douglas Wagner  
Rich Longfield, trumpet; Katie Staudt, handbells  
Jim and Eileen Klein, keyboard

## (Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

L: Sisters and brothers, let us gather together  
with glad and generous hearts.

*Acts 2:42-47*

**P: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.**

L: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

**P: Let us give what we can to all who have needs  
so that all people, no matter who they are,  
may regard us with good will.**

L: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

**P: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.**

## (Please remain standing)

Opening Hymn #385

*They'll Know We Are Christians*

ST. BRENDAN'S

**(Please be seated)**

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Holy One, we confess to you and to one another  
that we have not always followed Christ's example.**

*1 Pet. 2:19-25*

**When we have been abused,  
we have been abusive in return.**

**We have gone astray.**

**Lead us back into your fold  
and guard our souls in Jesus' name.**

**(Silent Confession)**

L: Amen.

**(Please stand as you are able)**

Gloria Patri, Hymn #670

GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

**(Please be seated)**

Anthem

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

arr. John Ness Beck

Call to Offering

Offertory

*"Sheep May Safely Graze"*

J. S. Bach

Katie Staudt, handbells; Eileen Klein, keyboard

**(Please stand as you are able)**

Doxology, Hymn #668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

**(Please be seated)**

**The Word**

1 The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside the still waters.  
3 He restores my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
For You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
Forever.

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

**(Please remain seated)**

Response Hymn #85

*God Will Make a Way*

HE WILL MAKE A WAY

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

*John 10:1-10 (ESV)*

10 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6 This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Pickpockets and Purse-Snatchers*  
(Sermon outline follows the order of worship)

Rev. Dr. Dan Storvick

**(Please stand as you are able)**

Hymn of the Day #161

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

BRADBURY

Affirmation of Faith

**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 worshipped 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.**

**(Please be seated)**

Prayers for the People, concluded with The Lord's Prayer in unison:

**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;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

**Sending  
Charge**

Benediction

Response

*Threefold Amen*

TRADITIONAL

Postlude

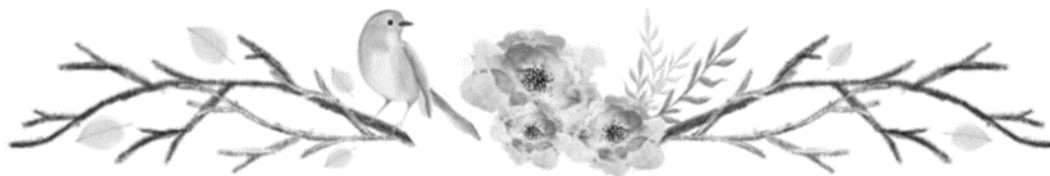
*"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"*

arr. Craig Courtney

(In the style of Erik Satie)

Rich Longfield, trumpet; Katie Staudt, handbells

Jim Klein, keyboard



Flowers today are in celebration of Charlie and Sheri Simpson's 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary.  
Additional flowers today are in celebration of Ron Tom's birthday!

**Assisting in Worship:**

Liturgist: Larry Culver

Ushers: Mike Vest & Lolly Platt

Greeter and Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Thorstad

## (SERMON OUTLINE)

# Pickpockets and Purse-Snatchers

John 10:1-10

Pastor Daniel A. Storvick

God's word promises,

"I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10).

"He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion" (Philippians 1:6).

## Pickpockets and Purse-Snatchers

### Jesus tells us, Yes, You DO Have Enemies

"Anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate . . . is a thief and a bandit" (John 10:1).

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy" (John 10:10).

"Our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, authorities, cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil" (Ephes. 6:12).

**You Might Ask Yourself:** Evil is both real and Personal, not some obtuse, blurry, bad choice or weakness or system failure, bad parenting, or misguided goodness.

### **Sneak Thieves—Spiritual Pickpockets—*Kleptes***

*Anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate . . . is a thief . . .* (John 10:1)

*All who came before me are thieves . . .* (John 10:8)

**You might ask yourself:** The *kleptes* is a subtle thief. Who or What are your subtle, unseen enemies? Those things, influences, temptations, fears or people that sap your faith?

### **Bandits--Spiritual Purse-Snatchers--*Leistes***

*Anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate . . . is a bandit.* (John 10:1)

*All who came before me are . . . bandits* (John 10:8)

**You might ask yourself:** Who/what are the *leistes* that assault my faith?

## Spiritual Protection

### Join the Flock

"The gatekeeper opens the gate . . . he has brought out all his own" (John 10:4).

"Anyone who comes to me I will never drive away" (John 6:37).

"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me" (Rev. 3:20).

### Hear His Voice

"The sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out" (John 10:3).

"They know his voice" (John 10:4),

"Listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God" (Exodus 15:26).

### Run from Strangers

"They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him" (John 10:5).

"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

### Follow the Shepherd

"The sheep follow him because they know his voice" (John 10:4).

"Saul said to Samuel, 'I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, I have gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me'" (1 Samuel 15:20).

### Claim the Promise

"Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture" (John 10:9).

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10)

## **Mountain Reformed Church**

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**\*A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS BULLETIN  
IS AVAILABLE AT THE USHER'S TABLE.**

### **Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!**

We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and non-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at [www.mountainreformed.org](http://www.mountainreformed.org) for more information about our church.

### **Prayer of Meditation**

Generous God, thank you for the gift of this new day. Help me to watch for your signs and wonders in the world today, and fill my heart with gladness and generosity, that I may generate good will wherever I go. Amen.

### **MRC Men's Breakfast**

The men of Mountain Reformed Church will gather for their monthly breakfast at 8am tomorrow, May 1<sup>st</sup> at Zeke's Eatin' Place in the Frontier Village Shopping Center at the Frontier Village Shopping Center. All men are invited to join us!

### **MRC Women's Meetup**

The women of MRC will be meeting Saturday May 6th at 1pm at the home of Beth Wingate. As per usual, we will be organizing our ministry projects and enjoying fellowship and snacks! All women are invited and encouraged to attend. For more info, please reach out to Lyndi 928-899-2085 [lyndi@milehighlending.com](mailto:lyndi@milehighlending.com).

## **Become a Member of Mountain Reformed Church!**

Mountain Reformed Church is establishing a membership. All who are interested or desire to become a member of Mountain Reformed Church are encouraged to add your name to the sign-up sheet at the usher's table. This is a crucial and exciting step in the development and establishment of our congregation. **Please note that membership at another local congregation does not preclude you from also becoming a member of Mountain Reformed Church.** More details about membership will be coming soon!

## **Music Ministry**

Do you have a heart for worship and desire to glorify God through marvelous uplifting music? The Sanctuary Choir of Mountain Reformed Church is always seeking new members. If you are musically inclined and have the ability to read music, consider joining the choir! Please contact our minister of music, Ryan Gastonguay at [ryan@mountainreformed.org](mailto:ryan@mountainreformed.org) for more info.

## **Facility Fund**

We are growing! MRC is now looking for a semi-permanent location and we are creating a facility fund to support this effort. If you would like to contribute, please write "facility fund" on your offering envelope.

## **Pastor on Call**

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm is the Pastor on Call. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email [eugenegrimm@me.com](mailto:eugenegrimm@me.com) or call 928-925-6057.

## **MRC Bulletin and Weekly Email**

Would you like to place an announcement in the Sunday bulletin or "This Week at Mountain Reformed Church" email? Please send your info to Ryan Gastonguay at [ryan@mountainreformed.org](mailto:ryan@mountainreformed.org). The deadline is Monday evening of each week for the coming weekend, but we always appreciate as much notice as possible.

## **Prayer Ministry and Prayer Chain**

If you would like to be a part of our prayer ministry and prayer chain, please indicate this on your welcome card. Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry, and she will send prayer requests to you by email: [lyndi@milehighlending.com](mailto:lyndi@milehighlending.com). You can also call or text Lyndi at 928-899-2085. If you are seeking prayer please email Lyndi your request directly or fill out a prayer request card (available at the usher's table) and place in the offering plate.

**4/23/2023 Worship Attendance: 68**  
**Bank Balances as of 4/26/2023: \$48, 382**