

## **HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH–ELCA**

1918 Garfield St., Beatrice NE 68310-2633 + 402-228-3172  
www.holycrossbeatrice.com + holycrosselcabeatrice@gmail.com  
*“Inspired by the Holy Spirit to Serve”*

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

9:00 a.m., Sunday, May 8, 2022

#### ***Welcome to Worship!***

**We are thankful that your voice joins others in praise and thanksgiving today, and pray that in worship, you encounter a God of grace and mercy.**

#### **To help you during worship:**

- Please feel free to ask an usher, greeter or other worshiper if you need assistance.
- For everyone, please fill out an attendance card in the fellowship pad found in each pew and pass them down the row.
- Throughout the bulletin, responses of the assembly are printed in bold type. The leader’s portion is in regular font.
- Words to the hymns are printed on the PowerPoint. If these tunes are in a hymnal, hymn numbers are noted – ELW –Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red) or WOV – With One Voice (blue).
- If you are unable to hear during worship, Assistive Listening Devices are available as you enter the sanctuary. They may be used with or without hearing aids. Please contact an usher to assist.
- In the spirit of worship, please silence cell phones.
- Diaper changing station is located in the Family Bathroom in the hallway.
- Envelopes are provided in the pews for offering.
- We welcome children in worship! They are a blessing to the congregation. If time is needed to step out of the sanctuary with little ones, there are chairs available in the narthex. Also, children’s activity bags are hanging on a stand in the narthex.

#### ***Holy Communion***

**Jesus is the host of this meal; it is he who invites us to the table and we exclude none whom Jesus himself would welcome.**

- If you are physically unable to come forward, tell an usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.
- White grape juice is in the center of the tray for those unable to drink wine.
- Gluten-free wafers are available. Tell the pastor or communion assistant serving you.
- Anyone not communing is invited to come forward for a blessing. Keep your hands folded to indicate you would like a blessing.

**You may include any notes for the church office on the attendance card. Church office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm**

**SUNDAY’S WORSHIP WILL ALSO BE ON FACEBOOK LIVE FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP.**

Introduction: The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

(\*—please stand as you are able)

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – Ringing of the Church Bell

### **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

\*Thanksgiving for Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

P: We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: “**Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us**” ELW 789, vv 1-3

\*Apostolic 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.**

\*Kyrie (*spoken*)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

\*Canticle of Praise ELW, p 140

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

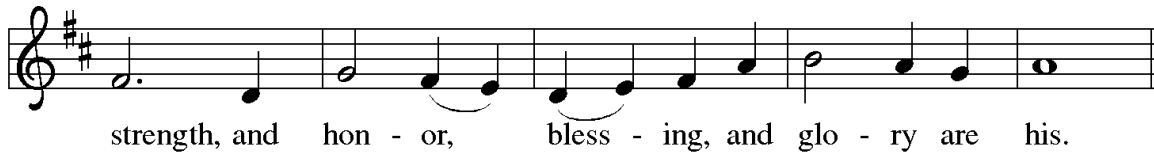
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

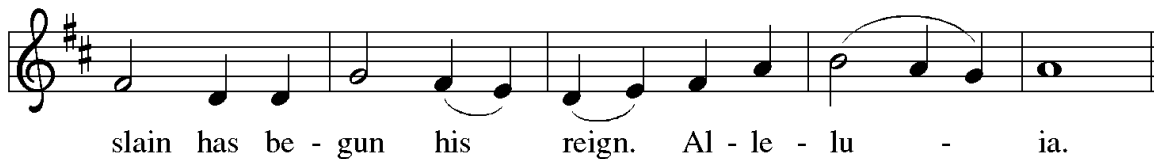
*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

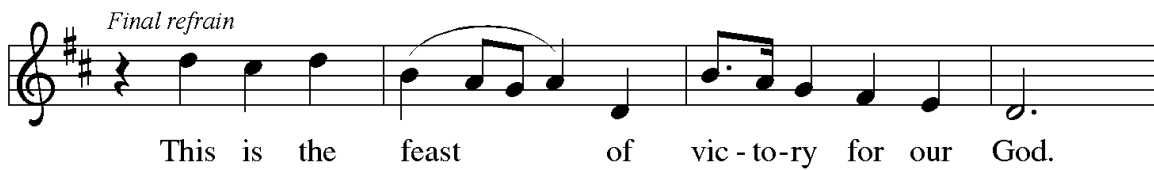


al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

R: Word of God, word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 (read responsively)

R: <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**C: <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

R: <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

R: <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**C: <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” <sup>14</sup>I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

R: Word of God, word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: “Celtic Alleluia” ELW 174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Public Domain. Music: Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker ©1985 admin. OCP Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-715997

P: The holy gospel according to John

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

\*Gospel: John 10:22-30

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do

not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

Sermon

Pastor Kathee

Hymn of the Day: **"Children of the Heavenly Father" ELW 781**

\*Apostles' Creed

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Prayers of Intercession

P: God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

\*Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(From where we sit, greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.)*

## **MEAL**

Offering

*(We contemplate our response to all that God has given us.)*

Offering Song: **"Have No Fear Little Flock" ELW 764, vv 1,2,4**

\*Offertory: **"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" ELW 182**

\*Offertory Prayer

P: Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

\*Great Thanksgiving (spoken) p. 144, ELW

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.**

P: it is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: (sung) Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

\*Eucharistic Prayer

\*Lord's Prayer

**All: 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 to the Table

P: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Distribution (continuous)

Communion Hymn: **"I Come With Joy" ELW 482**

\*Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**



**\*Prayer after Communion**

P: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

P: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.  
**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song: "Lead Me, Guide Me" ELW 768**

**\*Dismissal**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
P: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

\*\*\*\*\*

Permission to reprint/podcast/stream portions of this service obtained from One License with license #A-715997, CCLI with license #2452533 and Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SBT003885.

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>WORSHIP MINISTRY</b>	
Ministers.....	Members of the Congregation
Pastor.....	Kathee Forrest
	Home: 402-230-3250; Cell: 402-239-9798
Organists.....	Nadine Hibbert, Denise Lenners
Greeters.....	Elsie Otto, Lanny Ropers
Ushers.....	Bill & Rebecca Behrends
Door Greeters/Ass't Ushers.....	Stacie Bruns, Kylie Belt
Reader.....	Bill Behrends
Communion Helper.....	Rebecca Behrends
Acolyte.....	Kendall Hein
Facebook Videographer.....	Terri Huls

**WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH!** *We are delighted to have you with us in worship this weekend. Whether you come each week or came today for the first time, you are a valuable member of God's family and we're glad you're here! You are invited to join in fellowship and coffee following worship.*

**PEW PADS:** Please remember to sign the pew pad before you leave worship. This helps us to know who our visitors are each week, who we are missing, how much communion to prepare, how many bulletins to make, etc. Thank you!

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Tom Karlin, Carol Karlin, Carole Weber, Herman Hofeling, Jim Fralin, Raymond Johnsen, Elaine Schnaidt, Noah Jobman, Henry Scott Paben & Lena Joy Paben, Mary Leanne Huls, Dustin Fritch, Tom Comer, Carol Karlin, Lucas Wiese, Rondi Mettscher, Tony George, Nelda Hirsh, Willy Hofeling, Betty Novotny.

**PASTOR KATHEE** will be on vacation from May 10 returning May 24. During this time Jody Helton will cover pastoral emergencies. If there is an emergency please call the church office at 402-228-3172 or Jody at 316-706-8388.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Cecelia Dunker, Alysia Karlin (May 8), Aaron Nielsen (May 9), Rebecca Behrends, Ina Jurgens, Rick Koenig (May 10), Jackie Nielsen, Chandra Vitosh (May 12).

**SPECIAL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS** to Ina Jurgens who will be 95 on May 10. God's blessings to you – may you have a happy and healthy year!

**HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY** to Burley & Genell Copas (5-8-60) and Richard & Carol Fielder (5-9-81).

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Burley & Genell Copas who are celebrating their 62<sup>nd</sup> Wedding Anniversary today!

**THANK YOU** to the ladies who helped serve the Graduate, Matt 25, and Teacher Appreciation Reception Sunday morning. It was much appreciated!

**THE FOOD PANTRY** is in great need of cereal. If you would like to help with this, please leave your cereal donation in the shopping cart in the narthex. Thank you!

**SPRING GATHERING** for Women of the ELCA will be Saturday, May 21, in Lincoln at the University of Nebraska Lutheran Center. Registration forms and information sheets are in the narthex. The In-Kind offering will be small items that you use in your kitchen to be assembled into kitchen kits for Bridges to Hope Prison Ministry. Please bring items such as spatulas, rubber scrapers, potato peelers, paring knives, pot holders, dish towels, can openers, measuring spoons and cups, etc. and place them in the Bridges to Hope Basket in the narthex. Gently used items are welcome also!

**SOUND AND STREAMING SYSTEM UPGRADES FUND:** At the special congregational meeting on October 24, the congregation approved a sound system and streaming upgrade. Envelopes are available in the narthex for those who would like to donate toward this fund. \$27,494.28 has been donated so far toward our \$40,000.00 goal. Thank you to everyone who has donated toward this project. Please check your newsletter for more details.

**JOYFUL STEPS:** Each Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. come join us in the church basement for our weekly hour of fellowship and exercise. No equipment needed. You may wish to bring a bottle of water. See you all then!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** You are invited to enjoy an informational evening **Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Zion Lutheran, Pickrell** with guest speaker, Amber Lovitt, Executive Director CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Gage County for abused and neglected children hosted by Zion's WELCA. Amber recruits, trains and mentors volunteers who are appointed by the County Judge to gather information. These children are in the court system of no fault of their own but due to abuse and neglect. They offer training services and supplies to the community to help children and families thrive together. Area churches have been invited as well, so please bring a friend. Refreshments will also be served.

**GIVING INFORMATION:** As you bring your offerings and tithes for the ministry of Christ's Church at Holy Cross Lutheran, there are several ways to give besides the traditional offering collected at worship: You can mail them to the church at Holy Cross Lutheran, 1918 Garfield St., Beatrice, NE 68310. You can drop them in the mail slot on the southeast side of the building. Or you can give electronically by using the red "GIVING" link on the church website [www.holycrossbeatrice.com](http://www.holycrossbeatrice.com) or using the GivePlus by Vanco app on your smart devices. Thank you for your faithful giving to the ministry of Christ at Holy Cross Lutheran.

**THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:**

Sunday, May 8.....	9:00 a.m. Worship
(Happy Mother's Day!)	10:15 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Adult Ed
Tuesday, May 10....	10:00 a.m. Joyful Steps; 6:00-7:00 p.m. Confirmation
Wednesday, May 11....	9:00-3:00 Blanket Sewing
Thursday, May 12.....	9:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship @ Country Cookin'
	<i>(for information, call Ferdie Kimminau at 331-276-7380)</i>
	7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Saturday, May 14.....	6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship
Sunday, May 15.....	9:00 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship
Office Hours...	8:30-3:00-Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

**MAY 8, 2022**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY**  
**OF EASTER**

**taking faith home**

*Jesus is our shepherd.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	John 10:22-30	Jesus promises life to his sheep
<b>Monday</b>	Acts 9:36-43	Peter brings Dorcas back to life
<b>Tuesday</b>	Revelation 7:9-17	The multitude from every nation
<b>Wednesday</b>	Hebrews 13:20-22	Final prayers
<b>Thursday</b>	Isaiah 40:6-11	Encourage God's people
<b>Friday</b>	1 Peter 5:1-7	Helping Christian leaders
<b>Saturday</b>	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
<b>Sunday</b>	John 13:31-35	Love one another

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*"My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me."*  
 John 10:27 (NRSV)

**PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, give us faith to trust Jesus, our good shepherd, and to faithfully follow him into the world and do your will. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

God, we thank you for preparing this table and food before us that we may be strengthened in faith and in service to others through Christ Jesus, our shepherd. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May Jesus the Good Shepherd hold you in eternal care.

**MAY 8, 2022**  
**HYMN OF THE WEEK**  
*Shepherd Me, O God*

**taking faith home**

**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When you talk with others, who are the voices you trust? Explain.
- Think about or tell a story when you were aware of God's presence in your life.

**DEVOTIONS**

Read: John 10:22-30.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally the Good Shepherd Sunday. The most recognized of all the psalms, Psalm 23, reminds us that the Lord is our shepherd. In John 10:11, Jesus identified himself as the good shepherd. As the Messiah, Jesus has followers he refers to as "my sheep." His sheep recognize his voice and follow the good shepherd as the Messiah (a translation of Christ). Today, we, too, serve as the voice of Jesus in the world that others may follow the good shepherd and recognize Jesus as the Christ. 1 Peter 5:4 alludes to this when Jesus is named as the "chief shepherd." Not only pastors but everyone, including parents and other trusted voices, shepherd one another in faith and life. As followers of Jesus, as sheep of the good shepherd, we all carry the voice and message of Jesus into the world. Shepherding is a way of life for disciples that guides, protects, and serves others that they may hear and recognize Jesus.

Discuss: How has someone helped you hear the voice and message of Jesus Christ?

Pray: Comforting and gracious God, help us to hear and trust the message of Jesus, the good shepherd, that we may care for and shepherd one another in faith, hope, and love. Amen

**SERVICE**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you shepherd someone who needs to feel the love of Jesus?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

Today is Mother's Day. It is a time to be thankful for the women in our lives who have cared for us and others. Reach out to a woman you know with a special thank you card, with a phone call, or a visit. Use this prayer: Lord God, thank you for (name). May she know how grateful I am to have her in my life. Bless her this day and each day with your love and care. Amen.



© 2021 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)