

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

He Leadeth Me



1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,



What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
con - tent, what-ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead-eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead-eth me.



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead-eth me.

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Almighty and merciful God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forevermore.
Amen.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

Wednesday Evening Lenten Service
March 18, 2020

**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

Gathering

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

Silent Reflection

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.
Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.
We have wandered from your resurrection life.
We have strayed from your love for all people.
Turn us back to you, O God.
Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever.
Amen.

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
 "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.
 All your sin is forgiven in the name of ☐ Jesus Christ,
 who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.
Amen.

The Lord's My Shepherd



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth 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;
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
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 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

have good cheer, little flock,
 for the Father will keep you
 in his love forever;
 have good cheer, little flock!

Praise the Lord high above;
 praise the Lord high above,
 for he stoops down to heal you,
 uplift and restore you;
 praise the Lord high above!

Thankful hearts raise to God;
 thankful hearts raise to God,
 for he stays close beside you,
 in all things works with you;
 thankful hearts raise to God!

Prayers of Intercession (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

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

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.

The holy gospel according to John 10:11-18

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹I 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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Homily

Hymn Have No Fear Little Flock

Have no fear, little flock;
have no fear, little flock,
for the Father has chosen
to give you the kingdom;
have no fear, little flock!

Have good cheer, little flock;

Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff —
they comfort me.

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

⁶Surely 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.

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he 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