The Lamb



"The Lambs That Are Lost"

Midweek IV

Midweek Lent IV

Series Theme

"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29) That was John the Baptist's powerful witness to Jesus at the Jordan River when the Savior came to be baptized by him. The image of a lamb is used frequently in both the Old and New Testaments to describe the Messiah as well as the sinful people He came to save. This Lenten season we gather to examine and to meditate on some of these Biblical pictures of...

The Lamb

As We Gather "The Lambs That Are Lost"

None of us likes to admit it, but God insists that we all like sheep have gone astray. We are lost and vulnerable to the wolf. The Good News is that God's only-begotten Son became a sheep and laid down His life in order to bring us back into the fold. No wonder we call a Lamb such as that "The Good Shepherd."

+ Service of Vespers+

(LSB pp 229-234)

Prelude

Bell

Welcome

We Greet Each Other

stand



Psalm 95:1-7c

- P Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
- C let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- P Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
- C let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- P For the LORD is a great God,
- C and a great King above all gods.
- P In his hand are the depths of the earth;

- C the heights of the mountains are his also.
- P The sea is his, for he made it,
- C and his hands formed the dry land.
- P Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
- C let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- P For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
- C and the sheep of his hand.
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 53:1-6

Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Luke 15:1-7

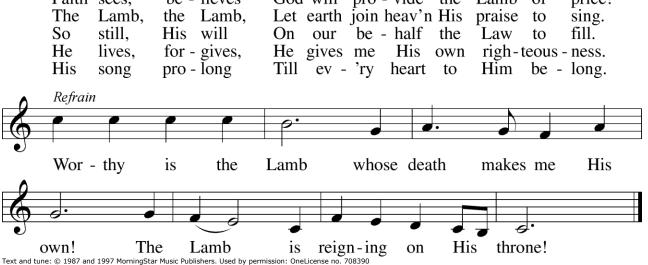
Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].

And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.





All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Children's Message

Canticle Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense, and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.





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Offering

stand

Kyrie



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

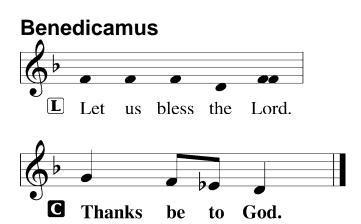
Collect for the Return of the Wayward and Erring

P Almighty and most gracious God and Father, we implore You to turn the hearts of all who have forsaken the faith once delivered to Your Church, especially those who have wandered from it or are in doubt through the corruption of Your truth. Mercifully visit and restore them that in gladness of heart they may take pleasure in Your Word and be made wise to salvation through faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

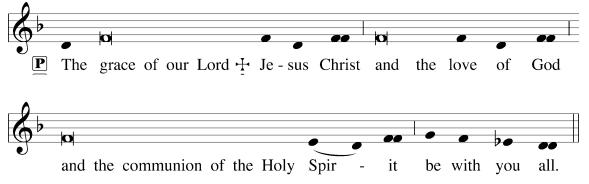
C Amen

Luther's Evening Prayer

All I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

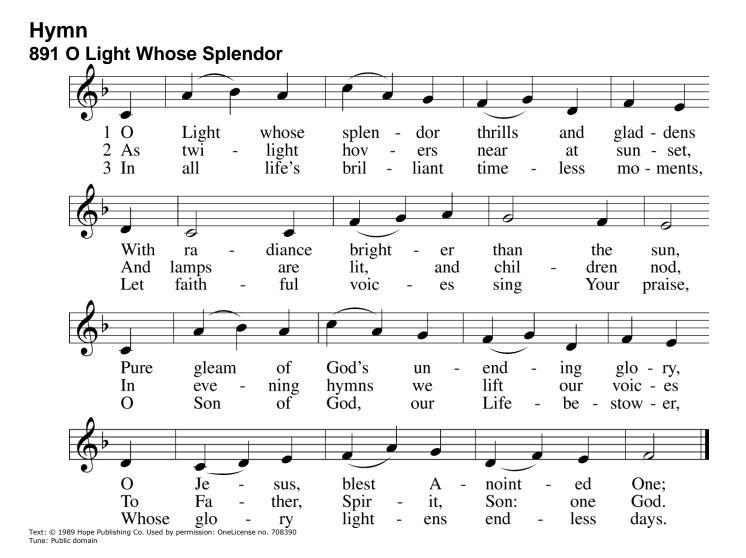








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Announcements

Next Week "The Lamb Led to Slaughter"

We can be grateful we live in the New Testament era. Can you imagine the Old Testament faithful climbing up, up, up to Jerusalem for the purpose of sacrificing one of their choicest animals to the LORD? It was a grizzly business, unpleasant to the eye, ear, nose, and throat. But it was necessary! Just so God sent His only-begotten and dearly loved Son to earth for one purpose: He came to die. He is the Lamb of God that was led to grizzly slaughter in our place. Truly, "Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus unto Thee."

"The Lamb"

March 6	Midweek IV	Isaiah 53:6	The Lambs That Are Lost
March 13	Midweek V	Isaiah 53:7	The Lamb Led to Slaughter
March 20	Midweek VI	Deuteronomy 17:1	The Unblemished Lamb
March 28	Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:21	The Passover Lamb
March 29	Good Friday	Exodus 29:38-39	The Lambs for Daily Sacrifice
March 31	Easter Sunday	Revelation 5:1-14	The Lamb That Was Slain

MIDWEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

Wednesdays, March 6- March 20 Light Supper 6:00PM Worship Service 7:00PM

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00PM Good Friday, March 29, 12:00 & 7:00PM Easter Sunday, March 31, 8:00 & 10:45 AM



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