

Pentecost 9

July 21, 2024

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 11 (Year B)

The “shepherds” of Israel who were supposed to be caring for God’s people sinned against God and ended up far from home, exiled in Babylon. God would bring his people home to Jerusalem even as he would also send a shepherd who would restore his people to a right relationship with him. This one is Jesus, God’s only Son, who brought peace, reconciliation, and inclusion for all in God’s kingdom.



THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1–6 **A Remnant Will Be Returned to the Fold**

The Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah promising that a righteous branch of the line of David would be raised up and Judah would be saved out of exile. Justice and righteousness will be restored to the people. Woe be upon those who would be given authority to rule and would not properly care for God’s children.

Psalm 23 **The Shepherd Lord**

The psalmist put his ultimate trust in the Lord, who is like a faithful shepherd who leads his flock to clear water and green pastures.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11–22 **Peace in Christ**

St. Paul reminded his Gentile audience that once they were far off from God, having no hope because they were not part of the covenant community of Israel. Now, in Christ they have been brought near to God and are no longer strangers or aliens. Now they are citizens with the Jews in the kingdom of God. All this came through the peace granted them in Christ Jesus, who put an end to all hostility.

Gospel Reading: Mark 6:30–44 **Miraculous Feeding**

Jesus invited his disciples to come away with him for respite after a long period of doing ministry for the kingdom. They got in a boat and went across to a deserted place to rest, but the crowds followed them there. Jesus had compassion on them and began to teach the crowd. When the hour became late, the disciples urged Jesus to send the crowd away, but he insisted they give the people something to eat.

Suggestions for the Day:

- Liturgical Color: Green
- Use the Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise
- Use the Apostles’ Creed
- There are many references in the Scriptures to God being a shepherding God. This image shows the nature of God as one who protects and cares for his people. He guides and watches over those he created in love. It is fitting, then, that Jesus, his one and only Son, would also be called a shepherd: the Good Shepherd (John 10:11), the Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 5:4), and the Great Shepherd of the sheep (Hebrews 13:20). In Jesus we see the loving and caring traits of the Father in a flesh-and-blood experience.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
The Church’s One Foundation	369	---	644	654	88	88
Christ is Made the Sure Foundation	367	747	909	645	---	---
The Lord’s My Shepherd	451	---	710	778	209	209
Lead On, O King Eternal	495	---	913	805	---	---
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us	481	---	711	789	205	205
Have No Fear, Little Flock	476	---	735	764	202	202
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say	497	---	699	332	241	241
Lord of All Hopefulness	469	---	738	765	200	200
My Faith Looks Up To Thee	479	---	702	759	243	243
O Bread of Life From Heaven	222	---	---	480	84	84

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW=Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV=With One Voice, ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB=The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC=The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at “Hymns and Music.”

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

- Praise Song Titles:**
- Shepherd (CCLI# 7068442)
 - Peace (CCLI# 6215437)
 - I Will Follow (CCLI# 5806878)
 - Lead On, Good Shepherd (CCLI# 7209206)
 - Your Love Never Fails (CCLI# 5337172)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.