

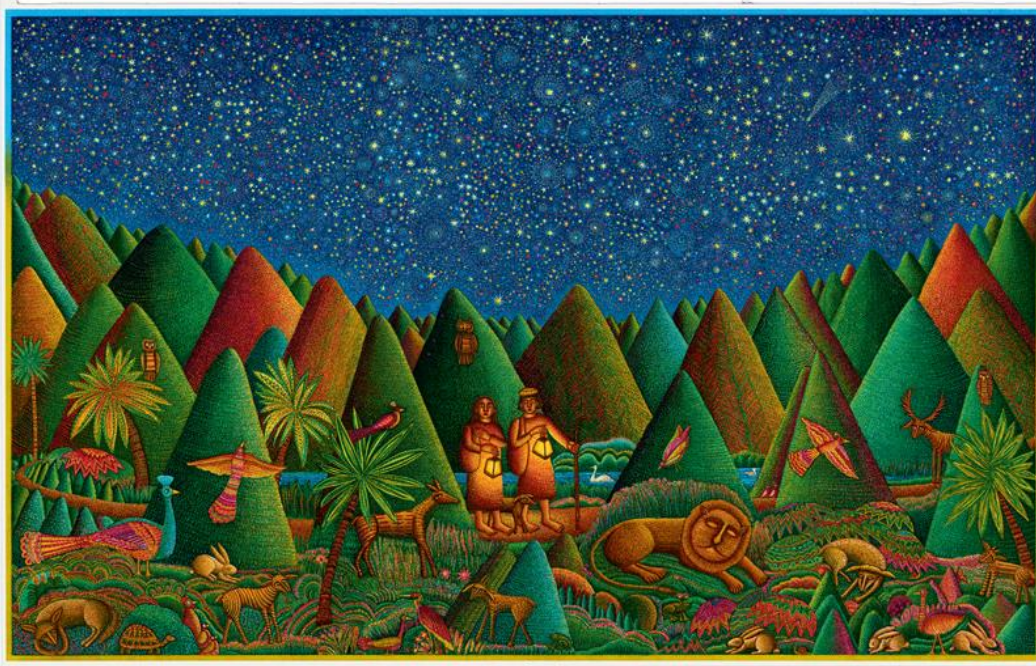


The Good Shepherd. Julien Dupre, 1851-1910.

Images of women agricultural workers became a popular subject in French painting of the mid-late 19th century. Julien Dupre drew on that popular theme and moved it to allegory, with the naming of a shepherdess as the "good shepherd." Christ, the Good Shepherd, becomes **a calming presence** without being pictured, simply by the artist's use of sheep, staff/rod, and one who tends the flock.

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
he makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil;
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff,
they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;*

*thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
for ever (King James Version).*



Psalm 23. John August Swanson.

[Lent in the Time of Coronavirus: More Prayer and Unexpected Penance](#)

By Carol Zimmermann, Catholic News Service

(Click on the link above for thoughts on letting Lent be Lent this year.)

A Letter from Council President Carrie Watkiss and Pastor Dennis Lauritsen:

[Virus Cancellation Notice March 2020.pdf](#)

*Adjusted church office hours during the virus suppression interim: **M, T, W, Th, 9 a.m.--noon.***

Worship Folder for the Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 22nd:

[Lent 4 March 22 2020.pdf](#)

A Ray of Light in Our Darkness:

**[Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Riverside---](#)
[Brand New Website!](#)**

Pastor's Monthly Report for February and March:

 [Pastor's Report March 19 2020.pdf](#)

From Our Stewardship Group:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you must know by now, in-person church services have been suspended for a while. For those of us who rely on putting our tithe into the offering plates on Sundays and Wednesdays the Stewardship Committee would like to suggest that you mail your contribution to the church office.

Karen and the other church staff will continue to be working during this hiatus and can get your checks to the right place. Continuous financial support of the church is critical as bills, salaries, and other expenses need to be met regardless of the current situation. If you donate cash, we do not recommend that you mail it. Rather, either use a check instead, or feel free to come by the church and drop off your contribution. Large gatherings are discouraged but meeting with the Pastor or visiting the church individually is easily arranged.

Thank you for remembering the church at this time. Please continue to pray for all of our members, especially those most vulnerable to this virus.

On Video: Baptismal Gospel Readings for the Weeks in Lent from [The Gospel of John](#) . (Initial release: September 26th, 2003. Director: Philip Saville. Narrator: Christopher Plummer. Producer: Garth Drabinsky.)

Second Sunday in Lent, March 8th
[Jesus and Nicodemus](#)

John 3:1-17

[Genesis 12:1-4a](#); [Psalm 121](#); [Romans 4:1-5, 13-17](#)

Third Sunday in Lent, March 15th
[Jesus and the Samaritan Woman](#)

John 4:5-42

[Exodus 17:1-7](#); [Psalm 95](#); [Romans 5:1-11](#)

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 22nd
[Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind](#)

John 9:1-41

[1 Samuel 16:1-13](#); [Psalm 23](#); [Ephesians 5:8-14](#)

Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 29th
[Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead](#)

John 11:1-45

[Ezekiel 37:1-14](#); [Psalm 130](#); [Romans 8:6-11](#)



“We conclude, therefore, that a Christian lives not in himself, but in Christ and in his neighbor. Otherwise he is not a Christian. He lives in Christ through faith, in his neighbor through love. By faith he is caught up beyond himself into God. By love he descends beneath himself into his neighbor. Yet he always remains in God and in his love.” – Martin Luther, *Freedom of the Christian*, LW 31: 371.

Almighty and merciful God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always. Amen (see also Psalm 91).

Peace, light and hope from Will Todd's *Lux et Veritas*, performed by *Tenebrae*

No More Sorrow

Agnus Dei

Encircled

“Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. O Christ, hear us. In mercy hear us. God, the Father in heaven, have mercy on us. God, the Son, redeemer of the world, have mercy on us. God, the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us. Be gracious to us. Spare us, good Lord...” (from the opening verses of The Litany, *Lutheran Book of Worship*, pages 168ff).

Please consider praying (and singing) [The Litany](#) in your homes during the evening hours.