

Musical Meditation for May 3

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Bible Readings (from PCUSA Revised Common
Lectionary Readings)

Acts 2:42–47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19–25

John 10:1–10

Music Selection: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Piano solo arranged by Michael Thompson. Tune: Bradbury

The recording of this piece complies with the CCLI requirements of the publisher, the Lorenz Corporation



Hymn #387

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.

2 You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.

3 Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.

Thoughts

In John 10:1-10, Jesus proclaims himself as the true path to salvation, describing himself as the one who enters via the gate, illustrating this as the relation a shepherd has to his flock. The hymn selection echoes this perspective in its lyrics, and expands on it in terms of expectations of us as His sheep.

For our prayers, we should recognize our good fortune in having a new, clear pathway to redemption via our Shepherd. This is the good news of the New Testament -- in a very concise, easy-to-understand form! Let's also continue to pray for recovery of the still-increasing numbers of people worldwide affected by COVID-19, and for families that are impacted by the loss of loved ones, "social distancing", and economic hardships. For guidance to our leaders as they struggle to "reopen" our society in a safe, reasonable way. For medical and service workers who need our support and prayers; they are continuing their labors, at personal risk, to heal the sick and keep our society functioning, ensuring that basic needs for food and shelter are met on a continuing basis. And, finally, we should continue taking our personal concerns to God.