

# Good Shepherd Sunday- Hear His Voice!

April 30, 2023



Fourth Sunday of  
Easter

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**WELCOME, GUESTS!!!** We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

**THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS** – Good Shepherd Sunday. The image of shepherd and sheep are certainly familiar to modern Christians, but do those concepts resonate as deeply for us as they did for the people of God 2000 years ago? On Good Shepherd Sunday we see how sharp the contrast is between true shepherds and false shepherds. All is determined by their relationship to Christ, the only gate for the sheep.

**MORNING PRAYER:** O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE:** COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION– CW, p.15



# OPENING HYMN:

#339

TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US

**\*\*Please Stand for last verse\*\***



1 To - day your mer - cy calls us To wash a -  
2 To - day your gate is o - pen, And all who  
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly  
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er



way our sin. How - ev - er great our tres - pass,  
en - ter in Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come  
Spir - it waits. His bless - ed an - gels gath - er  
o - pen Door, What should we do with - out you



What - ev - er we have been, How - ev - er long from  
And par - don for their sin. The past shall be for -  
A - round the heav'n - ly gates. No ques - tion will be  
When heart and eye run o'er? When all things seem a -



mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way, Your pre - cious  
got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n, A fu - ture  
asked us How of - ten we have come; Al - though we  
gainst us, To drive us to de - spair, We know one



blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
grace be prom - ised: A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-78, alt.

Tune: ANTHES (76 76 D) Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

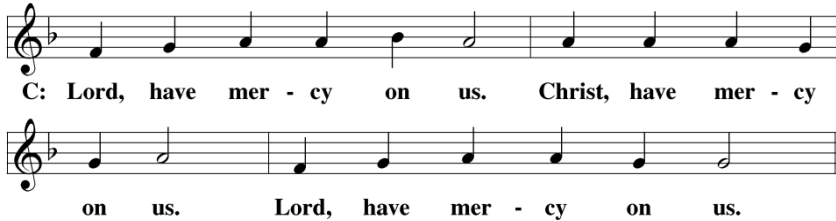
## CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*



God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



## PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

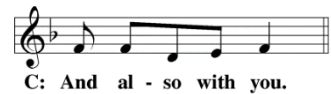
### GLORY BE TO GOD

*Gloria in Excelsis*





### PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.  
Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

### FIRST LESSON:

**Acts 6: 1 – 9, 7: 2a, 51 – 60**

*The apostles' care for Christ and his Church leads them to raise up more leaders to serve. See how these new leaders enter by the gate! Stephen holds to Christ no matter what the consequences!*

***In those days, as the number of disciples was increasing, a complaint arose from the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve called together the whole group of disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, carefully select from among you seven men with good reputations, who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this service. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word."***

***This proposal pleased the entire group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas, a proselyte from***

*Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. Also a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.*

*Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. Some men who were from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia) rose up and disputed with Stephen.*

*Stephen said, "Gentlemen, brothers and fathers, listen!*

*You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit! You are doing just what your fathers did. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who prophesied the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers— you who received the law as transmitted by angels, but did not keep it." When they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed up into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. He said, "Look, I see heaven opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."*

*But they screamed at the top of their voices, covered their ears, and rushed at him with one purpose in mind. They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." After he said this, he fell asleep.*

# PSALM OF THE DAY:

HYMN #360

THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD; I'LL NOT WANT



1 The Lord's my shep - herd; I'll not want. He  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain And  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet  
4 My ta - ble thou hast fur - nish - ed In  
5 Good - ness and mer - cy, all my life, Shall



makes me down to lie In pas - tures green; he  
me to walk doth make With - in the paths of  
will I fear no ill; For thou art with me,  
pres - ence of my foes; My head thou dost with  
sure - ly fol - low me, And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
right - eous - ness, E'en for his own name's sake.  
and thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
ev - er - more My dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650.  
Tune: BELMONT (CM) William Gardiner, 1770–1853, adapt.

## SECOND LESSON

HEBREWS 13: 20 – 21

*Only one gate leads to life eternal, because only Christ provided the blood of the eternal covenant. As we sheep stand looking back at the Easter miracle, we are empowered and equipped to follow our Shepherd wherever he may lead.*

***Now may the God of peace—who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, in connection with his blood, which established the eternal testament — may he equip you with every good thing to do his will, as he works in us what is pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.***

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia. (John 10:14)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

***\*\*Please Stand\*\****

## GOSPEL

## JOHN 10: 1 – 10

*In the three-year cycle of readings, Good Shepherd Sunday draws its Gospel lessons from successive readings of John 10. In this lesson, Christ only infers that he is the Good Shepherd. Rather, the great “I am” statement that sets the direction for this Sunday is “I am the gate for the sheep.”*

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



***“Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. The doorkeeper opens the door for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them.***

***So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. “A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.***

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**#375**

**THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS**

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My  
3 Con - fused and fool - ish oft I strayed, But  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With  
5 You spread a ta - ble in my sight, A

good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
Sav - ior gent - ly leads me; And where the ver - dant  
yet in love he sought me And on his shoul - der  
you, dear Lord, be - side me; Your rod and staff my  
ban - quet here be - stow - ing; Your oil of wel - come,

I am his, And he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feeds me.  
gent - ly laid And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still, Your cross be - fore to guide me.  
my de - light; My cup is o - ver - flow - ing!

6 And so through all the length of days  
Your goodness fails me never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
Within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.  
Tune: ST. COLUMBA (87 87 Iambic) Irish melody, c. 18th century, alt.

**SERMON TEXT**

**JOHN 10: 1 – 10**

**SERMON:**

**HEAR THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE; ENTER THROUGH HIM  
CREATE IN ME**

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -





**OFFERING** – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EASTER**

O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

**Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

**Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**

Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**

Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

**Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

**Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

***\*\*Please Be Seated\*\****

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**#515**

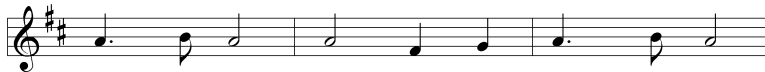
#### **SHEPHERD OF TENDER YOUTH**



1 Shep - herd of ten - der youth, Guid - ing in  
2 You are our ho - ly Lord, Christ, the in -  
3 You are our great High Priest; You have pre -  
4 Oh, ev - er be our guide, Our shep - herd  
5 So now and till we die Sound we your



love and truth Through de - vious ways, Christ, our tri -  
car - nate Word, Heal - er of strife. You did your -  
pared the feast Of ho - ly love; And in our  
and our pride, Our staff and song. Je - sus, O  
prais - es high And joy - ful sing; In - fants and



um - phant King, We come your name to sing  
self a - base That from sin's deep dis - grace  
mor - tal pain None calls on you in vain;  
Christ of God, By your en - dur - ing Word  
all the throng Who to your Church be - long



And here our chil - dren bring To join your praise.  
You might thus save our race And give us life.  
Our plea do not dis - dain: Help from a - bove!  
Lead us where you have trod; Make our faith strong.  
U - nite to swell the song To Christ, our King.

Text: attr. Clement of Alexandria, c. 170–c. 220; tr. Henry M. Dexter, 1821–90, alt.  
Tune: OLIVET (664 6664) Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, alt.

***\*\*Please Stand\*\****

## THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

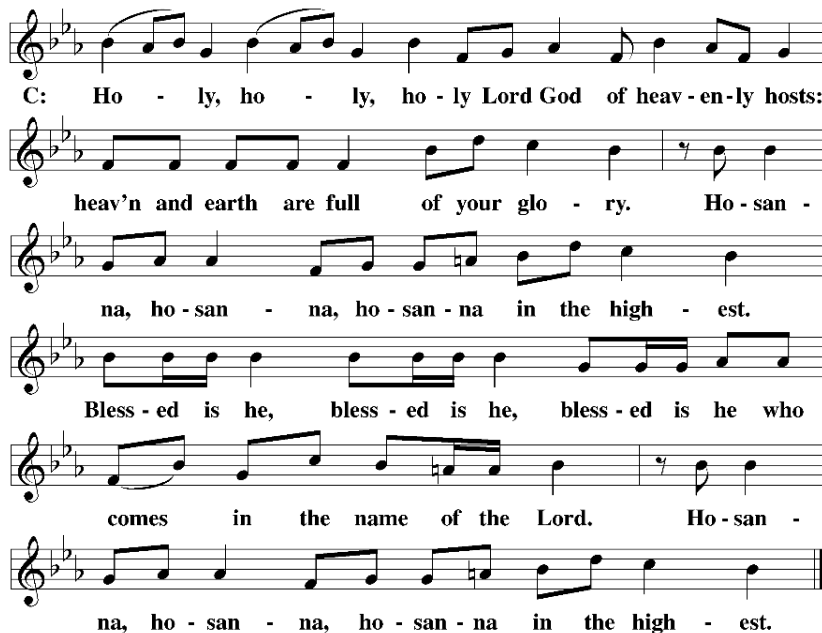


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

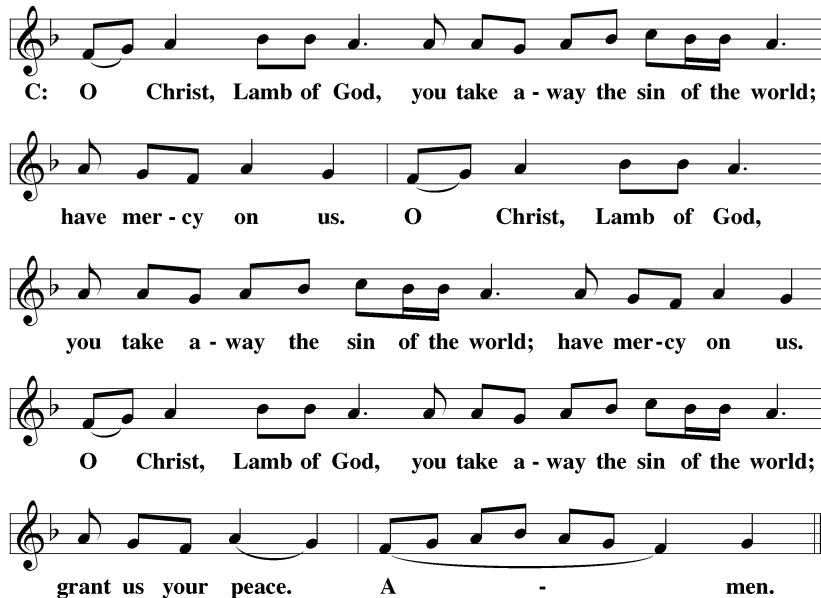
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

## Agnus Dei



**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

## DISTRIBUTION

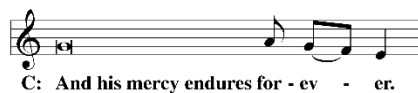
**DISTRIBUTION** – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

## SONG OF SIMEON



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

## CLOSING PRAYER

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

**\*\*Please Be Seated\*\***

**CLOSING HYMN:****#432****I AM JESUS' LITTLE LAMB**

1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb; Ev - er glad at heart I  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my staff and  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the shep-herd's



am, For my shep - herd gent - ly guides me, Knows my  
stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me, In - to  
lamb? And when my short life is end - ed, By his



needs and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, he  
an - gel hosts at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to his breast, There with - in his arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724-82; tr. composite.

Tune: WEIL ICH JESU SCHÄFLEIN BIN (77 88 77) *Choralbuch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen*, Leipzig, 1784.

### **What We believe:**

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congregational Meeting** – Our congregational meeting is scheduled after service today. We will be passing out the 2023/24 budget to be considered at the voters' assembly on May 7. The congregational meeting is for all who wish to attend and provides a means for everyone's voices to be heard.

**Voter's Meeting May 8** – Following service next week we will hold our voter's meeting, this consists of all confirmed men over 18 (we must have at least 8 of the voters to have a quorum.) The council will provide an overview and reports of our activities over this past year; we will be voting on new members; and approving the new budget.

**Marriage Enrichment Seminar** – after receiving feedback this seminar has been postponed to a future date.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** – The Acts of the Apostles was written by Luke to record the witnesses of the Christian Church, focused on faith in Jesus, and the challenges they faced as the church continued. So Pastor Emmons challenges you to bring your questions. Come and go as you wish! We start around 9:00 am; reading is always voluntary; bring your questions.

**Midweek Bible Study** – It is back 6 pm on Tuesday evenings! Our Midweek Bible Study of Romans resumes, or whatever topic might arise. If you would just like to peek behind the curtain to see what we are studying, you can join us by Zoom or come to the Port's home: 1923 NW Nickernut Court, Redmond Below is the Zoom link.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

**Strategic planning** – As promised, we will look at our strategic planning. We have many new faces, so that Pastor Emmons will send a survey in the next few weeks. So please look for this and send it back in so we can compile and prepare for our strategic planning.

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