

PRAYERS for May 8, 2022 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Worship Assistant: On this fourth Sunday of Easter, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Glorious Shepherd, You fortify our lives with Your presence when we worship You, read Your Word, speak with You in prayer, and sing hymns to praise You. May we always bear in mind that we are Your sheep, and that You are our good and great Shepherd. Keep us forever within the sound of Your voice and make us evermore obedient to Your call. We ask this with confidence understanding that You love us and knowing that You are constantly surrounding us with Your protecting arms.

Alleluia, Risen Lord.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Holy Shepherd, You know Your sheep by name and lead them to safety in the valleys of life. Protect all members of Your holy family: the unborn, the youth, the adults, and the elderly. You have promised to search out Your lost sheep. Please find and save those who are lost. Help us take Your message of hope to those in the world who do not know You. Remind us to keep our faith in You so that we can look to the future with hopefulness. Remind us that You will bring us through challenging times in our world and in our lives.

Alleluia, Risen Lord.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Gracious Shepherd, thank You for mothers, foster mothers, and for all who care and love with a mother's heart. You have blessed us with mothers, whose willingness to set aside their own needs and wants for our nurture and protection, reflect Your grace, Your love, and Your generosity. Grant them patience, goodness, and even a good night's sleep. Renew their spirits and make them a perpetual blessing to their children. Comfort all who have lost a child and all who long to have a child. Remind us to show our appreciation to the mothers here this day, to those who live away, and to those who are already with You.

Alleluia, Risen Lord.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Loving Shepherd, hold in Your comforting arms all those people who are hurting today. Grant healing and an extra measure of Your love to those who are ill, give relief to those who are in pain, provide food to those who suffer from hunger, and offer gladness to those who live in sadness and despair. Bless our littlest lambs: our infants and toddlers. Lead them safely through the dangers of this world. Crown their innocence with holiness. Teach them to know Your voice and to gladly follow wherever You would have them go. Especially be with all the friends and families on our prayer list and those that we name today in our hearts or say their names aloud.

(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) *Alleluia, Risen Lord.....hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Good Shepherd, as Christians we know that every day begins and ends with You. We give You thanks as we treasure each day and use every day to its fullest. You came to earth to give us abundant life and eternal salvation. Help us give thanks for Your blessings today and move on to the future according to Your master plan. Give a shepherd's heart to the leaders of all nations, especially our own. Teach them to seek the welfare of their people above power, wealth, or re-election. And to all people, especially those whose lives have been shattered by violence, grant a measure of Your peace.

Alleluia, Risen Lord.....hear our prayer. **Pastor:** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**