SUNDAY MORNING – New Year's Service 01-01-2023

Pre-service Psalter 229:1, 3\*\* Silent Congregational Prayer Votum and Salutation Psalter 7: All\*\* Reading of the Law: Deuteronomy 5:1-24 Psalter 325:1, 2\*\* Scripture Reading: Psalm 23; John 10:1-15 Congregational Prayer Offerings for the Lord's service (2 collections) Psalter 52: All\*\* Text: Psalm 23:1-6 Theme: The Shepherd of His Sheep 1. A committed Shepherd 2. A providing Shepherd 3. A guiding Shepherd 4. A protecting Shepherd 5. A generous Shepherd 6. A preserving Shepherd Prayer Psalter 128: All\*\* New Year's Address – Elder Doug Post Psalter: per Elder Post Doxology: "Praise God..." \*\* Benediction \*\* Please stand if enabled

- 1\*. What qualified David to write a psalm about a shepherd?
- 2. Why is the word "my" so profoundly important in the opening sentence of Psalm 23?
- 3. Why could David so confidently confess, "I shall not want"?
- 4\*. What are the green pastures to which Christ leads His sheep?
- 5. What must sheep focus on when they travel through "the valley of the shadow of death"?
- 6. Why are the rod and the staff the symbols of the shepherd's loving care for His sheep? How does this apply to Christ?
- 7. How does verse 5 express Christ's loving care for His sheep?
- 8. Why are Christ's goodness and mercy the life-time warranty of His shepherding care?

## Question for Self-Reflection

# Are you one of Christ's sheep? On what basis do you believe this?

SUNDAY EVENING 01-01-2023
Pre-service Psalter 230:4, 5** Silent Congregational Prayer Votum and Salutation Psalter 383: All** Scripture Reading: John 3:14-36 <i>Nicene Creed</i> Congregational Prayer Offerings for the Lord's service (2 collections) <b>Psalter 251: All</b> **
Text: John 3:36 (Heid. Cat., LD 31, q & a 82-83)
<u>Theme: The Preaching of the Gospel</u> 1. It is the primary means of grace
2. It opens God's kingdom to believers
3. It shuts God's kingdom to unbelievers
Prayer
Psalter 255: All** Doxology: Psalter 316**
Benediction
** Please stand if enabled

- 1\*. What are the two keys of the Kingdom of Heaven?
- 2. Why is the biblical distinction "believers/unbelievers" so crucial in connection with the preaching of the gospel?
- 3. What is the unique focus of each of the keys of God's kingdom?
- 4. Why must it be declared to true believers that their sins are forgiven?
- 5. On what basis can this full pardon of sins be so freely proclaimed?
- 6. Why is unbelief so highly offensive to God?
- 7. Why must Christ's servants preach about the wrath of God and eternal damnation?
- 8\*. What does Ezekiel 33:11 teach us about God's character?