

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer Rite II

April 25, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

sung by the choir

Opening Hymn The King of Love

sung by all

Opening Sentence

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Invitatory & Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

Presider Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Canticle 13 Glory to you

sung by Andy Danh and Motomi Tanaka

Psalm 23

led by Pat Thebaud

The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

A reading from the first letter of John.

read by Heather Kelly

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Raise the Gospel

sung by the Choir

A reading from the Gospel of John.

read by Deacon John Musco

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Kimberlee Auletta

Christ the Lord is Risen Again

sung by the choir

The Apostles Creed

said in unison

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Offertory

We give thanks to God for all we have and all we are. You can give securely online here:

<https://onrealm.org/holyapostles/give/website>

Doxology

Sung by all

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heav'nly hosts,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Presider And now as our Savior Jesus has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer LEVAS-264

Sung by all

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

led by Peter Saghir

O God, who made the world and everything in it,
we pray with one voice, proclaiming your presence to all the earth.

For skeptics and believers, for clergy high and low;
For those who seek God at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,
For all who search for life, come and listen: and we will tell you what our God has done for us.

We are alive in the spirit.
We are saved through water.
Because Christ lives, we also live.
For we too are God's offspring.

For presidents and prime ministers, for bosses and wardens;
For those who set the course at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,
For all who wield power, come and listen: and we will tell you what our God has done for us.

We do not fear what others fear.
We proclaim the hope that is in us.
Because Christ lives, we also live.
For we too are God's offspring.

For friends and lovers, for neighbors and strangers,
For those who eat bread at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,
For all who live in the world, come and listen: and we will tell you what our God has done for us.

In God, we live and move and have our being.
From God, we have life and breath and all things.
Because Christ lives, we also live.
For we too are God's offspring.

For the sick and troubled, for the fearful and alone,
For those in pain at home, at work, in the streets, and in the church,
For all who suffer, come and listen: and we will tell you what our God has done for us.

Our prayers are not rejected.
Our souls are held in life.
In truth, our God has heard us,
and love is not withheld.
Because Christ lives, we also live.
For we too are God's offspring.

For those kept in memory, for those long forgotten,

For all who ever took the breath of life at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,
For the dead and those who mourn them, come and listen: and we will tell you what our God has
done for us.

We are blessed by your presence.
We are filled with the Spirit.
Because Christ lives, we also live.
For we too are God's offspring.

God of heaven and earth, Companion in life, Spirit of truth,
to you alone we turn our eyes and lift our hearts.

Dear people of God, in this Easter season for whom and for what do you pray for?

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his
voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with
you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Closing Prayer

led by Keisha Lightbourne

Friends, please join me in our closing prayer:
Draw us forth, God of all creation.
Draw us forward and away from limited certainty
into the immense world of your love.
Give us the capacity to even for a moment
taste the richness of the feast you give us.
Give us the peace to live with uncertainty,
with questions,
with doubts.
Help us to experience the resurrection anew
with open wonder and an increasing ability
to see you in the people of Easter.

The Benediction

Presider May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the
resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.
May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness
of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. Amen.

