# **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

May 3, 2020 8:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite One





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Online Services: Sunday @ 8 and 10 AM

#### **GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

Symbols used in the bulletin: P Priest @ Congregation L Lector]

PRELUDE Brother James's Air H. Darke

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

#### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### THE GATHERING PRAYER

- P We gather in the name of our Easter God:
- Our Risen Lord transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance, despair into hope.
- We rejoice in the power of our Easter God:
- Our Father's love redeems every Good Friday nightmare into the promise of eternal life.
- We embrace the purposes of our Easter God:
- The Holy Spirit challenges us to leave tomb-like safety and invites us to live our faith boldly.
- **P** We are Easter people:
- We are a sign that indeed miracles happen, and that with God, all things are possible.

#### THE GLORIA

- Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards all. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
  - O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- And with thy Spirit.
- Let us pray... O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

### **WORD OF GOD**

THE READINGS: Deuteronomy 15:4-11 Psalm 23 • Acts 2:42-47 • John 10:1-10

## The First Reading

■ The First Reading is taken from Deuteronomy, chapter 15.

Of course there won't be any poor persons among you because the Lord will bless you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you to possess as an inheritance, but only if you carefully obey the Lord your God's voice, by carefully doing every bit of this commandment that I'm giving you right now. Once the Lord your God has blessed you, exactly as he said he would, you will end up lending to many different peoples but won't need to borrow a thing. You will dominate many different peoples, but they won't dominate you.

Now if there are some poor persons among you, say one of your fellow Israelites in one of your cities in the land that the Lord your God is giving you, don't be hard-hearted or tightfisted toward your poor fellow Israelites. To the contrary! Open your hand wide to them. You must generously lend them whatever they need. But watch yourself! Make sure no wicked thought crosses your mind, such as, The seventh year is coming—the year of debt cancellation—so that you resent your poor fellow Israelites and don't give them anything. If you do that, they will cry out to the Lord against you, and you will be guilty of sin. No, give generously to needy persons. Don't resent giving to them because it is this very thing that will lead to the Lord your God's blessing you in all you do and work at. Poor persons will never disappear from the earth. That's why I'm giving you this command: you must open your hand generously to your fellow Israelites, to the needy among you, and to the poor who live with you in your land.

- **L** The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

### The Psalm

- L We will read responsively from Psalm 23...
- The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- L He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- L Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- My Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### The Second Reading:

■ The Second Reading is taken from Acts, chapter 2...

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

- The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

## The Gospel:

- The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
- Glory be to thee, O Lord.
- D I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. The one who enters through the gate is the sheepherd of the sheep. The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice."

Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying. So Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest."

- **D** The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to thee, O Christ.

### **SERMON**

### **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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

- **D** Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.
- L Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. Risen Lord,

### we pray to you.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Barry and Michael, our Assisting Bishops; Becky, our Rector; Cindy, our Deacon; Ann, our Priest Associate; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese: Church of the Holy Spirit, Safety Harbor; All Saints, Tarpon Springs; St. Giles, Pinellas Park; to the Clearwater Deanery Collaboration Partners; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. Risen Lord,

### we pray to you.

- L And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. Risen Lord,
- we pray to you.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially President Trump, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children, especially those in the Middle East, might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. Risen Lord,

### we pray to you.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [read handwritten names from notebook] and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers. I now invite you to pray for others by name, aloud or in your hearts. [Leave time...] Risen Lord,

### we pray to you.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give thanks for all the blessings of this life. Risen Lord,

### we pray to you.

- L And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [especially... add names from notebook]. Please add names of those on your heart, silently or aloud. [Leave time...] We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Risen Lord,
- we pray to you.
- Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
- Amen.

#### THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- And with thy spirit.

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty. For all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Bring your tithes, gifts and offerings with a gladsome heart.

**OFFERTORY** 

The Lord is My Shepherd

R. Vaughan Williams

#### PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

- D As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge:
- All things come from thee, O Lord and of thine own have we given thee.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

- P The Lord be with you.
- And with thy spirit.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
- It is meet and right so to do.
- It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,
- Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
- P All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.
- P For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
- Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."
- Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

- And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;
- P By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.
- @ AMEN.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
- 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

- P Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the Bread.
- We come with joy to meet our Lord.
- P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- P Let us pray.
- Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### THE BLESSING

- P The God who is creating a new heaven and a new earth, who walks where least expected, who disturbs the comfortable and comforts the distressed, and whom death could not control, now sends you out to announce with your lives that the Lord is risen indeed. Go, you are blessed in the name of our Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

### THE DISMISSAL

- P Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve our Risen Lord!
- Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Epilogue** N. Gilbert **POSTLUDE** 

### **SERVING US TODAY**

Celebrant Becky Robbins-Penniman

Cindy Roehl Deacon Ann Chaplin Priest Associate Organist

**Robert Moncrief** Lector Miriam Benitez-Nixon

Prayers of the People **Cheryl Sharpe**